

Fairfield, Illinois
Council Chambers, City Hall
Regular Meeting, 6:00 P.M.
Tuesday, July 14, 2026

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 Matthews, Wayne County Press; Kayla Warren; Ryan Ellis; Tim Mason;
Terry Weedman; Cole Young, Water Distribution; Doug Skaggs; D.E. Young, Garage
Department; Ben Lewis, Police Chief; Andrew Miller, Fire Chief; and other citizens from the
community.

The minutes of the meeting of June 9, 2026 and the Executive Session meeting minutes of May
12, 2026 were sent out to those entitled to receive them. Mayor Moore asked for approval of the
minutes for the June 9, 2026 meeting and the Executive Session meeting minutes of May 12,
2026. Motion by Alderman Stahl, seconded by Alderman Marsh to approve these minutes.

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 July 14, 2026
meeting. Motion by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman Attebery to approve
the bills for payment.

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

Vote no: none

Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

Ordinance No. 26-0714-396/Appropriations – A public hearing was held at 5:50 p.m. concerning
the annual appropriations. The total amount of the appropriations is \$30,488,501. This amount
includes the general fund, motor fuel tax, TIF 1, TIF 2, Business Tax, Police Pension, and Fire
Pension. The amount for just the general fund is \$25,371,057. A motion was made by
Alderman Reeve, seconded by Alderman Attebery to approve Ordinance No. 26-0714-396
adopting the Fairfield Appropriation Ordinance for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2026 and
ending April 30, 2027.

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

Vote no: none

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Ordinance No. 26-0714-396 approved and duly adopted.

Recognition of New Firefighter – Ryan Ellis has been hired as a firefighter for the City Fire Department. Mayor Moore introduced him to the Council. Ryan has been sworn in by City Clerk Hutchcraft and has begun his duties.

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.

Proclamation – Frontier Community College – Mayor Moore read a proclamation celebrating the 50th anniversary of Frontier Community College.

Resolution Approving a Business District Redevelopment Agreement with Mindy's Sew Shop – Alderman Attebery presented a business district agreement for Mindy's Sew Shop. They will be replacing windows and interior framing in the building. The business district committee met and recommends Council approve this request in the amount of \$16,120.00, and;

Resolution Approving a Business District Redevelopment Agreement with JLKH Properties, LLC dba Napa Auto Parts – Napa is rehabilitating and repairing a commercial building located at 1701 W. Delaware and will be moving their business there. The business district committee met and recommends Council approve this request in the amount of \$100,000.00, and;

Resolution Approving a Business District Redevelopment Agreement with Two Mules Property Management, LLC dba Yellin' Helen's – Yellin' Helen's is building a new restaurant at 909 W. Delaware Street. The business district committee met and recommends Council approve this request in the amount of \$81,250.00, and;

Resolution Approving a Business District Redevelopment Agreement with Gifford Properties LLC – Andrew Gifford is resurfacing and repairing the back walkway of his building located at 302 E. Main Street. The business district committee met and recommends Council approve this request in the amount of \$5,000.00, and;

Resolution Approving a Business District Redevelopment Agreement with the City of Fairfield – The city hall parking lot will be resurfaced and this resolution will allow us to use business district funds to pay for a portion of the work with the remaining to come out of TIF funds or the general fund.

A motion was made by Alderman Stahl, seconded by Alderman McKibben to approve the resolutions for Business District Agreements with Mindy's Sew Shop, Napa, Yellin' Helen's, Gifford Properties and the City of Fairfield.

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

Vote no: none

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Resolution No. 26-0714-593 through Resolution No. 26-0714-597 approved and adopted.

Resolution of Support and Commitment of Funds with Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission – A motion was made by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman Stahl to approve the resolution and commitment of funds with Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission. The annual fee is \$2,500.00.

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

Vote no: none

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Resolution No. 26-0714-598 approved and adopted.

Resolution - Fire Pension Board Appointment – Mayor Moore would like to appoint Ryan Ellis to serve on the Fire Pension Board. A motion was made by Alderman Attebery, seconded by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry to approve this resolution.

Vote yes: 8

Vote no: 0

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Resolution No. 26-0714-599 approved and adopted.

Resolution – Street Closing Request for FCHS Homecoming Parade – We have received a street closing request for the Homecoming Parade. The parade is scheduled for Friday, October 2, 2026 from 1:00 – 3:15 p.m. A motion was made by Alderman Reeve, seconded by Alderman McKibben to approve this resolution.

Vote yes: 8

Vote no: 0

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Resolution No. 26-0714-600 approved and adopted.

Ordinance Dealing with Banking – The Mayor would like to see deposits of money made daily. Our current ordinance states that deposits could be held up to a week. Mayor Moore stated that we collect a lot of money and feels we need to be making the deposits more often. Even though this new ordinance states that deposits are to be made daily Mayor Moore understands that things could happen such as someone might get sick during the day or something else could happen that would prevent a deposit from being made daily. However, this should be the exception, not the daily practice. A motion was made by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman Stahl to approve this ordinance.

Vote yes: 8

Vote no: 0

Mayor Moore declared motion carried and Ordinance No. 26-0714-397 approved and adopted.

Approval of Salary Adjustment for Billing Clerk – Judy Read recently retired and Mayor Moore does not plan to replace that position. In that office Loretta Haygood is in the union and DiElle Rogers is an appointment of the mayor. Because of that, DiElle couldn't do union work and the union sometimes wouldn't allow Loretta to do everything the collector position does. Mayor

Moore met with the union rep on June 23rd and they have reached an agreement that states that Loretta and DiElle can cross train on everything that needs to be done to run that office. Judy Read's total compensation package was a little over \$67,000. Mayor Moore would like to bring Loretta up to the same pay as DiElle which would be about a \$3,200 increase in her pay. This is still quite a savings to the city by not replacing Judy. Mayor Moore is asking for Council to approve the pay adjustment and to make it retroactive to the date the agreement was made with the union. A motion was made by Alderman Dewey Eckleberry, seconded by Alderman March to approve the salary adjustment for the billing clerk.

Vote yes: McKibben; Reeve; Stahl; Atteberry; Dewey Eckleberry; Sheryl Eckleberry; Marsh

Vote no: McGill

Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

Vehicle Purchase for Water Distribution Department – The Water Distribution Department is in need of an additional vehicle. Mayor Moore told the Council the cost of the new truck is \$56,407.63. A motion was made by Alderman Stahl, seconded by Alderman McKibben to approve this purchase.

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

Vote no: none

Mayor Moore declared motion carried.

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

Miscellaneous – The attorney we hired to handle municipal court resigned due to her taking a position with the Richland County States Attorney's office. We met with an attorney that showed an interest in the position. However, there is a specific training that an attorney must have in order to serve as attorney for municipal court. That training is only offered one time a year. After finding out about the training, that individual is no longer interested and we haven't been able to find anyone else to fill this position. Until an attorney can be obtained, we will begin to take the ordinance violations back to the circuit court. Individuals being fined will now have to appear in front of a judge at the courthouse. If there are fines levied, the city will get the fine amount but it will most likely mean larger fines will be assessed and these violations will also go on the individual's record.

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 6:30 p.m.

Tina Hutchcraft, City Clerk

Gary Moore, Mayor