

City of Hamilton, IL
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 6, 2026 at 7:00pm

1. **Call to Order** - *Roll Call* - Hamilton City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. at the Hamilton City Hall on Monday July 6, 2026. Mayor Casey called the meeting to order. Aldermen present: Andrew Asbury, Tommy Buckert, Brandon Wilson, Debbie Summers, and Steve Schlatter. Aldermen excused: Bev Boone. Also present were: Officer Landrum; Justin Sewell, Street Department Manager; Attorney Tom Hartzell, City Attorney; Anne Pierce, Animal Control Officer; and Logan Schrapf, City Clerk.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Mayor Casey led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Minutes from Monday, June 15, 2026** - Wilson made a motion to approve the *Minutes from June 1, 2026*. Asbury seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, and Schlatter voting “aye.” Summers abstained. Boone was absent. The motion carried.
4. **Mayor's Comments** - *Ordinance 8*; “An Ordinance regulating solar energy systems and battery energy storage systems and amending related provisions of the city code” was discussed. Wilson asked if the provision about decommissioning was enough to protect the city. Hartzell said it was up to future councils to protect and defend the provision. Buckert made a motion approve *Ordinance 8*. Schlatter seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, and Schlatter voting “aye.” Boone was absent. The motion carried.

Ordinance 9; An Ordinance granting an extension to complete said project, submitting documentation evidencing all TIF Eligible Project Costs incurred by it with respect to the Project on or before July 31, 2026. Wilson made a motion to approve *Ordinance 9*. Schlatter seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, and Schlatter voting “aye.” Boone was absent. The motion carried.
5. **Visitors** - Alex and Molly Dillard were present. They presented the council with their vision to purchase with intent to build, own, and operate a butcher retail shop in the B-1 district. They think they will employ 7-12 people eventually. There is no current timeline for the project. They provided a detailed plan demonstrating how they would comply with all ordinances while protecting community health, noise issues, and possible odor issues. They will issue a request for a public hearing when they are closer to developing a project timeline.
6. **Finance and Appropriations** - *Selected Check Registers* – Summers made a motion to approve *Selected Check Registers*. Schlatter seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, and Schlatter voting “aye.” Boone was absent. The motion carried.

The council had a *Second Reading of the Appropriations Ordinance*. Summers made a motion to approve the Ordinance. Asbury seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, and Schlatter voting “aye.” Boone was absent. The motion carried. A public notice for a public hearing will be made for the *Third and Final Reading of the Appropriations Ordinance* on July 20, 2026 at Hamilton City Hall at 6:45pm.
7. **Health and Safety** - Asbury gave the committee report from June 30, 2026 at 5:30pm. Carbon SCBA bottles are being tested. Fire trucks are going through yearly pump testing and hose testing. Animal control officer Anne picked up a sick kitten and took it to the vet for medicine and rehoming when healthy. A lengthy discussion about the cat issue at 18th and Laurel and 7th and Hickory. The 2022 Ram Truck is at Little Jess for some warranty work. An update on Squad Car parking was given stating that “all has been working well so far.” Ordinance 2 regulating E-bikes and micro-mobility devices will take effect July 1. An ordinance on animals in city buildings was discussed. An ordinance for a policy on storage containers was discussed. Mayor Casey has submitted an application for a Nuisance Housing Grant through WIRC.

On Thursday July 3rd, Animal Control Officer Pierce and Officer Jamerson responded to an aggressive animal call. Both felt the animal could not be controlled. Asbury believes the animal is neglected, there is no rabies shot, and the animal broke the catch pole which will need replaced. Asbury recommends certifying Animal Control Officer Pierce on tranquilizer gun and purchasing additional protective gear.

8. **Buildings and Grounds, Permits and Zoning** - 1 solar permit (permit no. 2193) was discussed. Schlatter made a motion to approve the permit. Asbury seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, and Schlatter voting “aye.” Boone was absent. The motion carried.

9. **Public Works** - There was only one bid for the Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Program from W.L. Miller in the amount of \$197,485.45 for 2026 contingent upon expiration of the required ten (10) day protest period without protest and subsequent approval by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). The council decided to waive the minor bid bond irregularity, as recommended by the City’s engineer, who has determined the irregularity to be non-material. Schlatter made a motion to approve the bid. Wilson seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, and Schlatter voting “aye.” Boone was absent.

Sewell said there is culvert project beginning at 17th and Walnut. There will be 64 blocks receiving a chip and seal. No road closures are expected and the Street Department will notify any homeowners if necessary.

10. **Economic Development / Tourism** - Wilson gave the committee report from June 18, 2026 at 5:30pm. A dedication ceremony for the Turbine before Honeyfest was discussed for September 19th from 8:00-11:00am. Hamilton Summerfest round 2 will be July 18th with Howie opening for Lee Henry Road from 4:00-9:00pm. Hamilton Honeyfest will be September 19th from 11:00am-4:00pm. They are still looking for vendors. Wheels & Deals on Broadway will be September 9 from 11:00am-4:00pm.

The committee also discussed the possibility of Dadants pursuing the “Bee City” designation. Wilson discussed pairing with Holly Cain from Quincy for Paid Promotions and Nauvoo tourism for help with distribution locally and elsewhere.

City Wide Garage Sales are the same week as Western Illinois Threshers. Solutions for traffic issues on 19th street during event were discussed. 250 flags have been bought and paid for. Buckert said they are about halfway to their goal of raising money to purchase a trailer to permanently store the flags.

11. **Adjournment** - Buckert made a motion to adjourn. Schlatter seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, and Schlatter voting “aye.” Boone was absent. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.

Approved by the Hamilton City Council on July 20, 2026

_____ Logan Schrapf, City Clerk

Approved:

_____ Bocephus Casey, Mayor