

**City Council Minutes
September 2, 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 7:03 p.m.

II. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A. Members present were Aldermen Bruce Gorman, Megan Loberg-Simmering, Andrew Gain, Rick Sonnemaker, Mike Allison, and Neil Conklin. Also, present were Mayor Rick Snyder, Treasurer Melissa Riley, Attorney Jason Brokaw, City Sec. Tracy Ciesler, Zoning Admin. Tom Walker 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 Gorman and seconded by Alderman Gain 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; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Conklin, yes; Sonnemaker, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

B. The Regular meeting minutes of August 19, 2025, were presented. A motion was made by Alderman Gorman and seconded by Alderman Allison to approve the August 19, 2025, regular City Council meeting minutes. VOTES: Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, abstain; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, abstain; Gorman, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

C. The Finance Committee minutes of August 19, 2025. - This meeting was not held.

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IV. HEARING OF CITIZENS

A. Kathy Olesen - Edgar Lee Masters Street Closures for Harvest Fest. Kathy would like to have events at the Edgar Lee Masters' home in conjunction with the Harvest Festival on September 20th. To support that, 8th Street going north from Jackson for a 1/3 of a block will be closed from 6:00am to 4:00pm. A motion made by Alderman Gorman seconded by Alderman Conklin to approve the closure. VOTES: Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes, Conklin, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

B. Knights of Columbus - Sangamon Valley Chapter - Soccer Challenge on 9.27.25. A motion made by Alderman Allison seconded by Alderman Gain to approve the Soccer Challenge at the Jaycee Park 9:00am to noon on September 27, 2025. VOTES: Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

B. Jaycee's Halloween Parade 10.18.25. Abby Simmons requested the city approves their annual Halloween Parade on October 18th with a rainy-day date on October 25th. Street closures are on 7th Street between Taylor and Sheridan - 3:45-4:15pm. And square entrances at 6th & 7th and Jackson and Douglas. A motion made by Alderman Loberg-Simmering seconded by Alderman Gorman to approve the Jaycee's Halloween Parade on October 18, with street closures. VOTES: Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. Police

1. Police Department Monthly Report was given by Chief Mike Nichols. He reported that the department had 189 contacts with the community. The volume and type of contacts kept the department busy. He answered questions regarding the new officers and maintenance on the cars.

B. Fire Department

1. Fire Department Monthly Report was given by Chief Eric Hubner.

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There were twenty-three incident reports for last month, with thirteen of them being medical in nature.

- The Annual Pancake & Sausage Breakfast will be held at the firehouse during Harvest Festo September 20th from 7am - 10am.

- The department hosted a Menard County Chief's meeting on August 18th. Chiefs from Athens, Petersburg Rural, Greenview, Oakford, Menard EMS and Petersburg Fire were in attendance.

- The department welcomed PORTA senior Brody Landon to the cadet program through the high school.

-The department hosted their 15th Annual Charity Golf Outing with the proceeds going to Central Illinois Services of Menard County (CIS). They presented a check for \$2400 to CIS from funds raised from the outing.

The purchase of a portable generator was put on hold until more information could be obtained.

C. Water Department

1.Appointment of Angela Henderson as Water Collector. Former Water Collector, Georgia Ed officially retired last Friday and Angela is now our Water Collector.

1. Zoning Department

1.Pawkamp TIF Application. Adam and Amber Helmkamp, owners of Pawkamp Dog & Cat Boarding Facility, purchased the building at 219 North 6th Street and want to open a Paw Wash on that site. The Paw Wash will be a self-serve dog wash, with potential for a groomer. They would need major repairs to the structure and have filled out a request for assistance from the Façade Improvement Grant fund. There was a lot of discussion on which TIF accounts could be used for the work listed. Attorney Brokaw provided advice in this area and made suggestions on how to proceed, starting with the council vote on the total amount during this session, then after approval by Moran Economic Development, which oversees the city's TIF program, there would be a second vote which would finalize the grant. After discussion a motion made by Alderman Gain seconded by Alderman Gorman to approve a total of \$42,7000.00 from TIF funds to Pawkamp Dog & Cat Boarding Facility, contingent on approval of the plan/contract by

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Moran Economic Development. VOTES: Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

VI. OFFICERS' REPORTS

A. Mayor

1.Appointment to Library Board Members. The mayor brought forward the names of two individuals to be approved for the Library Board. After discussion a motion made by Alderman Gorman seconded by Alderman Conklin to approve Marilyn Montgomery and Chelsea Duis as new Library Board members. VOTES: Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

2.Vote on Festivals List. The proposed five events to be considered festivals in Petersburg are Drinkin w/ Lincoln, Harvest Fest, Witches Walk, Halloween Parade, and the Farmers Market. After discussion a motion was made by Alderman Allison seconded by Alderman Gain to approve the five events as the city festivals. VOTES: Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

3.Vote on new name for Park. Some citizens have requested the park with an entrance near 814 Old Salem Road by renamed. After discussions it was decided to postpone the vote until the next meeting of the city council.

4.Vote on adding Angela Henderson and removing Georgia Ed from the City credit cards. With the retirement of Georgia Ed a motion was made by Alderman Gain seconded by Alderman Allison to approve the removal of Georgia Ed and the addition of Angela Henderson, as signatures for city credit cards. VOTES: Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

III. 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; Gain, yes. Mayor Snyder

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declared the MOTION CARRIED. Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John Ramage
City Clerk

Approved: September 16, 2025