

THE CITY OF FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, January 14, 2026, 7:11 p.m.
Council Chambers
Fairview Heights City Hall
Fairview Heights, Illinois

Committee Members in attendance – Alderpersons Josh Frawley, Jimmy Winkeler, Pat Peck, Bill Poletti

Committee Members absent – Alderperson Brenda Wagner

Other Alderpersons and Elected Officials in attendance – Mayor Mark Kupsy, Alderpersons Frank Menn, Anthony Leflore – tele/conference, Barb Brumfield, Derrick King

Staff in attendance – City Attorney Andrew Hoerner, Finance Director Gina Rader, Associate Director of IT Chris Elliott – tele/conference, Police Chief Steve Johnson, Public Works Director John Harty

Recorder – Jill Huffman

Public Participation

None

Approval of Minutes, December 10, 2025

Motion and second to approve minutes were made by Alderpersons Poletti/Winkeler. Roll call vote: Alderpersons Frawley – yes, Winkeler - yes, Wagner – absent, Peck - yes, Poletti – yes. Motion carried.

Law Enforcement Committee

Alderperson Josh Frawley, Chairman

STATE OF DEPARTMENT

The Chief presented his written report to the elected officials for their review to which there were no questions or comments.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

No questions from the Code Enforcement Case Details attached to the Agenda.

TRAINING SUMMARY

No questions from the 2025 Training Summary attached to the Agenda.

The Mayor stated that today, Council should have received an invite to the Police Department's Annual Awards scheduled for January 27, 6:00 p.m.

The Mayor stated that SILEC has scheduled their awards banquet for this month of which the Chief will issue an announcement.

Public Works Committee

Aldersperson Bill Poletti

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN – PRIORITY LIST

The Director of Public Works relayed that the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) is a five-year plan associated with proposed improvements to the City's infrastructure. This includes buildings, facilities, parks, fleet, and roadways.

The Director stated that when projects are completed, new projects are added to the list. The list is composed of three categories – Major Projects, Minor Projects, and Joint Projects. The Director requested that Council consider projects for the Minor Projects that they and/or their constituents would be interested in pursuing. Stites/Cory Drive and Windy Lane/Pinewood Drive have been completed and will be removed from the Minor Projects list.

The Mayor added that the Director reviews streets and determines what projects would be critical for upgrading including drainage, property acquisition, lighting. The majority of newer streets are in Wards Four and Five and that there is more need in Wards One, Two and Three. The City is working to close the gap and have all curb and gutter streets. The Mayor stated that if a Council member would like a street to be considered for upgrade, to contact the Director of Public Works. The Director added that there are usually two projects in engineering and one project in construction per year.

It was stated that Elm, Oak, Cedar Drive and Kadlec Drive are in engineering. Pearson is still in engineering but will go to construction in the late spring/early summer.

The listed Joint Projects are in conjunction with other agencies. The Major Projects are larger projects in the City. The Mayor added that the bridge over I-64 and the renovation of Council Chambers (received grants) will appear on the CIP List. The Mayor stated that, this year, the renovation of Council Chamber and Meeting Room A will be combined to become one room.

Aldersperson Poletti stated that ten years ago it was decided that Ward Five streets did not need any improvements. He stated that one project, Windy Lane/Pinewood that was oil and chip, was overlayed. Aldersperson Poletti commented that there may be an oil and chip in the future, but will not be high priority, as Wards One, Two and Three have more streets that are in need.

The Director stated that, as noted in the Director's Report, the Department is requesting the following to be included in the updated CIP Priority List.

- Moving Lincoln Highway, Phases II and III, to the Joint Projects as federal funding is anticipated for the final two phases.
- Adding Ashland Avenue, Phases I and II, to the Joint Projects as federal funding is anticipated.

- Adding Salem Place/Old Collinsville Road Roundabout – the City of O’Fallon to be the lead on the projects and federal funding is anticipated.

SALEM PLACE – OLD COLLINSVILLE ROAD ROUNDABOUT – CMAQ APPLICATION

The Director of Public Works stated that the City of O’Fallon is the lead agency for the project and has contracted with Thouvenot, Wade and Moerchen (TWM) for preparing the application for a CMAQ (Congested Mitigation Air Quality) grant which is due to East/West Gateway on February 6. If funding is received, an intergovernmental agreement will be written to reimburse the City of O’Fallon for the consultant’s fees for grant application preparation and the fee for submitting the application to East/West Gateway.

The total project is likely to be \$2M - 80 percent federally funded, 20 percent locally funded, or \$400,000.00 divided equally between the Cities of O’Fallon and Fairview Heights. Therefore, the City’s responsibility would be \$200,000.00. The Director stated there is some property acquisition that could be expensive.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT – FRANK SCOTT PARKWAY AT DEPAUL DRIVE

The Director relayed that this item appeared on the November Agenda. This agreement is with St. Clair County, the Village of Swansea and the JMT Enterprise Group for a proposed signalized intersection at DePaul Drive. This was previously approved by the Committee and Council, however, the County requests that the Village of Swansea and the City to share in the cost of pavement marking in the future. It is anticipated that the pavement markings would last approximately seven years. It is the Director’s belief that the benefit of a signalized intersection at DePaul and Frank Scott Parkway outweighs the annual average cost of \$3,000.00 for pavement marking.

Motion and second to forward a resolution to City Council with recommendation of approval the amended intergovernmental agreement with St. Clair County, the Village of Swansea and JMT Enterprise Group, LLC for the construction of a signalized intersection at Franck Scott Parkway and DePaul Drive by Alderpersons Frawley/Peck. Roll call vote showed Alderpersons Frawley - yes, Winkeler – yes, Wagner – absent, Peck – yes, Poletti – yes. Motion carried.

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING – RT. 159 CONSTRUCTION

The Public Works Director presented a Letter of Understanding for the Illinois Route 159 construction. The State approached the City stating bids will be received this Friday for reconstruction of Illinois Route 159 from Lincoln Trail to 0.1 miles north of Fountains Parkway. The work consists of the milling and overlay with business entrances and new traffic signal loop detectors. The State is requesting permission to work on the City’s right-of-way. The Director stated that this is a \$4.1M project with no funds being expended by the City.

Alderperson Poletti stated that this is not a continuous strip of asphalt. The Director stated there are two bridge omissions. The Illinois Route 159 bridge over Interstate 64, as well as the on and off ramps, are part of the \$77M project that is now at a standstill due to weather. The other bridge is over the railroad tracks just north of Salem Place.

Motion and second to forward a resolution to City Council with recommendation of approval the Letter of Understanding from the Illinois Department of Transportation associated with the

proposed Route 159 construction from Lincoln Trail to 0.1 mile north of Fountains Parkway by Alderpersons Peck/Winkeler. Roll call vote showed Alderpersons Frawley - yes, Winkeler - yes, Wagner - absent, Peck - yes, Poletti - yes. Motion carried.

FEDERAL FUNDING AGREEMENT – OLD COLLINSVILLE ROAD

The Director stated this agreement is for the reconstruction of Old Collinsville Road from Lincoln Highway to Ashland Avenue. This agreement outlines financial responsibility between the City and the Federal government. Initially, the Surface Transportation Program – Urban (STU) grant was to fund 75 percent of construction costs; however, it has been some time and costs are inflated, therefore, realizing it to be more of a 50/50 cost. The City's funding portion will be approximately \$586,000.00 of the \$1.1M, which the Director proposes to utilize the Motor Fuel Tax funds with zero funds coming from the City's operating funds. The Federal funds will pay for the remainder of \$520,000 - \$540,000.00.

Motion and second to forward the Joint Funding Agreement for Federally Funded Construction associated with the Old Collinsville Road project from Lincoln Highway to Ashland Avenue by Alderpersons Peck/Frawley. Roll call vote showed Alderpersons Frawley - yes, Winkeler - yes, Wagner - absent, Peck - yes, Poletti - yes. Motion carried.

MFT RESOLUTION – OLD COLLINSVILLE ROAD

The Director presented the State's Resolution for Improvement Under the Illinois Highway Code formalizing the request to utilize \$600,000.00 of Motor Fuel Tax funds for the costs associated the reconstruction of Old Collinsville Road from Lincoln Highway to Ashland Avenue.

Motion and second to forward the Resolution for Improvement Under the Illinois Highway Code for the Old Collinsville Road project from Lincoln Highway to Ashland Avenue by Alderpersons Winkeler/Peck. Roll call vote showed Alderpersons Frawley - yes, Winkeler - yes, Wagner - absent, Peck - yes, Poletti - yes. Motion carried.

ASHLAND AVENUE STP GRANT APPLICATION WITH ST. CLAIR COUNTY

The Director stated that this is specific to the most current Surface Transportation Program (STP) grant attempt with St. Clair County for the Second Phase of Ashland Avenue from Joseph Drive to Illinois Route 159. He stated a year ago, the City legislated the First Phase for approximately the same cost. This agreement states that the City will reimburse the County for one-half of the grant application cost.

Motion and second to forward the Letter Agreement with St. Clair County associated with the Surface Transportation Program – Suballocated (STP-S) grant application to secure funding for improvements to Ashland Avenue from Joseph Drive to Illinois Route 159 by Alderpersons Peck/Winkeler. Roll call vote showed Alderpersons Frawley - yes, Winkeler - yes, Wagner - absent, Peck - yes, Poletti - yes. Motion carried.

DCEO GRANT AGREEMENT – CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Public Works Director stated that the City will receive \$250,000.00 from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) for the remodeling of the City

Hall's Council Chambers. In order to receive these funds, the Mayor is required to sign a contract with the DCEO.

Motion and second to forward the contract with the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for a grant associated with the funding, in the amount of \$250,000.00, for the City Hall Council Chambers project by Alderpersons Winkeler/Peck. Roll call vote showed Alderpersons Frawley - yes, Winkeler - yes, Wagner - absent, Peck - yes, Poletti - yes. Motion carried.

ASHLAND AVENUE ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ST. CLAIR COUNTY

The Director of Public Works stated this agreement pertains to the First Phase of Ashland Avenue. Last year, the County/City was successful in receiving a Surface Transportation (STP) grant. Moving forward, St. Clair County, as lead, contracted with Gonzalez Companies, LLC for the engineering for Phase One. The City will utilize Motor Fuel Tax funds to reimburse St. Clair County for one-half of the cost for engineering services, or \$49,865.00.

Motion and second to forward the Letter Agreement with St. Clair County associated with the engineering services necessary for improvements to Ashland Avenue from Joseph Drive to Illinois Route 159 by Alderpersons Peck/Winkeler. The Public Works Director corrected the location to be from Old Collinsville Road to Joseph Drive. Revised motion and second to forward the Letter Agreement with St. Clair County associated with the engineering services necessary for improvements to Ashland Avenue from Old Collinsville Road to Joseph Drive by Alderpersons Peck/Winkeler. Roll call vote showed Alderpersons Frawley - yes, Winkeler - yes, Wagner - absent, Peck - yes, Poletti - yes. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT/PROJECT UPDATES

The Director presented his written report to the elected officials for their review to which there were no questions or comments.

The Public Works Director mentioned that tomorrow will most likely be the last day for installing concrete and after that the barricades will come down on the Lincoln Highway project. Wissehr Electric has a few more items to complete. Asphalt installation will be on hold due to weather.

A motion and second was made to adjourn the Operations Meeting by Alderperson Peck/Winkeler. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Adjournment 7:39 p.m.

Submitted By:


Recorder