



## Minutes of the July 7th, 2025 City Council Meeting

\*Unofficial meeting minutes until approved by Council\*

The regular meeting of the Robins City Council was called to order at 6:00p.m. on Monday, July 7th, 2025 at Robins City Hall, 265 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St by Mayor Chuck Hinz. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken with the following members present: Councilor Leigh Cook, Councilor Dave Franzman, Councilor Cary Smith, Councilor JD Smith and Councilor Mike Foley. Also present were City Clerk Lisa Goodin, Deputy City Clerk Rhonda Kortenkamp, City Attorney Holly Corkery, City Engineer Kelli Scott, Zoning Administrator Vance McKinnon, Police Chief Andy Humphrey, Detective Greg McGivern and Fire Chief Keith Feldkamp.

J. Smith moved to approve the agenda, Franzman seconded and all voted aye.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Hinz reported that June 11-13, a group of local elected officials and staff traveled to Washington DC to meet with our Congressional delegation and US Department of Transportation officials in an effort to secure federal funding assistance for the Tower Terrace Road project through the Metropolitan Planning Organizations recent BUILD grant proposal. He reported that the trip went well, but that the announcement of the grant award has been delayed.

### COUNCIL REPORTS:

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Foley reported that both departments put in many extra hours due to the Robins Roundup celebration, the event took place without incident. In June the Fire Department had a record 22 medical calls and completed additional medical training. The Police Department was very busy with 55 initiated calls and numerous house checks and hopes to hire a new full-time officer soon.

**STREETS:** Smith reported that the new crosswalk signs have been installed along Main St. and crosswalk painting will take place in the near future. Kluesner has been performing shoulder maintenance along N. Center Point Rd. and expect to complete the work in the next few weeks. The Tower Terrace Rd. committee is meeting monthly to discuss project progress.

**FINANCE:** Cook reported that the FY24 Audit report is available on both the City's website and on the State Auditor's website and that there were no major findings. The FY 2026 Budget Amendment No. 1 will be passed in the coming months to address mis-categorized expenditures within the budget and to include payment of the Indian Creek Sewer Upgrade invoices when they are submitted. She further added that the 2 new city staff positions on that evening's agenda have already been planned for in the FY26 City Budget.

**PARKS:** Franzman reported with research completed, the Parks Master Planning Committee will be drafting and presenting a policy to Council in the next month.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:** No questions presented.

**PLANNING & ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** Hinz noted that this is a new addition to City Council agendas aimed at apprising Council and the public of new homes being constructed in Robins. McKinnon noted that 15 new home building permits have been issued to date. Hinz commented that 17 permits total were issued in 2024 and 2025 looks likely to exceed that number.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** Greg McGivern, Robins Police Detective and Robins Resident reported that while he was on duty on the evening of July 4<sup>th</sup> he received numerous complaints of large crowds, underage drinking and speeding vehicles in the Stonehedge neighborhood. A vehicle leaving the celebration lost control, drove through the yard of 1465 Maple St., before stalling at the intersection of N. Mentzer Rd. and Maple St. The driver was arrested on OWI charges. While the Linn County Sheriff Department and the Hiawatha Police Department were able to provide support throughout

the evening, Detective McGivern urged Council to address the issue and to arrange for additional police presence during the neighborhood's annual celebration.

Kevin Hendrickson, 1465 Maple St. Mr. Hendrickson is the resident whose property sustained damage on July 4<sup>th</sup>. He expressed his gratitude to the Robins Police Department for their response that evening and for the fact that no pedestrians were injured.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Franzman moved to approve the Consent Agenda, which contained the Minutes of the May 19th City Council Meeting and the List of Bills Submitted. Smith seconded and all voted aye.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Phil Hoppe Retirement Recognition. Mayor Hinz expressed his gratitude for Mr. Hoppe's 48 years of dedication to the City of Robins, presenting him with an engraved pen and a plaque recognizing Mr. Hoppe's service to the City.

Public Hearing – Sale of Kervin's Court Outlot A. Mayor Hinz opened the Public Hearing at 6:31 p.m., announcing that the winning bid was received from Melissa McInroy. Ms. McInroy and her husband, Alen Green were present and questioned the existence of a private sewer line on the property. Scott described the sewer line as being owned by the property owners at 675 Northhaven Dr. and that the City was securing a private easement for that line, which would be complete before the purchase was finalized. Goodin provided that the easement was described in the Bid Documents. Upon no further comments or questioned being presented, the hearing was closed at 6:38 p.m.

**Resolution No. 0725-1 Awarding Bid and Authorizing Sale of Kervin Court**

**Outlot/Detention Basin.** Cook motioned to approve the Resolution; J. Smith seconded and upon roll call, all votes were aye.

**Resolution No. 0725-2 Accepting Bid for Cedar Valley Nature Trail Ditch Cleanup.** Scott described the presence of sediment in the box culvert under the Cedar Valley Nature Trail, which hindered drainage from the pond located within the Robins Landing development. She added that the Linn County Conservation Board was not interested in removing the sediment as the culvert was still functioning. Regardless, she recommended that removal of the sediment is necessary to prevent the pond water level from rising too high. Franzman motioned to approve the quotation from McBurney Septic Systems in the amount of \$11,500; J. Smith seconded and upon roll call, all votes were aye.

**Resolution No. 0725-3 Approving Contract and Performance and Payment Bonds for the W. Main Street Rehabilitation from N. Center Point Rd. to Tullymore Dr. Project.** Scott recommended approval of the contract in order to allow LL Pelling to proceed with construction planning for the project. Cook motioned to approve the contract; C. Smith seconded and upon roll call, all votes were aye.

**Resolution No. 0725-4 Approving Disposal of City Property – Speed Warning Signs** Hinz noted that the auction expired on June 25<sup>th</sup> and with the reserve not met, the auction has been extended 10 days. J. Smith questioned when appropriately-sized speed monitoring signs would be acquired and installed, adding that residents of N. Mentzer Rd. have been asking as well. Hinz commented that the process was heading in the right direction. Foley added that he felt the signs, while large when the solar panels and batteries were added were very large, perhaps not too large to be installed. C. Smith motioned for approval; Cook seconded and upon roll call, all votes were aye.

Re-schedule September Regular Council meetings due to Labor Day holiday. Cook motioned to move the September City Council Meetings to September 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>; Foley seconded and all voted aye.

Discussion of Creation of Full Time Police Officer Position within the Robins Police Department. Chief Humphrey provided that the anticipated compensation range for the position would be \$37.50 - \$40.38 per hour and that candidates would be required to be certified officers. J. Smith

questioned how equipment for a new officer would be procured. Humphrey answered that outfitting would be done from items already on hand, with new equipment being ordered as necessary. He added that the position would be advertised via Facebook and the State of Iowa's centralized job posting system. J. Smith commented that hiring an officer retiring from another department was a possibility. Foley added that the job market was extremely competitive with other cities offering signing bonuses. Hinz instructed Goodin to place the matter on the July 21st meeting agenda.

Discussion of Creation of Permanent Part Time Accounting Clerk within the City Hall staff. C. Smith questioned whether the position was included in the FY 26 budget; Goodin confirmed this. J. Smith commented that the City needs to advertise and fill this position ASAP. Hinz instructed Goodin to place the matter on the July 21st agenda.

Discussion of Ancillary Insurance Coverage for City Employees. Cook questioned Goodin as to whether this coverage was included in the FY 26 budget. Goodin answered that it was not and that General Funds would likely have to be used. Foley urged inclusion of the coverage for full time employees to provide additional support in the case of illness or injury. Hinz instructed Goodin to include the matter on the July 21st<sup>h</sup> agenda.

ADJOURN: Smith moved to adjourn at 7:13 p.m., Foley seconded and all voted aye.

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Chuck Hinz, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Lisa Goodin, City Clerk/Treasurer