City of Robins
City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 19, 2026
Robins City Hall
Unofficial Meeting Minutes Until Approved by Council

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

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

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ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Chuck Hinz and Council Members Mike Foley, Cary Smith, Bruce Vander Sanden, and Leslie Hoyt.
Absent: Council Member Leigh Cook.

Staff present were Lisa Goodin, City Clerk/Treasurer; Rhonda Kortenkamp, Deputy City Clerk; Amanda Maher, Accounting Clerk; Adam Cirkl, Police Chief; Keith Feldkamp, Fire Chief; Neal Boeckmann, Fire Code Official / Deputy Superintendent of Public Works; Kelli Scott, City Engineer; and Vance McKinnon, Planning & Zoning Administrator. Mike Kortenkamp, Building Official / Superintendent of Public Works, and City Attorney Doug Herman were absent. Heather Morris, Realtor for Sandridge Estates, was also in attendance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Council Member Mike Foley moved to approve the agenda, and Council Member Leslie Hoyt seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0, with four ayes, no nays and one Council member absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS

No public comments were heard on agenda items.

PUBLIC COMMENT – NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Joe Suchan of Morrison Drive addressed the Council regarding stormwater runoff. He stated that after his neighbor installed sod, runoff continued onto his property, and he also expressed concern that street stormwater was being directed to drain improperly. Mr. Suchan also objected to the recent sewer rate increase, stating that the flat sewer rate was unfair to households of one or two people.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Cary Smith moved to approve the October 5, 2026 meeting minutes and the list of bills submitted. Council Member Leslie Hoyt seconded the motion. The motion was approved 4-0. Council Members Bruce Vander Sanden, Mike Foley, Leslie Hoyt, and Cary Smith voted aye; no nays were recorded; Council Member Leigh Cook was absent.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 1026-3 – Notice of Hearing on Proposed Amendment to the Revitalization Plan for the Robins Urban Revitalization Area

Council Member Bruce Vander Sanden moved to approve Resolution No. 1026-3, and Council Member Mike Foley seconded the motion. The resolution passed 4-0. Council Members Leslie Hoyt, Cary Smith, Mike Foley, and Bruce Vander Sanden voted aye; no nays were recorded; Council Member Leigh Cook was absent.

Resolution No. 1026-4 – Approving the Final Plat for Sandridge Estates 2nd Addition

Council Member Mike Foley moved to approve Resolution No. 1026-4, and Council Member Leslie Hoyt seconded the motion. The resolution was approved 4-0. Council Members Cary Smith, Leslie Hoyt, Bruce Vander Sanden, and Mike Foley voted aye; no nays were recorded; Council Member Leigh Cook was absent. No discussion was recorded in the meeting notes.

Resolution No. 1026-5 – Memorandum of Agreement with the Robins Firefighters Association for Installation of a Firefighter Memorial and Landscaping Updates at the Hoppe Safety Center

Fire Chief Keith Feldkamp provided background on the project. Council Member Mike Foley stated that the project was being funded entirely by the Robins Firefighters Association and that landscaping along the east-facing side of the building would also be updated. Mayor Hinz asked about the anticipated start date. Chief Feldkamp stated that the schedule would depend on the landscaping contractor, with work hoped to begin in the fall or, at the latest, in the spring. He added that the planned sidewalk replacement would not interfere with the project.

Council Member Mike Foley moved to approve Resolution No. 1026-5, and Council Member Cary Smith seconded the motion. The resolution was approved 4-0. Council Members Leslie Hoyt, Cary Smith, Bruce Vander Sanden, and Mike Foley voted aye; no nays were recorded; Council Member Leigh Cook was absent.

First Reading – Ordinance No. 2616 – Amending Chapter 166, Subdivision Regulations, Section 166.33, "Park and School Reservations"

City Engineer Kelli Scott provided background on the proposed ordinance, explaining that it would allow developers to dedicate parkland within their developments or pay a fee in lieu of land dedication. In response to questions from Council Member Mike Foley, Ms. Scott stated that similar fee schedules were used by some Iowa cities outside the metro area. Council Member Bruce Vander Sanden asked whether the ordinance would give the City greater control over land dedication; Ms. Scott said it would allow consideration of location, access, and available infrastructure.

Ms. Scott explained that the existing ordinance had been in place for a long time, but the proposed fee valuation structure was new and intended to reduce potential disputes over land value. Mayor Hinz supported use of a valuation formula as a fairer and more equitable approach. Planning & Zoning Administrator Vance McKinnon noted that developers had spoken positively about the attractiveness of parks at the Planning & Zoning roundtable. Ms. Scott stated that staff, the Planning & Zoning Commission, and ultimately the Council at final plat approval would have a role in determining whether land dedication or a fee would be used.

Council Member Foley expressed concern that the fee option could create additional obstacles for developers and said he would prefer to table the matter until developer feedback could be obtained. Mayor Hinz noted that three readings would be required and recommended approving the first reading while asking the Planning & Zoning Commission to conduct additional research. Ms. Scott invited Heather Morris, a realtor for Sandridge Estates, to comment. Ms. Morris asked whether Council Member Foley's concern involved determining fair market value; he confirmed that it was one concern. Council Member Hoyt also saw the potential for an obstacle. City Clerk/Treasurer Lisa Goodin clarified the intent and funding of park enhancements.

Ms. Morris stated that comprehensive plans designating areas as parkland could constrain developers when designing subdivisions and expressed concern about fair-market-value calculations. In response to Council Member Cary Smith's question about the legality of the current ordinance, Ms. Scott explained that the current ordinance required a fee in lieu of dedication, which was not legal, and that the proposed amendment would offer either dedication or a fee. Ms. Scott confirmed that the amendment would clarify the options and address the issue.

Council Member Leslie Hoyt moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2616, and Council Member Cary Smith seconded the motion. The first reading was approved 4-0. Council Members Cary Smith, Mike Foley, Leslie Hoyt, and Bruce Vander Sanden voted aye; no nays were recorded; Council Member Leigh Cook was absent.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was listed

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Mike Foley raised a question regarding the purchasing policy and stated that the policy should be applied consistently. City Clerk/Treasurer Goodin said she would email the policy to Council members and staff

following the meeting. Council Member Foley also expressed concern that the City Attorney was not present. Mayor Hinz explained that City Attorney Doug Herman had informed the City Clerk that he was traveling back to Iowa and was required to be present in another city. Because the agenda was straightforward, the Mayor had determined that the attorney's attendance was not necessary.

SHORT RECESS

The Council recessed at 6:49 p.m. and reconvened at 6:56 p.m.

COUNCIL WORK SESSION

The Council discussed the City Council Code of Procedures and City Council Code of Ethics and Conduct.

Council Member Mike Foley stated that he did not believe the Mayor should have authority to set the agenda in a way that would allow an item requested by a Council member to be removed. Council Member Bruce Vander Sanden agreed. Ms. Goodin proposed language providing that, if two or more Council members agreed an item should be placed on the agenda, the City Clerk would be notified and supporting documents provided by noon on the Monday before the Council meeting; without supporting documents, the item would be added for discussion only.

Council Member Leslie Hoyt suggested clarifying that Council members were not responsible for operational research, funding applications, or similar work that should be handled by staff. Mayor Hinz suggested that forming committees could address the issue. Council Member Cary Smith recommended tabling the policies until the next work session due to time constraints.

Ms. Goodin provided information about Urban Revitalization and Urban Renewal and described upcoming projects that would be eligible for tax increment financing (TIF). Ms. Goodin and City Engineer Kelli Scott reviewed the draft Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the General Fund, identifying approximately $500,000 in the FY2028 General Fund budget that could be available for CIP items. Parks and Fire were identified as two departments forecast to face shortfalls in CIP allocations in FY2028.

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

Council Member Leslie Hoyt moved to adjourn, and Council Member Cary Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed with four ayes and no nays recorded (4-0). The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Goodin
City Clerk/Treasurer

Chuck Hinz, Mayor

Attest:

Lisa Goodin, City Clerk/Treasurer