City of Hamilton, IL
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday October 5, 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, October 5, 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: Ryan Brotherton, Public Works Director; Don Sewell, Building Inspector, and Logan Schrapf, City Clerk. Officer Skelly. Tom Hartzell, City Attorney was excused.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Mayor Casey led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Minutes from Monday, September 21, 2026** - Wilson made a motion to approve the *Minutes from September 21, 2026*. Asbury seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, and Schlatter voting "aye". Boone was excused. The motion carried.

4. **Mayor's Comments** - Saturday, October 31 5-7pm is Beggars Night. Trunk or Treat is November 1. Volunteers are needed for set up. Most work will be done Sunday because concern of things getting messed with overnight.

Video Gaming Revenue report will be 2nd City Council Meeting monthly because State of IL updating delays.

5. **Visitors** - Marlys Laws informed the council that she plans to design a t-shirt honoring Hamilton Animal Control, featuring a picture of Wildcat Springs on it.

6. **Finance** - *Selected Check Registers* were discussed. 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 excused. The motion carried.

Summers read the *Committee Report* from October 5. Income and Expenses were discussed. There was an ongoing discussion of Gambling Revenue. TIF projects that were discussed included Watertower rehabilitation, a school parking lot project, and water intake on Water Street that will need replaced. The City's Firewall through MTC for City Hall, the Water Department, and Sewer Department was discussed and recommended for approval. Health Insurance for City Employees was discussed. The Committee is checking on Attorney fees for dilapidated properties. Bids were received for tree removal and Arborology's bid of 4,7570 for 7 trees will is recommended for approval. Allowing a Merchant next door to City Hall to use the City Dumpster was discussed with a recommendation to not allow them. Raising Money with Mouse Race and finishing the Air BnB Tax Collection Ordinance were also discussed.

The Firewall for the city expired. Finance Committee discussed renewing the contract at $4,553.38 and will be paid in 3 shares; general fund, water department, and sewer department. Summers made a motion to approve the Firewall. Wilson seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, and Schlatter voting "aye." Boone was excused. The motion carried.

7. **Buildings and Grounds, Permits and Zoning** - Solar vendors legitimacy was discussed and what could be done about bad actors. There were 4 Solar Permits; 2 rooftop, 2 ground mount. Wilson made a motion to approve the permits. Buckert Seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, and Schlatter voting "aye." Boone was excused. The motion carried.

Buckert procured ceiling tiles for the library. Up to 10 panels need installed. Liability for community service participants was discussed.

8. **Health and Safety** – Animal Control Officer Pierce received a complaint and investigated about animals living in a SUV. Two dogs were in a kennel and 4 cats were inside. Officers identified the owner who was homeless. Pierce will take animals for 14 days. Dogs will go to vet at owner's expense. Vet will reimburse boarding at a reduced rate and flea medication is necessary. Animal welfare issue that could not be ignored. Solutions were discussed such as a couple churches are paying camping fees in the area with provided receipt. Committee will reassess in a couple weeks.

A meeting is scheduled Wednesday at 6pm.

9. **Public Works** - Schlatter read the Committee report from 9/30/2026. New business; The Free Chlorine Conversion is underway as of 9/21. TIF Surplus Funds for Water Infrastructure were discussed. The Sidewalk Program this year discussed possibly using TIF funds. Electronic Cleanup on October 16, the Retaining Wall at JR Auto, Greenwood Cemetery trimming, and a parking spot at the Police Building that needs redone were all discussed.

Someone came to inspect the old gear box for the clock. They found one that is similar that can be converted. The hands and face also need reworking. 400$ is the estimate to repair. People have been inquiring what happened to the clock but the process is still ongoing. The Committee will check with Economic Development Group to see if TIF funds can be used to reimburse the repairs.

10. **Economic Development/Tourism** – October 14 is stem challenge. October 16th is Electronic Cleanup from 7am until Noon behind City Hall. October 17 is weekend Storytime at the library from 10-11 am. Summerfest bands are set to go with a couple agreements left. Honeyfest date will be discussed at next committee meeting.

11. **Adjournment** – Buckert made a motion to adjourn the Meeting. Schlatter seconded the motion. Roll was called with Asbury, Buckert, Wilson, Summers, and Schlatter voting "aye." Boone was excused. The motion carried. Meeting ended at 7:31pm

Approved by the Hamilton City Council on October 19, 2026

_____ Logan Schrapf, City Clerk

Approved:

_____ Bocephus Casey, Mayor