



Minutes of the August 4th, 2025 City Council Meeting

Unofficial meeting minutes until approved by Council

The regular meeting of the Robins City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, August 4, 2025, at Robins City Hall, 265 S. 2nd Street, by Mayor Chuck Hinz. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken with all Council members present: Leigh Cook, Dave Franzman, Cary Smith, JD Smith, and Mike Foley. Also in attendance were City Clerk Lisa Goodin, City Attorney Holly Corkery, City Engineer Kelli Scott, Zoning Administrator Vance McKinnon, Police Chief Andy Humphrey, Detective Greg McGivern, and Fire Chief Keith Feldkamp. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Councilor JD Smith, seconded by Councilor Franzman, and carried unanimously.

COUNCIL REPORTS: Mayor Hinz reported that planning had begun for the Fiscal Year 2027 budget and that several related planning documents were included on the evening's agenda for review. In Council reports, Councilor Foley shared that the Fire Department had responded to 25 calls in July and completed both driver and medical training. A new member, Mitch Mundorf, joined the department. The Police Department recorded 148 activity initiations and noted an increase in speeding violations. Officers also conducted 32 house checks. Of the three speed monitoring signs listed for sale, one had been sold for \$2,000. Foley further reported that the City had received 19 applications for the open full-time police officer position, with eight applicants meeting the required qualifications.

Councilor Cary Smith reported that LL Pelling had not yet provided a schedule for the rehabilitation of West Main Street. Shoulder work on North Center Point Road was ongoing, and grant applications were in progress for Tower Terrace Road improvements. Smith also noted that staff were reviewing safety concerns at the Cedar Valley Nature Trail crossings at Robins Road and West Main Street, as Linn County Conservation is not recommending painted crosswalks at trail crossings.

Councilor Cook reported that the annual Debt Obligation Report had been completed and that GASB 77 statements were due by the end of August. Councilor Franzman announced that the Parks Master Planning Committee would meet on August 18 to finalize a recommendation for Council regarding memorial donations. Councilor JD Smith stated that recent heavy rains had caused isolated stormwater runoff issues, and noted that upcoming Council work sessions would include discussions about the City's water utility.

STAFF REPORTS: City Engineer Kelli Scott had no additional updates or questions from the Council. Zoning Administrator Vance McKinnon reported that one new home permit was issued in July, bringing the total number of new homes permitted in 2025 to 24.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: John Dierickx of 285 Woodland Drive spoke against Resolution No. 0825-1, which proposed providing additional ancillary insurance coverage for City employees. He expressed concern over adding expenses in light of the City's recent budget challenges. No comments were received regarding non-agenda items.

CONSENT AGENDA: The Consent Agenda, which included approval of the July 21, 2025 City Council Meeting minutes and the list of bills submitted, was approved following a motion by Councilor Cook, seconded by Councilor Foley, with all members voting in favor.

OLD BUSINESS: Council discussed **Resolution No. 0825-1**, which proposed adding ancillary insurance coverage—such as life and disability insurance—for eligible municipal employees. Councilor Foley voiced support, stating that such coverage would provide a meaningful layer of financial protection for

employees in the event of illness or injury. Councilor JD Smith expressed opposition, arguing that current City contributions to IPERS, unemployment insurance, and workers' compensation already provided sufficient coverage. Councilor Cary Smith suggested conducting an employee survey to determine the level of interest and need for the benefit. Councilor Cook recommended delaying implementation until Fiscal Year 2027 so that the expense could be appropriately budgeted. Councilor Franzman requested that the City obtain quotes for individual policies before moving forward. Ultimately, Councilor Foley made a motion to approve the resolution, but without a second, the motion failed and the matter was not adopted.

NEW BUSINESS: City Clerk Goodin reviewed the FY 2027 Budget Planning Calendar. She explained that work would focus on the City's Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) over the next two months, with the goal of approving the plan in October. She also announced that three Council work sessions were scheduled for August 25, September 29, and September 30. City Engineer Kelli Scott then provided an overview of the revised CIP, highlighting how it was structured in relation to departmental priorities, current fund balances, and projected reserve needs. She emphasized that significant capital projects scheduled for Fiscal Years 2028 and 2029 would require increased funding, potentially creating additional budgetary pressure in those years.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilor Cary Smith proposed that Council discuss offering additional compensation for employees required to respond to emergencies outside of regular working hours. Councilor JD Smith suggested re-evaluating whether two current salaried positions should be converted to hourly pay and also recommended updating the job descriptions for Council Department Coordinator roles.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m. following a motion by Councilor JD Smith, seconded by Councilor Franzman. The motion carried unanimously

Chuck Hinz, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Goodin, City Clerk/Treasurer