

THE CITY OF FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, February 11, 2026, 7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers
Fairview Heights City Hall
Fairview Heights, Illinois

Committee Members in attendance – Alderpersons Josh Frawley – tele-conference, Brenda Wagner, Pat Peck, Bill Poletti – tele-conference

Committee Members absent – Alderperson Jimmy Winkeler

Other Alderpersons and Elected Officials in attendance – Mayor Mark Kupsky, City Clerk Karen Kaufhold – tele/conference, Alderpersons Frank Menn, Anthony Leflore, Barb Brumfield, Derrick King

Staff in attendance – City Attorney Andrew Hoerner, Finance Director Gina Rader, Associate Director of Human Resources Becky Thompson, IT User Support and Systems Manager Zach Bartley – tele/conference, Police Chief Steve Johnson, Public Works Director John Harty

Mayor Kupsky announced the funeral arrangements for Mayor George Lanxon.

Mayor Kupsky reminded everyone that Monday is President's Day and City Hall will be closed.

Public Participation

None

Approval of Minutes, January 14, 2026

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

Law Enforcement Committee

Alderperson Brenda Wagner, Acting Chairman

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Chief Johnson stated since the hiring of the Code Enforcement Manager, an additional report, Code Summary, is included with the Agenda packet which is easier to read than the many pages of the Code Enforcement Case Details – By Address, also included in the packet. The Chief stated that the goal of the Code Summary is to provide statistics and highlight notable enforcement cases.

The Chief stated since the hiring of the Code Enforcement Manager, who retired as a Fairview Heights Police Department's lieutenant, it has allowed the repositioning of lieutenants to be on the street more often. He mentioned that there are 21 police officers in the department with less than three years of experience.

Aldersperson Peck commented that she likes the Code Summary and that she does read the Code Enforcement Case Details – By Address, especially as pertains to her ward.

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 SUMMARY

Previously discussed under Code Enforcement Report. The Mayor requested that for future meetings, Code Enforcement Report and Code Summary could be combined under one agenda item. Aldersperson Peck questioned if Council would still receive both reports, to which the Chief confirmed.

Public Works Committee

Aldersperson Bill Poletti

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN – PRIORITY LIST

The Director of Public Works discussed the Capital Improvements Plan as follows:

Joint Projects: Include Ashland Avenue, Phase 1 (Old Collinsville Road to Joseph Drive), Ashland Avenue, Phase 2 (Joseph Drive to Illinois Route 159), and the roundabout at Salem Place/Old Collinsville Road. Aldersperson Wagner questioned if the list would be renumbered to which the Director replied it will be renumbered, however, the start of a project is dependent on the receipt of funding.

Major Projects: Lincoln Highway already exists on the Major Projects list, but will be shown as Lincoln Highway, Phase 2 (Joseph Drive to Bel Rose Drive) and Lincoln Highway, Phase 3 (Bel Rose Drive to Old Collinsville Road). There are no additions to the Major Projects list.

Minor Projects: The Public Works Director stated that Ward 5 is mostly built out. He suggested adding Clifford Terrace in Ward 2, listed as project 10, and Pasadena Drive in Ward 3, listed as project 11, on the list. Adding these two streets equal the cost for the other projects in all four wards.

The Director stated there are a couple of streets in Ward 5 that are in dire need of asphalt overlay, but will be considered when the entire CIP budget is considered.

The Director stated that the Capital Improvement Priority List will be prepared and presented at the City Council meeting if Committee is in concurrence of adding Clifford Terrace and Pasadena Drive to the Minor Projects list.

The Mayor stated that this list sets the course of projects for the next few years. It has been discussed to increase the budget for the next couple of years for Asphalt Overlay to apply asphalt overly to roadways instead of performing a complete rebuild which has become expensive.

Aldersperson Wagner requested to know the approximate cost of projects. When residents contact council members, they would then know the approximate cost of the project and be able to explain it to residents. She requested approximate costs not only for the Minor Projects, but also for Major Projects and Joint Projects.

Aldersperson Peck questioned when temporary construction easement letters are mailed to residents regarding a project, does staff meet with them at their residences to which the Director replied it is the residents' preference – either at City Hall or at their property. There is follow-up with the residents.

Aldersperson Menn discussed asphalt overlay versus complete rehab and associated costs.

Motion and second to forward a Resolution to City Council with recommendation of approval the current Capital Improvement Plan Priority List, as discussed this evening, by Alderspersons Peck/Wagner. Roll call vote showed Alderspersons Frawley - yes, Winkeler – absent, Wagner – yes, Peck – yes, Poletti – yes. Motion carried.

MFT MAINTENANCE RESOLUTION

The Public Works Directed presented the annual Motor Fuel Tax Maintenance Resolution which informs the State the amount of money the City requests for maintenance in the City. He stated that \$363,000.00 in salaries are included in the request. A portion of the Public Works Administrative Assistant's salary is paid by Motor Fuel Tax as is 75 percent of the Street Supervisor's salary. This year's total request is \$988,182.00 from the City's Motor Fuel Tax's unobligated balance.

Motion and second to forward with recommendation of approval the Resolution for Maintenance Under the Illinois Highway Code for maintenance in the amount of \$988,182.00 by Alderspersons Wagner/Peck. Roll call vote showed Alderspersons Frawley - yes, Winkeler – absent, Wagner – yes, Peck – yes, Poletti – yes. Motion carried.

JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR STATE PARTICIPATION – LONGACRE DRIVE

The Public Works Director stated that the City received a State grant for the entire Longacre Drive project. The City entered into a contract with Gonzalez Companies a few months ago in the amount of \$22,880.00 to revise the plans and be ready for a State letting. The State has agreed to pay for the revision of the plans resulting in the funding agreement.

Motion and second to forward a Resolution to City Council with recommendation of approval the Joint Funding Agreement for State Participation associated with the engineering design work necessary for the Longacre Drive Improvements by Alderspersons Wagner/Peck. Roll call vote showed Alderspersons Frawley - yes, Winkeler – absent, Wagner – yes, Peck – yes, Poletti – yes. Motion carried.

MS4 MUNICIPAL STORM SEWER ANNUAL REPORT

Aldersperson Poletti stated this annual report is required by State Law.

The Director of Public Works stated that due to population, the City is required to be a part of the State's MS-4 Program. Best management practices are adhered to in order to meet the State's policies. For public outreach, brochures are displayed at the Library and the REC informing the public what to do and what not to do with waste products. The Public Works Director or City Engineer attends quarterly meetings. In the City's program is the pickup of Christmas trees, debris picked up by the street sweepers, pharmaceutical collections, the cleaning of the City's ditches and the monitoring of Ogles Creek, which resides in the City. The Director stated that last year, the City picked up 980,000 pounds of debris materials from sweeping the City's streets. Discussed adding into the report the amount of trash picked up by Trekking for Trash.

Aldersperson Wagner questioned if there are notifications to residents not to put grass clippings in the street to which the Director replied there is no requirement. Aldersperson Wagner suggested that the IT Department could develop a flyer to post on social media and the City's website regarding grass clippings in the streets.

Aldersperson Wagner believes that the residents need to be educated on this; the Director will send brochures to Council.

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.

Aldersperson Wagner commended Public Works regarding snow removal.

The Director mentioned that the State will make Bunkum Road a one-lane road with temporary traffic signals for expansion joint repair and bridge resurfacing, which will take approximately four weeks. When Bunkum Road is complete, the contractors will move to Ruby Lane with the same type of affect. After Ruby Lane, the contractors will move to Illinois Route 159. The Director stated that quite a bit of the work is underneath the bridges.

It was mentioned that the State is removing trees and brush from along Interstate 64.

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

Adjournment 7:32 p.m.

Submitted By:


Recorder