

City Council Minutes
October 21, 2025

Minutes of Regular Meeting of the City Council, at City Hall.
Petersburg, Illinois

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Snyder called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

II. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A. Members present were Aldermen Bruce Gorman, Megan Loberg-Simmering, Mike Allison, Rick Sonnemaker, Andrew Gain, and Neil Conklin. Also, present were Mayor Rick Snyder, Treasurer Melissa Riley, City Secretary Tracy Ciesler, Attorney Jason Brokaw, and City Clerk John Ramage.

B. Mayor Snyder led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

C. A motion was made by Alderman Gain and seconded by Alderman Allison to approve the agenda. VOTES: Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Conklin, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

III. CITY CLERK

A. The City Clerk presented the Warrant List and Accounts Payable. After a review, a motion was made by Alderman Gain and seconded by Alderman Gorman to accept the Warrant List and the Accounts Payable. VOTES: Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Conklin, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

B. The Regular City Council meeting minutes of October 7, 2025, were presented. A motion was made by Alderman Gorman and seconded by Alderman Gain to approve the October 7, 2025, regular City Council meeting minutes. VOTES: Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

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IV. HEARING OF CITIZENS

1. Roseanne Nanc - Porta Triathlon - May 9, 2026. Roseanne is seeking approval to use the city streets and get police assistance with the PORTA Triathlon and 5K race. After discussion a motion made by Alderman Gorman seconded by Alderman Conklin to approve the PORTA Triathlon and 5K race. VOTES: Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes, Conklin, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

2. Abby Simmons called city hall and would like to move the movie night at Jaycee Park to Sunday. The council didn't have any objections but would like to have clarification on the reasoning behind the change.

V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. Water Department

1. Water Department Monthly Report. The Water Collector Angela Henderson gave the September water collector's report along with two requests for sewer adjustments because of leaks. A motion made by Alderman Gorman seconded by Alderman Allison to approve the Water Collectors Report with the adjustments. VOTES: Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

2. Water Superintendent's Monthly Report, oral and written, was presented by the water superintendent Brad Hermes. The department fixed a water leak. Also, the department received the final OSHA inspection report of June 11th and there were several violations cited. Two thirds have been abated now, and the remaining are being resolved. Because of the nature of the water plant some of the violations are not seen as applicable, but they need to follow a documentation process to resolve the issue. Both the OSHA officials and city personnel acknowledge the plant is safe for continued operation and the findings don't relate to the water quality of the plant.

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Additionally, the department signed an agreement with Klinger & Associates where they will do the engineering and permitting for a new water line to be extended eastward from the Woodland Lakes area to approximately the intersection of Highway 123 and Curtis Blacktop.

B. Street Department

1. Street Department Monthly Report was given by Supervisor Brian Whitehurst. The department did the usual bag and brush pickup, mowing, weed eating and spraying. The department supported the Harvest Fest by moving barricades, sweeping, sign removal, handing out no parking flyers, and cleanup. Also, the department removed several large trees in the city, transported and setup electrical boxes for the Witches Walk, started a concrete sidewalk project on 8th and Jackson Street, and more. Additionally, the dept will have a maintenance day soon to change oil and provide general maintenance to the truck fleet.

2. A business on the square would like a parking spot and sign in front of their business. After lengthy discussion including input from Attorney Brokaw, the city will provide notice that individual parking spots, assigned to businesses, will no longer be allowed on the square.

Next per request from Mayor Snyder, the council went to Executive session at 8:05pm. A motion made by Alderman Gorman seconded by Alderman Sonnemaker to go to an executive session. VOTES: Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

Return to Regular session - 8:22pm a motion made by Alderman Gain seconded by Alderman Sonnemaker to return to the regular session. VOTES: Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

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VI. OFFICERS' REPORTS

A. Mayor

1. Notice - Halloween Parade moved to October 25th.
2. Notice - Jaycee Park shutdown approx. November 12th.
3. Vote on Resolution No. 2025-02 A Resolution of Support for the Safe Routes to School [SRTA] PORTA Community Schools Grant Application and Sidewalk Project. Megan Loberg-Simmering is helping the school to apply for a grant to refurb the sidewalks around the school and this resolutions will demonstrate community support for the program. After discussion a motion made by Alderman Gain seconded by Alderman Gorman to approve Resolution No. 2025-02. VOTES: Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.
4. Vote on McHenry Construction bid for work on the City Hall building. A motion made by Alderman Gorman seconded by Alderman Loberg-Simmering to approve the McHenry Construction bid for work on the City Hall building. VOTES: Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes, Conklin, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

B. Treasurer's Report

1. Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Riley. A brief discussion was held on what all was included in the report. A motion made by Alderman Gain seconded by Alderman Sonnemaker to approve the Treasurer's Report. VOTES: Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.
2. Close Jaycee Park Fund Account. Treasurer Riley recommended this inactive account be closed out next during next month's meeting.

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VII. NEW BUSINESS


1. A citizen complained about the number of deer in the city and the tick-borne diseases that have been identified in the county. The council gave verbal approval for selective culling of the deer per the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) requirements.

2. Alderman Sonnemaker was at the Tax Referendum Meeting at the PORTA school and reported that this was not for a tax increase but a reallocation of money. More information is needed from the school to understand the situation.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Alderman Gorman and seconded by Alderman Gain to adjourn the meeting. VOTES: Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED. Meeting Adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John Ramage
City Clerk

Approved November 4, 2025