

Fairfield, Illinois
Council Chambers, City Hall
Regular Meeting, 6:00 P.M.
Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Meeting called to order by Mayor Gary Moore at 6:00 P.M.

Prayer led by Doug Skaggs followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

City Clerk Tina Hutchcraft called the roll:

Mayor: Gary Moore
City Clerk: Tina Hutchcraft
City Attorney: Darrin Rice
Aldermen: Terry Stahl; Allen Marsh; Sheryl Eckleberry; Eugene McGill; Bruce McKibben;
Clifford Reeve; Dewey Eckleberry; Cody Attebery

Also Present: Tom Mathews, Wayne County Press; Mark Wells, WFIW Radio; Keith Colclasure, Police Chief; Ben Lewis, Assistant Police Chief; Andrew Miller, Fire Chief; Wade Gregory, Assistant Fire Chief; Doug Skaggs; and other citizens from the community.

The minutes of the meeting of May 13, 2025 were sent out to those entitled to receive them. Mayor Moore asked for approval of the minutes for the May 13, 2025 meeting. Motion by Alderman Stahl, seconded by Alderman McGill to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 13, 2025.

Vote yes: 8

Vote no: 0

Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

Mayor Moore asked if there were any corrections or objections to the bills for the June 10, 2025 meeting. Motion by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman Attebery to approve the bills for payment.

Vote yes: McGill; McKibben; Reeve; Stahl; Attebery; Dewey Eckleberry; Sheryl Eckleberry; Marsh

Vote no: none

Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

Ordinance to Award the Bid for the Sale of Property at 303 NE 7th Street – A public hearing was held earlier to open bids for the sale of this property. One bid was received from Kyle Dagg in the amount of \$4,500. This is the second time this property was advertised for sale and we received no bids the first time it was offered. The city does not have any need to keep this property. A motion was made by Alderman Stahl, seconded by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry to accept the bid for the sale of this property in the amount of \$4,500.00.

Vote yes: 8

Vote no: 0

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Ordinance No. 25-0610-385 approved and adopted.

IBEW Union Contract – An agreement has been reached with the IEBW. The contract will give the employees a 4.5% pay increase and the contract will be for three years. A motion was made by Alderman Attebery, seconded by Alderman McGill to approve the IBEW contract. The term of this contract is May 1, 2025 – April 30, 2028.

Vote yes: McKibben; Reeve; Stahl; Attebery; Dewey Eckleberry; Sheryl Eckleberry; Marsh; McGill

Vote no: none

Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

Approval of Benefits for Non-Union Employees – The term for the IBEW contract is May 1, 2025-April 30, 2028. Mayor Moore asked the Council to approve giving the full-time non-union workers the same benefits as the union. This will include a 4.5% pay increase. A motion was made by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman McKibben to approve giving the full-time non-union workers the same benefits as the IBEW.

Vote yes: Reeve; Stahl; Attebery; Dewey Eckleberry; Sheryl Eckleberry; Marsh; McGill; McKibben

Vote no: none

Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

Resolution Approving a Business District Redevelopment Agreement with 6-Juan-8 Bakery, LLC & Samantha Baker – Alderman Attebery presented a business district agreement for 6-Juan-8 Bakery. They have made many renovations to their building such as a new roof, ADA bathrooms, and electrical work. The business district committee met and recommends Council approve this request. A motion was made by Alderman Reeve, seconded by Alderman Stahl to approve the Business District Redevelopment Agreement with 6-Juan-8 Bakery in the total amount of \$10,000.

Vote yes: Stahl; Attebery; Dewey Eckleberry; Sheryl Eckleberry; Marsh; McGill; McKibben; Reeve

Vote no: none

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Resolution No. 25-0610-552 approved and adopted.

Resolution Approving a Business District Redevelopment Agreement with Wayne-White Counties Electric Cooperative – Alderman Attebery presented a business district agreement for Wayne-White. They replaced their main entry door. The business district committee met and recommends Council approve this request. A motion was made by Alderman Stahl, seconded by Alderman Marsh to approve the Business District Redevelopment Agreement with Wayne-White in the total amount of \$10,000.

Vote yes: Attebery; Dewey Eckleberry; Sheryl Eckleberry; Marsh; McGill; McKibben; Reeve; Stahl

Vote no: none

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Resolution No. 25-0610-553 approved and adopted.

Acknowledgement of Kemper CPA Planning Letters – Mayor Moore told the Council that Kemper has been here working on the audit for the city. Enclosed in the agenda packets were planning letters from Kemper CPA. Professional standards require them to provide us with this information related to our audit.

Resolutions to Appoint the Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief – A motion was made by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman McKibben to approve the appointment of Andrew Miller as Fire Chief and Wade Gregory as Assistant Fire Chief.

Vote yes: 8

Vote no: 0

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Resolution No. 25-0610-554 through 25-0610-555 approved and duly adopted.

Police Chief Retirement – Mayor Moore read a letter from Chief Keith Colclasure announcing his retirement from the police department. He has served as a police officer for the past 26 years serving as patrolman, sergeant, detective assistant police chief and police chief. He thanked all the mayors and aldermen, both past and present, for whom he has had the privilege of working with. He also thanked his family for all their support over the years. Mayor Moore presented him with a plaque of appreciation for his dedicated years of service.

Public Safety Ordinance Enforcement Appointment – Mayor Moore stated the creation of this position has been discussed many times over the years. This will be an appointed position and will assist the police department with evidence control and will be the FOIA officer for the police department. This person will also be responsible for city ordinance enforcement. Mayor Moore asked the Council to approve the appointment of Keith Colclasure to this position with a salary of \$27 per hour. A motion was made by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman McGill to approve this appointment.

Vote yes: 8

Vote no: 0

Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

Resolution – Police Chief Appointment - A motion was made by Alderman Stahl, seconded by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry to approve the appointment of Ben Lewis as Police Chief.

Vote yes: 8

Vote no: 0

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Resolution No. 25-0610-556 approved and duly adopted.

Request to Close Leroy Street between the Tennis Courts for Pickleball Tournament – We have received a request to close a portion of Leroy Street between the tennis courts on June 21 and June 22 for a pickleball tournament. A motion was made by Alderman McKibben, seconded by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry to approve this request.

Vote yes: 8

Vote no: 0

Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

Recreation Fund Pledge – Mayor Moore told the Council that the harsh winter has caused problems with the fairways at the golf course killing the grass. The cost to repair the greens will cost approximately \$70,000. Several private members have pledged money to assist with the repairs and it is expected the park board will also make a pledge toward the repairs. There are many activities that occur at the golf course throughout the year that are a benefit to our

community. Mayor Moore asked for approval to pledge \$7,000 of recreation funds to the park district to be used for the needed repairs to the golf course. A motion was made by Alderman Reeve, seconded by Alderman Attebery to approve this expenditure.

Vote yes: Dewey Eckleberry; Sheryl Eckleberry; Marsh; McGill; McKibben; Reeve; Stahl; Attebery

Vote no: none

Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

Financial Report – Mayor Moore presented the financial report for the month of May.

Miscellaneous – Alderman Dewey Eckleberry stated we need to take a better look at our dog control as we have had several incidents of dogs running loose and recently of dog attacks. He would like his constituents to let him know if they experience such a problem. Mayor Moore stated residents should call the Wayne County Humane Society first and if it is a dog bite then call the police department.

Executive Session – A motion was made by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman Stahl to go into Executive Session to discuss Section 2(c)(21) – minutes of closed session meetings and semi-annual review and Section 2(c)(1) – the appointment, employment, compensation, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body.

Vote yes: Sheryl Eckleberry; Marsh; McGill; McKibben; Reeve; Stahl; Attebery; Dewey Eckleberry

Vote no: none

Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

Return to Regular Session – Alderman Stahl made a motion, seconded by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry to return to regular session.

Vote yes: 8

Vote no: 0

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Council returned to regular session at 7:03 p.m.

Adjourn Meeting – Motion by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman McGill to adjourn the meeting.

Vote yes: 8

Vote no: 0

Mayor Moore declared meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Tina Hutchcraft, City Clerk

Gary Moore, Mayor