

**City Council Minutes
February 17, 2026**

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Aldersperson Megan Loberg-Simmering called the meeting to order at 7:00 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, others present were Treasurer Melissa Riley, Attorney Jason Brokaw (7:04), and City Clerk John Ramage. Mayor Snyder was absent.

B. Aldersperson Megan Loberg-Simmering led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

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

B. The City Clerk presented the minutes of the regular city council meeting of February 2, 2026, the minutes of the special meeting of the city council on February 9, 2026, and the minutes of the Police/Personnel committee on February 9, 2026. A motion for an omnibus vote to approve the three minutes was made by Alderman Sonnemaker and seconded by Alderman Gorman. VOTES: Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes;

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Gorman, yes. Alderperson Megan Loberg-Simmering declared the MOTION CARRIED.

IV. HEARING OF CITIZENS

1. None present.

V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. Water Department

1. Water Department Monthly Report. The Water Collector, Angela Henderson gave the January 2026 water collector's report along with a request for two sewer adjustments because of leaks. The total revenues for January 2026 were \$129,442.79. A motion made by Alderman Gorman seconded by Alderman Conklin to approve the Water Collectors Report including the sewer adjustments. VOTES: Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes. Alderperson Megan Loberg-Simmering declared the MOTION CARRIED.

2. Water Superintendent's Monthly Report was in written form, for the council. The department performed seven water shut offs, a pressure check, two leak repairs, and sewer line locates. Additionally, OSHA revisited the water treatment plant for a follow up visit and inspection. The city was given an extension on the final citation for the Respiratory Protection Plan requirement.

New water well #11 has been granted a final operating permit as of January 29, 2026. The well will be brought online after an update to the SCADA system is made.

B. Street Department

1. Street Department Monthly Report was given by Supervisor Brian Whitehurst. The department did the usual bag and brush pickup, leaf pickup, and cleaned drop boxes. After the snowfall, the department ran the snowplow, spread salt and cinders, hauled snow out of the

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city, and performed snowplow maintenance.

-The white dodge was taken offline and is in the Thomas Garage for repairs.

-Completed the Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) 2025 documentation compliance review and began work on the budget and 2026 MFT oiled road program.

-Performed maintenance on the Vac Truck, including replacing the high-pressure valve.

-Performed tree work at the Village Green subdivision, lower Antle street and at 7th and Stephenson.

-Performed cleanup at the dog waste stations at the dog park, removed trash from city areas.

-Assisted the Library with transport of tables and chairs.

C. Zoning Department

No report.

VI. OFFICERS' REPORTS

A. Mayor

1.Menard County Animal Control Quarterly Report. The Menard County Animal Control received 20 calls to the area and provided 40 patrol days to the city. They impounded 22 dogs and 14 cats including 4 feral cats. They performed 5 carcass removals, collected three bat/racoons, gave out 11 fines, 6 warnings and delivered 45 educational/instructional visits.

2.The Vote on the Aetna Plan for Employee Insurance. Because of some confusion or lack of information, between the Aetna Plan and the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Plan, and the timing of the motion to approve, the Blue Cross/Blue Shield plan was voted on when the equivalent and cheaper Aetna Plan was available. To clear things up and provide an accurate paper trail, a vote needs to be taken. A motion made by Alderman Gorman seconded by Alderman Conklin to approve the

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purchasing of Aetna Plan for Employee Insurance, for the remainder of the plan year. VOTES: Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes. Alderperson Megan Loberg-Simmering declared the MOTION CARRIED.

3. Vote on Name of VFW Restaurant. This item was overcome by events and no vote was needed.

B.Treasurer's Report

1.Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Melissa Riley which included that the General Fund has \$2,363,405.90 in it. Additionally, Treasurer Riley proposed that the city start the budget process earlier in the year, around the March time frame. This generated discussion and general agreement. A motion made by Alderman Gorman seconded by Alderman Loberg-Simmering to approve the treasurer's report. VOTES: Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes. Alderperson Megan Loberg-Simmering declared the MOTION CARRIED.

VII.OLD BUSINESS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Alderman Gorman and seconded by Alderman Gain to adjourn the meeting. VOTES: Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes. Alderperson Megan Loberg-Simmering declared the MOTION CARRIED. Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John Ramage
City Clerk

Approved March 3, 2026,

Audio WS700802