



City of Robins
City Council Meeting Minutes
May 4th, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hinz called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at Robins City Hall and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken with Council Members Mike Foley, Cary Smith, Leigh Cook, Bruce Vander Sanden, and Leslie Hoyt present.

Staff Members Present included Kelli Scott, City Engineer; Holly Corkery, City Attorney; Mike Kortenkamp, Building Official / Superintendent of Public Works; Adam Cirkl, Police Chief; Carter Dralle, Police Officer and Lisa Goodin, City Clerk/Treasurer.

Staff Members Absent: Vance McKinnon, Planning & Zoning Administrator; Neal Boeckmann, Fire Code Official / Deputy Superintendent of Public Works; Keith Feldkamp, Fire Chief; and Rhonda Kortenkamp, Deputy City Clerk.

Additional Attendees: Ken Paxton, REDI Economic Development Director.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Cook, seconded by Vander Sanden, to approve the agenda.

Motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Hinz reported that the Hindu Temple and Cultural Center located at 1600 W. Main Street officially opened over the weekend. He thanked Planning & Zoning Administrator Vance McKinnon, Building Official Mike Kortenkamp, Fire Code Official Neal Boeckmann, Police Chief Adam Cirkl, Officer Carter Dralle, and Officer Mike McVey for their extensive work and coordination efforts related to the event. Mayor Hinz noted the event was one of the largest and most complex gatherings ever hosted in Robins and shared that the City Administration received a commemorative plaque from the Hindu Temple Association.

COUNCIL REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY - Council Member Foley reported the Fire Department responded to 27 calls during the reporting period, tying a departmental record. He noted four storm watch call-outs and significant ongoing training activities. The annual Fire Department Pancake Breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, May 16. Foley also stated that Police Chief Cirkl has initiated several departmental upgrades since being sworn in. A total of 72 warnings and citations were issued during the reporting period. Officer Dralle worked three 16-hour shifts during the temple opening event. Foley noted police coverage for special events is now billed to event organizers through a revised contract process.

STREETS - Council Member Smith reported that W. Main Street remains in poor condition and patching repairs are anticipated in the coming weeks. She stated the anticipated June announcement regarding the BUILD Grant award may affect the timeline for reconstruction of the roadway. Smith also reported that repairs to the Mentzer Road bridge are complete for the current year, with additional work planned next year.

FINANCE - Council Member Cook reported that the public hearing regarding the 2026 General Obligation Bond Sale is scheduled for May 18. She also noted the FY2026 budget amendment has been adopted and the City is still awaiting completion of the audit report.



PUBLIC WORKS - Council Member Vander Sanden reported that discussions continue regarding the 28E agreement with Cedar Rapids, as well as the 28E agreement with Hiawatha. He also attended a meeting regarding the progress of the Indian Creek Sewer Upgrade project and noted the project remains on a two-year timeline.

PARKS - Council Member Hoyt reported the parks are officially open for the season. Flagpoles for both parks have been delivered and installation is expected within the next several weeks. She also noted ash trees previously removed remain stacked near the trail pending repairs to the City's Bobcat.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

No questions or comments were received regarding the Engineer's Report.

PLANNING & ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

No questions or comments were received regarding the report.

ROBINS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (REDI)

No report was provided.

CITIZEN COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS

None were heard.

CITIZEN COMMENTS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Joe Suchan, 1115 Morrison Drive, thanked the Fire Department for its service and addressed ongoing drainage concerns between his property and neighboring property. Suchan stated water no longer drains from his property as it previously had and requested the City take corrective action.

Mayor Hinz responded that multiple City staff members and officials have visited the site and emphasized that the City has not ignored the concerns raised. Council Member Smith asked whether water was draining into the ditch and drainage easement. Suchan confirmed water does flow into the drainage easement, but stated it does not drain quickly enough.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to Approve:

- Minutes of the April 20, 2026 meeting
- List of Bills Submitted

Foley requested that comments previously made by JD Smith in the April 20 minutes be made more specific to include criticism of the proposed purchase of an e-bike by the police department including insurance cost concerns and the inability to transport prisoners.

Motion by Foley, seconded by Cook, to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Foley, Cook, Hoyt, Smith, and Vander Sanden. Nays – None.

Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 0426-19 – Approving Purchase of an Electric Bicycle (E-Bike) for the Robins Police Department
Police Chief Cirkl presented information regarding the proposed purchase of an electric bicycle for the Police Department. He cited double-digit increases in Cedar Valley Nature Trail usage throughout Linn County and reported that local law enforcement agencies responded to 38 trail-related calls for service during the previous year, including medical incidents, suspicious persons, and animal-related calls.



Chief Cirkl outlined the proposed bike unit's intended uses, including community outreach, public safety events, bicycle traffic enforcement, and trail patrol activities. He also addressed questions regarding operating costs, insurance coverage, officer training, and policy implementation.

Vander Sanden asked whether Chief Cirkl felt prepared to undertake the project while still acclimating to the department. Cirkl stated he was prepared to implement the program and related policies.

Mayor Hinz commented on the high level of trail activity during the spring and summer months. Hoyt noted future trail planning should consider public safety and citizen needs. Chief Cirkl responded that increased police presence on the trails would enhance trail safety.

Motion by Foley, seconded by Smith, to approve Resolution No. 0426-19.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Hoyt, Foley, Cook, Vander Sanden, and Smith. Nays – None.

Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 2602 – Chapter 17 – City Council

Waiver of Second Reading

Motion by Smith, seconded by Cook.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Smith, Cook, Hoyt, Foley, and Vander Sanden. Nays – None.

Motion carried unanimously.

Adoption

Motion by Cook, seconded by Smith.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Hoyt, Cook, Smith, Vander Sanden, and Foley. Nays – None.

Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 2603 - Chapter 41 – Public Health and Safety

Waiver of Second Reading

Discussion occurred regarding revisions made to the ordinance.

Motion by Smith, seconded by Foley.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Foley, Smith, Hoyt, Cook, and Vander Sanden. Nays – None.

Motion carried unanimously.

Adoption

Motion by Vander Sanden, seconded by Hoyt.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Cook, Vander Sanden, Foley, Hoyt, and Smith. Nays – None.

Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 2604 - Chapters 96 & 100 – Building Sewers and Connections / System Development Fees

Waiver of Second Reading

City Engineer Scott explained that the sanitary sewer development fee was removed from the ordinance upon recommendation of the City Attorney. She further explained that industrial connection fees were removed because Robins currently has no heavy industrial sewer users as defined by the Iowa DNR. Chapter 100 is being replaced in its entirety.

Motion by Cook, seconded by Vander Sanden.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Vander Sanden, Cook, Smith, Foley, and Hoyt. Nays – None.

Motion carried unanimously.

Adoption

Motion by Hoyt, seconded by Cook.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Hoyt, Smith, Vander Sanden, Cook, and Foley. Nays – None.

Motion carried unanimously.



ORDINANCE NO. 2605 - Chapter 109 – Electric, Gas & Petroleum Transmission Line Regulations

Waiver of Second Reading

Motion by Smith, seconded by Vander Sanden.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Cook, Vander Sanden, Hoyt, Foley, and Smith. Nays – None.

Motion carried unanimously.

Adoption

Motion by Cook, seconded by Foley.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Smith, Vander Sanden, Cook, Hoyt, and Foley. Nays – None.

Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 2606 - Chapter 136 – Sidewalk Regulations

Discussion occurred regarding the proposed five-foot sidewalk standard. Vander Sanden asked whether existing four-foot sidewalks would be required to be replaced with five-foot sidewalks. Scott clarified that replacement would only be required if more than 200 feet of sidewalk required reconstruction.

Smith asked whether ordinance language should be revised to clarify that existing sidewalks would not require replacement unless substantially damaged. Scott recommended adding clarifying language to Section 136.07(1)(A).

Action regarding waiver of readings was deferred pending additional language revisions.

Second Reading

Motion by Smith, seconded by Cook.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Vander Sanden, Smith, Cook, Foley, and Hoyt. Nays – None.

Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 2607 - Chapter 140 – Driveways

Waiver of Second Reading

Motion by Hoyt, seconded by Vander Sanden.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Smith, Hoyt, Cook, Vander Sanden, and Foley. Nays – None.

Motion carried unanimously.

Adoption

Motion by Cook, seconded by Foley.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Hoyt, Cook, Smith, Foley, and Vander Sanden. Nays – None.

Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 2608 - Chapter 99 – Sewer Service Charges

Discussion occurred regarding proposed sewer service charge updates and implementation.

Motion by Vander Sanden, seconded by Foley.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Smith, Hoyt, Cook, Vander Sanden, and Foley. Nays – None.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 0526-1 - Approving Transfer from TIF Fund to Debt Service Fund

Motion by Cook, seconded by Hoyt.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Cook, Foley, Smith, Hoyt, and Vander Sanden. Nays – None.

Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 0526-02 - Approving Purchase of Two Sets of Bunker Gear

Foley provided background information regarding the proposed equipment purchase for the Fire Department.

Motion by Foley, seconded by Cook.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Smith, Vander Sanden, Cook, Hoyt, and Foley. Nays – None.

Motion carried unanimously.



DISCUSSION – 2026 GO BOND SALE

Discussion occurred regarding the upcoming 2026 General Obligation Bond Sale process.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Foley requested future discussion regarding:

- Special Use Permits for large gatherings and related police coverage/staffing requirements; and
- Employee cell phone stipends.

Smith thanked John Dierckxs for clearing the Cedar Valley Nature Trail connection at the end of Woodland Drive. She also requested Chief Cirkl provide future commentary regarding the speed limit change on Tower Terrace Road.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Vander Sanden, seconded by Cook to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried on a roll call vote with all members voting aye. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Goodin
City Clerk/Treasurer

Chuck Hinz, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa Goodin, City Clerk/Treasurer