

City of Hamilton, IL
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 20, 2026 at 7:00pm

1. **Roll Call** - The Hamilton City Council met in regular session 7:00pm at the Hamilton City Hall on Monday, April 20th, 2026. Mayor Casey called the meeting to order. Aldermen present were Andrew Asbury, Tommy Buckert, Brandon Wilson, Debbie Summers, Steve Schlatter, Beverly Boone. Officer Nick Jamerson was present. Public Works director Ryan Brotherton was present. Animal Control Officer Anne Pierce was present. City Clerk Logan Schrapf was present
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Mayor Casey led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Minutes from April 06, 2026** - Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes from March 16, 2026. Asbury seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, Schlatter, and Boone voting “aye.” The motion carried.
4. **Mayor's Comments** - Mayor Casey reported on the recent storm siren activation. He stated that the siren sounded for the full three minutes and was heard from several areas outside town, though one resident reported difficulty hearing it on South 13th Street.
5. **Finance and Appropriations** - Summers read the committee report. Summers made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Schlatter seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, Schlatter, and Boone voting “aye.” The motion carried.

The Finance Committee reported that a budget meeting was held and that the library budget remained pending. The mileage reimbursement rate will be updated to 72.5 cents per mile, and Juneteenth was discussed as a city holiday. Discussion was also held regarding year-end cash flow management and the use of Working Cash to address timing of revenues and expenditures.

Attorney Hartzell presented ordinance #19 authorizing transfer of \$200,000 from the Working Cash Fund to the General Fund for general corporate purposes. Discussion was held with clarification that the action reduced available Working Cash, but did not abolish the Working Cash Fund. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, Schlatter, and Boone voting “aye.” The motion carried.

6. **Health and Safety** - Asbury gave a committee report. The Fire Department discussed truck repairs; a proposed 10-year truck replacement plan. One firefighter is leaving for a full-time position, two new members joining. Current response times are approximately five to seven minutes. The Police Department reported 176 calls in March and 446 calls through the end of March, averaging approximately 148 calls per month.

A motion was made by Asbury to deem “Scout” with a dangerous dog designation pursuant to applicable ordinance and state procedures, subject to notice and appeal rights. Wilson seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, Schlatter, and Boone voting “aye.” The motion carried. Mayor Casey stated certified notice had been mailed and the owners would have the statutory period to contest the designation.

A motion was made by Asbury to hire Chance Briggs as a part time police officer. Schlatter seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, Schlatter, and Boone voting “aye.” The motion carried.

7. **Buildings and Grounds, Permits and Zoning** - Report received. The buildings and grounds committee met April 15, 2026 at 5:00pm. Greenwood Cemetery received 5 mowing bids with Titan Turf being awarded a two-year contract at \$135 per mow.

Chicken coop permitting discussed. Temporary, non-ground-mounted coops do not require building permits, but coops on posts or permanent foundations do. Also discussed were commercial solar zoning and agreed future commercial solar installations should be zoned M-2 Light Industrial.

They discussed updating the water billing ordinance so water service for rental properties remains in the property owner's name rather than the tenant's name.

Three permits were discussed. Tyler Dooley had a permit application for dog fence. Nikki McMillen Lee had a permit application for a home and garage demolition. Pamela Vines had a permit application for a solar installation. Buckert motioned to approve the permits. Summers seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, Schlatter, and Boone voting "aye." The motion carried.

8. **Public Works** - Public Works report received. Storm damage assessment and repairs were underway. Steve reported he would be gone beginning Monday and that he and Justin would attend pump training in Ohio on April 28 and 29. A Public Works Committee meeting was set for April 30, 2026, at 5:30pm

9. **Mayor's Report** - Update provided on completion of police and bank parking lot project.

10. **Economic Development / Tourism** - No major storm branch pickup was planned because damage appeared limited. The citywide electronics cleanup was scheduled for Friday, April 24, 2026, from 7:00am to noon behind City Hall. An Economic Development and Tourism Committee meeting was set for Wednesday, April 29, 2026, at 5:30pm.

11. City Council thanked Michelle for 21 years of service and presented a certificate and card.

12. **Adjournment** - Buckert made a motion to adjourn. Boone seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, Schlatter, and Boone voting "aye." The motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Approved by the Hamilton City Council on May 4, 2026

Logan Schrapf, City Clerk

Approved:

Bocephus Casey, Mayor