

**Robins City Council
Session Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2026**

The City Council of Robins, Iowa, met in regular session on Monday, April 20, 2026 at Robins City Hall.

Call To Order

Mayor **Chuck Hinz** called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Present: Councilors Mike Foley, Leigh Cook, Bruce Vander Sanden, Leslie Hoyt

Absent: Cary Smith

Staff Present: Vance McKinnon, Planning & Zoning Administrator, Kelli Scott, City Engineer, Holly Corkery, City Attorney, Keith Feldkamp, Fire Chief, Mike Kortenkamp, Building Official / Superintendent of Public Works, Neal Boeckmann, Fire Code Official / Deputy Superintendent of Public Works, Rhonda Kortenkamp, Deputy City Clerk, Lisa Goodin, City Clerk/Treasurer

Also present: Maggie Burger (Speer Financial), Justin Deahr (Robins Civic Club President), representatives of Big Grove Brewery, and numerous members of the public.

Approval Of Agenda

Motion by Cook, seconded by Hoyt, to approve the agenda. Motion carried. (4-0)

Citizen Comments – Agenda Items

Molly Iversen, Resident:

Ms. Iversen addressed the Council in support of approving the special event liquor license for the Robins Roundup, citing the community and economic benefits of the event. She further expressed opposition to several proposed police department expenditures, including the purchase of radar packages and an e-bike. Ms. Iversen stated that, in her view, the Police Department does not generate sufficient citation revenue to justify the radar equipment purchase and suggested the City explore automated speed enforcement through private vendors. She also questioned the anticipated frequency and practicality of e-bike use, particularly during large community events such as the Robins Roundup, and expressed concern regarding overall cost-effectiveness and safety.

Keven Hendrickson, 1465 Maple Street:

Mr. Hendricksen spoke in favor of issuing a special event liquor license for Big Grove Brewery in conjunction with the Robins Roundup, noting the importance of the event to the community and expressing support for its continued success.

J.D. Smith, 780 Kervin Court:

Mr. Smith expressed opposition to multiple proposed police department expenditures. He stated concerns that radar enforcement is underutilized, alleging that officers issue a high number of warnings rather than citations. He questioned the necessity of purchasing three radar units and further expressed opposition to the purchase of nine ballistic vests, suggesting the quantity exceeded immediate need. Mr. Smith also opposed the proposed e-bike purchase, citing concerns related to cost, practicality, and limited anticipated usage.

Marilyn Cook, 295 Northhaven Drive:

Ms. Cook addressed the Council with questions regarding fiscal planning and budget alignment. She inquired whether the proposed equipment purchases were included in the current fiscal year budget and suggested that, if not urgent, such expenditures could be deferred to the next fiscal year to better align with long-term financial planning.

Citizen Comments – Non-Agenda Items

None.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Hoyt, seconded by Foley, to approve the Consent Agenda, including the Minutes of April 6 and April 8, 2026 and the List of Bills Submitted.

Roll Call Vote: Cook - aye, Vander Sanden - aye, Foley - aye, Hoyt - aye. Motion carried (4-0)

New Business**Public Hearing – FY2026 Budget Amendment No. 2**

Opened: 6:11 p.m.

Closed: 6:14 p.m.

During the public hearing, Council Member Vander Sanden inquired regarding specific allocations within the Planning and Zoning budget. No formal public comments were received.

Resolution No. 0426-9 – Approving Amendment No. 2 to the FY2026 Budget

Motion by Vander Sanden, seconded by Cook. Roll Call Vote: Hoyt - aye, Vander Sanden - aye, Cook - aye, Foley – aye. Absent: Smith Motion carried (4-0)

Public Hearing – FY2027 Municipal Budget

Opened: 6:15 p.m.

Closed: 6:16 p.m.

No public comments were received.

Resolution No. 0426-10 – Approving FY2027 Municipal Budget

Motion by Hoyt, seconded by Foley. Roll Call Vote: Hoyt - aye, Foley - aye, Cook - aye, Vander Sanden – aye. Absent: Smith Motion carried (4-0)

Resolution No. 0426-11 – Setting Public Hearing Dates for General Obligation Loan Agreements

Maggie Burger of Speer Financial provided a detailed overview of the bond issuance and sale process, including statutory timelines, market considerations, and anticipated next steps for the City.

Motion by Foley, seconded by Cook. Roll Call Vote: Hoyt - aye, Foley - aye, Cook - aye, Vander Sanden – aye. Absent: Smith Motion carried (4-0)

Resolution No. 0426-12 – Setting Public Hearing on Urban Renewal Area Expansion and Plan Amendment

Ms. Burger further addressed the Council regarding the procedural and legal framework for expanding the Urban Renewal Area and amending the Urban Renewal Plan, including impacts on tax increment financing and development opportunities.

Motion by Vander Sanden, seconded by Cook. Roll Call Vote: Foley - aye, Cook - aye, Vander Sanden – aye, Hoyt – aye. Absent: Smith. Motion carried (4-0)

Resolution No. 0426-13 – Approving Special Event Liquor License (Robins Roundup – Big Grove Brewery)

Council Member Foley inquired whether other local establishments had been approached regarding participation. Kayleigh Canney, representing Big Grove Brewery, confirmed outreach efforts, and Justin Deahr affirmed coordination with event organizers.

Motion by Hoyt, seconded by Foley. Roll Call Vote: Cook - aye, Hoyt - aye, Vander Sanden - aye, Foley – aye. Absent: Smith Motion carried (4-0)

Resolution No. 0426-14 – Approving Purchase of Police Radar Packages

Council Member Foley stated that existing radar units are either inoperable or outdated and emphasized that enforcement efforts are centered on public safety rather than revenue generation. Police Chief Adam Cirkl explained that modern radar units are necessary for evidentiary purposes and operational effectiveness. Officer Carter Dralle reported that current units are over 15 years old, exceed recommended service life, and are no longer serviceable or calibratable by vendors. Council discussion also addressed budget inclusion and long-term equipment replacement planning.

Motion by Foley, seconded by Vander Sanden. Roll Call Vote: Vander Sanden - aye , Foley - aye, Cook – aye, Hoyt – aye. Absent: Smith. Motion carried (4-0)

Resolution No. 0426-15 – Approving Purchase of Ballistic Vests and Carriers

Council Member Foley and Chief Cirkl outlined the condition of existing equipment, noting that a majority of vests are expired or nearing expiration and that proper fitting equipment is necessary for officer safety. It was noted that recent staffing additions further necessitate adequate equipment availability.

Motion by Foley, seconded by Vander Sanden. Roll Call Vote: Foley - aye, Hoyt - aye, Vander Sanden - aye, Cook – aye. Absent: Smith Motion carried (4-0)

Resolution No. 0426-16 – Emergency Replacement of Singer Hill Culvert and Approval of

Quotation City staff described the urgent nature of the culvert failure and the need for immediate replacement to prevent further infrastructure damage and ensure public safety.

Motion by Cook, seconded by Vander Sanden. Roll Call Vote: Hoyt - aye, Cook - aye, Foley - aye, Vander Sanden – aye. Absent: Smith. Motion carried (4-0)

Resolution No. 0426-17 – Appointment to Board of Adjustment

Council Member Vander Sanden inquired about appointment procedures and criteria. City Clerk Goodin outlined the reappointment process.

Motion by Cook, seconded by Foley. Roll Call Vote: Vander Sanden - aye, Hoyt - aye, Foley - aye, Cook – aye. Absent: Smith. Motion carried (4-0)

Resolution No. 0426-18 – Approving Repairs to 2019 Bobcat T595 Skid Loader

Mr. Kortenkamp reported that the skid loader is currently inoperable due to failed fuel injectors and deteriorated track seals, necessitating immediate repair to restore functionality.

Motion by Vander Sanden, seconded by Hoyt. Roll Call Vote: Foley - aye, Cook - aye, Vander Sanden - aye, Hoyt – aye. Absent: Smith Motion carried (4-0)

Resolution No. 0426-19 – Purchase of Police E-Bike

Extensive discussion occurred regarding the proposed purchase. Council Member Foley emphasized the benefits of community policing and accessibility, particularly on trail systems. Chief Cirkl described the operational value of e-bike patrols, including increased visibility, community engagement, and the ability to patrol areas inaccessible to vehicles. Council discussion addressed seasonal limitations, jurisdictional authority on the Cedar Valley Nature Trail, mutual aid considerations, budget prioritization, and training

requirements. City Engineer Scott highlighted safety concerns at trail crossings and enforcement challenges. Council Member Vander Sanden raised questions regarding policies, training, and insurance considerations and recommended additional public presentation.

Motion by Vander Sanden, seconded by Cook, to table the item. Ayes: 4, Nays – 0. Motion to table carried.

Ordinances – First Readings

Ordinance No. 2602 – Chapter 17 (City Council governance updates)

Motion by Hoyt, seconded by Foley.

Ayes: 4 | Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2603 – Chapter 41 (Fireworks provisions)

Motion by Foley, seconded by Vander Sanden.

Ayes: 4 | Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2604 – Chapters 96 & 100 (Sewer Connection Fees)

Discussion included evaluation of system development fees, potential impacts to residential and commercial development, and consideration of whether such fees create redundancy when paired with increased sewer rates. The City Attorney advised that additional legal review of utility fee structures would be conducted prior to subsequent readings.

Motion by Foley, seconded by Vander Sanden.

Ayes: 4 | Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2605 – Chapter 109 (Utility Franchises)

Motion by Vander Sanden, seconded by Foley.

Ayes: 4 | Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2606 – Chapter 136 (Sidewalk Regulations)

Motion by Cook, seconded by Hoyt.

Ayes: 4 | Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2607 – Chapter 140 (Driveways)

Motion by Foley, seconded by Vander Sanden.

Ayes: 4 | Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2608 – Chapter 99 (Sewer Service Charges)

Discussion: City Engineer Scott provided a detailed overview of the proposed updates to sewer service charges, noting that the ordinance reflects prior Council direction to modernize the rate structure in response to system costs, long-term maintenance needs, and anticipated infrastructure improvements. She explained that the proposal includes the establishment of revised residential flat-rate charges as well as updated usage-based rates for non-residential customers, designed to more accurately allocate system costs based on demand and usage characteristics.

Ms. Scott further noted that the proposed rate structure is intended to ensure the financial sustainability of the City’s sanitary sewer system, including funding for ongoing operations, capital improvements, and regulatory compliance requirements.

Motion by Vander Sanden, seconded by Foley.

Ayes: 4 | Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

City Engineer Scott reported that federal funding in the approximate amount of \$10 million has been recommended by State Representative Ashley Hinson for improvements to Tower Terrace Road.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Cook, seconded by Foley, to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: 4 | Nays: 0

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Goodin, City Clerk/Treasurer

Chuck Hinz, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Goodin, City Clerk/Treasurer