



City Council Meeting Minutes

425 E. State Street
Rockford, IL 61104
www.rockfordil.gov

**Tuesday, January 20, 2026
5:30 PM**

The following represents, in general, the chronological order of proceedings at the City Council/Committee Meetings: Call to Order, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, Public Speaking and City Council/Committee Agendas.

Meeting will be live streamed on Channel 17 and via this link:
<https://rockfordil.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.

Items appearing on the City Council Standing Committee Agendas for today's date may receive a vote at committee and come before the City Council meeting tonight held after the committee meeting. Final vote may be taken on said items at the City Council meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McNamara called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

A. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was given by Chaplain Kenneth Hendley and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor McNamara.

B. Roll Call

Present:	Tim Durkee Chad Tuneberg Aprel Prunty Janessa Wilkins Karen Hoffman Dawn Granath Frank Beach Jaime Salgado Gina Meeks Tamir Bell Mark Bonne
Late:	Jonathan Logemann Kevin Frost
Absent:	Gabrielle Torina

Alderman Frost arrived at 5:42 p.m. and Alderman Logemann arrived at 5:48 p.m.

II. PROCLAMATIONS

A. Poet Laureate Presentation

Mayor McNamara thanked Lydia Kozlowski, the 2025-2026 City of Rockford Poet Laureate, for her dedication and service the past two years.

Mayor McNamara announced the City of Rockford, in partnership with the Rockford Public Library and the Rockford Area Arts Council, named Adam al-Sirgany as the Poet Laureate and Mikiah Gerrity as the Youth Poet Laureate in the City of Rockford. Mr. al-Sirgany and Ms. Gerrity both greeted the council members and recited one of their poems.

III. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Planning and Development Committee

B. Code and Regulation Committee

1. Memorandum from Scott Capovilla, Planning and Zoning Manager, regarding the approval of the Final Plat of District 815 Subdivision. Referred to Code and Regulation Committee. [26-00048](#)

This Information Only was Read into the Record.

2. Memorandum from Scott Capovilla, Planning and Zoning Manager, regarding the approval of the Final Plat of Dulgar Subdivision. Referred Code and Regulation Committee. [26-00066](#)

This Information Only was Read into the Record.

3. Zoning Board of Appeals' Agenda for the meeting to be held on January 21, 2026 and Minutes from that meeting for consideration at the Code and Regulation Committee meeting on January 26, 2026. Referred to Code and Regulation Committee. [26-00056](#)

This Information Only was Read into the Record.

4. Liquor and Tobacco Advisory Board's Agenda for the meeting to be held on January 21, 2026 and Minutes from that meeting for consideration at the Code and Regulation Committee meeting on January 26, 2026. Referred to Code and Regulation Committee. [26-00057](#)

This Information Only was Read into the Record.

C. Finance and Personnel Committee

1. Memorandum from Carrie Hagerty, Finance Director, regarding the consideration and approval of Finance Policies. Referred to Finance and Personnel Committee. [26-00047](#)

This Information Only was Read into the Record.

2. Memorandum from Timothy Hinkens, City Engineer, regarding an Agreement between the City of Rockford and Four Rivers Sanitation Authority (FRSA) for Davis Park. Referred to Finance and Personnel Committee. [26-00084](#)

This Information Only was Read into the Record.

3. Memorandum from Todd Cagnoni, City Administrator, regarding the proposed Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) Regional Site Readiness Grant Application Authorization and Award Acceptance. Referred to Finance and Personnel Committee. [26-00085](#)

This Information Only was Read into the Record.

IV. PUBLIC SPEAKERS

1. Denzil Wynter spoke about the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, an all African American female unit in the U.S. Army that served overseas during World War II. He shared the history of the unit and highlighted the significant role African Americans have played in defending this country.
2. Prophet Yusef recited a passage of scripture and gave honor to the outstanding African Americans heroes serving with the Chicago Fire Department, specifically those on Trucks 19 and 21.
3. Ken Dickens voiced his concerns regarding the lack of urgency surrounding the future of Rockford, Illinois. He also shared his ideas of how to address the food insecurity in the region.
4. John Tac Brantley shared Renewed Turning Point's mission statement and vision for building a positive future for children in the City of Rockford, Illinois.

V. NEW COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Planning and Development Committee

1. Committee recommends approval of the 2026 - 2028 Funding Agreement between the City of Rockford and Keep Northern Illinois Beautiful (KNIB) in the amount of \$60,000 annually. [25-00166](#)
The funding source is Garbage User Fees.

Alderman Wilkins, on behalf of the Planning and Development Committee, read in the committee report and placed it up for passage.

The committee report was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Wilkins, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina

Enactment No: 2026-65-CR

2. Committee recommends denial of the proposed Amendment to the Development Agreement with First Midwest Group (Machesney Investment LLC) and McDonald's for the establishment of a McDonald's at 4103 West State Street in the amount of \$200,000. The funding source is 2025 Casino Plan Funds / Economic Development High Risk Area. (LAID OVER JANUARY 20, 2026) [25-00172](#)

Alderman Wilkins, on behalf of the Planning and Development Committee, read in the committee report and placed it up for passage.

A roll call vote was taken, resulting in a vote of 5 to 8. (Aldermen Wilkins, Hoffman, Granath, Bell, and Bonne voted "AYE"). Due to confusion among the aldermen regarding the intent of their vote, Alderman Frost made a motion to reconsider, seconded by Alderman Wilkins. MOTION PREVAILED with a voice vote of 12–1 (Alderman Beach voted "No").

Alderman Frost then made a motion to reverse the recommendation of denial to an approval for clarity of voting purposes, seconded by Alderman Durkee. MOTION PREVAILED with a unanimous voice vote.

Alderman Tuneberg then moved to lay the item over, seconded by Alderman Frost. The item was LAID OVER.

Enactment No: 2026-45-CR

3. Committee recommends approval of the proposed Supplemental Marketing Services Agreement between the Rockford Area Convention and Visitors Bureau (GoRockford) and City of Rockford for \$100,000 annually for two years (2026 and 2027). The funding source is 2026 and 2027 Casino Foundation Funds. [25-00174](#)

Alderman Wilkins, on behalf of the Planning and Development Committee, read in the committee report and placed it up for passage.

The committee report was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Wilkins, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina

Enactment No: 2026-66-CR

B. Code and Regulation Committee

1. Committee recommends approval of the sale of the vacant city-owned property located at 5798 Logistics Parkway to 5728 Logistics Parkway LLC, the neighboring property owner, for the amount of \$124,000 plus costs. [26-00004](#)

Alderman Bonne, on behalf of the Code and Regulation Committee, read in the committee report and placed it up for passage.

The committee report was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Wilkins, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina
Enactment No: 2026-67-CR

2. Committee recommends approval of the Plat No. 6 of Green Estates. [26-00005](#)

Alderman Bonne, on behalf of the Code and Regulation Committee, read in the committee report and placed it up for passage.

The committee report was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Wilkins, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina
Enactment No: 2026-68-CR

3. Committee recommends approval of Plat No. 2 of Ardmore Subdivision [26-00007](#)

Alderman Bonne, on behalf of the Code and Regulation Committee, read in the committee report and placed it up for passage.

The committee report was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Wilkins, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina
Enactment No: 2026-69-CR

4. Committee recommends sustaining the Zoning Board of Appeals' approval for a Special Use Permit for an off-premise business sign in a C-3, General Commercial Zoning District at 2102 McFarland Road (First Perryville Development Corporation/Applicant). Subject to conditions. [26-00008](#)

Alderman Bonne, on behalf of the Code and Regulation Committee, read in the committee report and placed it up for passage.

The committee report was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Wilkins, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina
Enactment No: 2026-70-CR

C. Finance and Personnel Committee

1. Committee recommends approval of the vouchers in the amount of \$8,285,662.57 as approved at the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting held on January 12, 2026. [26-00012](#)

Alderman Frost, on behalf of the Finance and Personnel Committee, read in the committee report and placed it up for passage.

The committee report was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Wilkins, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina
Enactment No: 2026-71-CR

2. Committee recommends approval of an Agreement between the City of Rockford and Awaken Foundation L3C to provide on-the-job training (OJT) opportunities within the City's Weatherization Program. There is no fiscal impact to the City. Participant wages are paid entirely by Awaken Foundation using Illinois Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (ICEJA) Grant funds. The agreement is from February 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. [26-00041](#)

Alderman Frost, on behalf of the Finance and Personnel Committee, read in the committee report and placed it up for passage.

The committee report was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Wilkins, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina

Enactment No: 2026-72-CR

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORTS LAID OVER

A. Planning and Development Committee

1. Committee recommends approval of the proposed Development Agreement with Urban Equity Properties (UEP Tower Lofts, LLC) for the rehabilitation of 99 East State Street as News Tower Lofts (former Rockford Register Star) for mixed-use residential / commercial development. The funding source is Redevelopment Funds and TIF Funds. (LAID OVER JANUARY 5, 2026) [25-00170](#)

Alderman Wilkins, on behalf of the Planning and Development Committee, read in the committee report and placed it up for passage.

The committee report was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Wilkins, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina

Enactment No: 2026-73-CR

2. Committee recommends approval of the proposed Amendment to the Development Agreement with Oliver Emerson Development (Oliver Emerson Development, LLC) for the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of 325 South Madison Street (The Watch Factory) as residential. The funding source is Redevelopment Funds and TIF Funds. (LAID OVER JANUARY 5, 2026) [25-00171](#)

Alderman Wilkins, on behalf of the Planning and Development Committee, read in the committee report and placed it up for passage.

The committee report was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Prunty, Wilkins, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Nay: Frost

Absent: Torina

Enactment No: 2026-74-CR

B. Code and Regulation Committee

C. Finance and Personnel Committee

VII. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Planning and Development Committee

B. Code and Regulation Committee

1. 2026 Forward for Fun Initiative [26-00010](#)

The request includes an allocation of \$140,000 and an expedited special event permit process for multiple events throughout the city in partnership with Aldermen and GoRockford. The program goal is to create/support community events in all 14 wards of the City as part of our continued pandemic recovery efforts.

Alderman Bonne, on behalf of the Code and Regulation Committee, read in the resolution and placed it up for passage.

The resolution was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Wilkins,
Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina

Enactment No: 2026-84-R

2. Resolution for settlement of Isaac Cornelius Fricks, Sr. vs. Officer Brian Prine, Case No: 22-CV-50410 in the amount of \$32,000. (SUSPEND RULE 9) [26-00061](#)

Alderman Bonne, on behalf of the Code and Regulation Committee, read in the resolution and moved to suspend Rule 9. Alderman Bell seconded the motion. MOTION PREVAILED with a unanimous voice vote.

The resolution was then placed it up for passage and was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Wilkins,
Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina

Enactment No: 2026-85-R

C. Finance and Personnel Committee

1. Committee recommends approval and acceptance of the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA) Homeowner Assistance Fund Home Repair (HAFHR) Grant extension in the additional amount of \$549,000 (the new total is \$3,009,000). [25-00182](#)

Alderman Frost, on behalf of the Finance and Personnel Committee, read in the resolution and placed it up for passage.

The resolution was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Wilkins, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina
Enactment No: 2026-86-R

2. Committee recommends approval and acceptance of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) Rebuild Downtowns and Main Streets Grant Award in the amount of \$2,000,000. The grant requires a 25% cost match which will be paid for using the 1% Infrastructure Sales Tax. The grant term is from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027. If accepted, the grant funds will be used to reimburse construction costs of the Madison Street Corridor Improvements Project (Phase 2). [25-00183](#)

Alderman Frost, on behalf of the Finance and Personnel Committee, read in the resolution and placed it up for passage.

The resolution was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Wilkins, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina
Enactment No: 2026-87-R

3. Committee recommends approval of the Award of Professional Services for Family Peace Center Architectural Services for Renovation of 214 North Church Street to Larson & Darby Group, of Rockford, Illinois in the amount of \$525,805.36. The contract duration is through December 31, 2026. The funding source is the Winnebago County Community Mental Health Board Accelerator Grant. [26-00021](#)

Alderman Frost, on behalf of the Finance and Personnel Committee, read in the resolution and placed it up for passage.

The resolution was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Wilkins, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina

Enactment No: 2026-88-R

VIII. OFFICERS REPORTS

- A. Mayor McNamara announced the passing of NAACP President George Scott. He spoke about President Scott's many accomplishments and extended his heartfelt condolences to his family and the NAACP community.

Mayor McNamara conducted a Moment of Silence for the individuals that have lost loved ones this past week.

- B. Alderman Salgado announced on February 12, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. the Mid-Town District will hold a meeting with Region 1 to discuss details of the Livable Community Initiative. He indicated the meeting will take place at The Collective located at 309 7th Street and he encouraged residents to attend.
- C. Alderman Meeks announced that a city-wide Town Hall meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 21, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. at the Rockford Country Club. She shared that Carla Redd, Chief of the Rockford Police Department, and Jennifer Cacciapaglia, Executive Director of the Mayor's Office of Domestic and Community Violence Prevention, will be presenting information during the meeting.
- D. Alderman Prunty extended her condolences to the Scott family and the additional families that have recently lost loved ones.
- Alderman Prunty announced the Six Ward meeting will be held on Saturday, January 24, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. at the Fire Station 7 located at 2323 Sawyer Road. She shared Fire Chief Rebecca Tyo and Illinois State Representative Maurice West will be presenting information at the meeting.
- E. Alderman Tuneberg reminded the Churchills Grove residents the neighborhood meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 21, 2026.
- F. Alderman Bell mentioned he was hosting a Coffee & Conversations event at Mr. C's Family Restaurant on West State Street on Friday, January 30, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.
- G. Alderman Bonne thanked Calvin Wesley and Youth Build for the opportunity to speak to the students regarding politics and journalism. He shared that the conversations were meaningful and the students were highly engaged.
- H. Alderman Hoffman thanked Francisca French and Jeremy Carter for their participation in the recent Eighth Ward meeting. She mentioned both staff members did an excellent job of presenting information to the residents.

- I. Alderman Durkee expressed his appreciation to the Public Works staff who worked through the night in extreme cold conditions to repair a water main break in the First Ward.

IX. NEW BUSINESS ORDINANCES

A. Planning and Development Committee

- 1. An ordinance approving the 2026 - 2028 Funding Agreement [26-00050](#) between the City of Rockford and Keep Northern Illinois Beautiful (KNIB) in the amount of \$60,000 annually. The funding source is Garbage User Fees.

Alderman Durkee, on behalf of the Planning and Development Committee, read in the ordinance and placed it up for passage.

This ordinance was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina

Away: Wilkins

Enactment No: 2026-54-O

- 2. An ordinance approving the Supplemental Marketing Services [26-00053](#) Agreement between the Rockford Area Convention and Visitors Bureau (GoRockford) and City of Rockford for \$100,000 annually for two years (2026 and 2027). The funding source is 2026 and 2027 Casino Foundation Funds.

Alderman Durkee, behalf of the Planning and Development Committee, read in the ordinance and placed it up for passage.

This ordinance was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina

Away: Wilkins

Enactment No: 2026-55-O

3. An ordinance approving the Development Agreement with Urban Equity Properties (UEP Tower Lofts, LLC) for the rehabilitation of 99 East State Street as News Tower Lofts (former Rockford Register Star) for mixed-use residential / commercial development. The funding source is Redevelopment Funds and TIF Funds. [26-00060](#)

Alderman Durkee, behalf of the Planning and Development Committee, read in the ordinance and placed it up for passage.

This ordinance was APPROVED by the following vote:

- Aye:** Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne
- Absent:** Torina
- Away:** Wilkins
- Enactment No: 2026-56-O

4. An ordinance approving the Amendment to the Development Agreement with Oliver Emerson Development (Oliver Emerson Development, LLC) for the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of 325 South Madison Street (The Watch Factory) as residential. The funding source is Redevelopment Funds and TIF Funds. [26-00058](#)

Alderman Durkee, on behalf of the Planning and Development Committee, read in the ordinance and placed it up for passage.

This ordinance was APPROVED by the following vote:

- Aye:** Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Prunty, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne
- Nay:** Frost
- Absent:** Torina
- Away:** Wilkins
- Enactment No: 2026-57-O

B. Code and Regulation Committee

1. An ordinance approving the sale of the vacant city-owned property located at 5798 Logistics Parkway to 5728 Logistics Parkway LLC, the neighboring property owner, for the amount of \$124,000, plus costs. [26-00054](#)

Alderman Bonne, on behalf of the Code and Regulation Committee, read in the ordinance and placed it up for passage.

This ordinance was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina

Away: Wilkins

Enactment No: 2026-58-O

2. An ordinance approving a Special Use Permit for an off-premise business sign in a C-3, General Commercial Zoning District at 2102 McFarland Road (First Perryville Development Corporation/Applicant). [26-00055](#)

Alderman Bonne, on behalf of the Code and Regulation Committee, read in the ordinance and placed it up for passage.

This ordinance was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina

Away: Wilkins

Enactment No: 2026-59-O

C. Finance and Personnel Committee

1. An ordinance approving an Agreement between the City of Rockford and Awaken Foundation L3C to provide on-the-job training (OJT) opportunities within the City's Weatherization Program. There is no fiscal impact to the City. Participant wages are paid entirely by Awaken Foundation using Illinois Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (ICEJA) Grant funds. The agreement is from February 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. [26-00051](#)

Alderman Frost, on behalf of the Finance and Personnel Committee, read in the ordinance and placed it up for passage.

This ordinance was APPROVED by the following vote:

Aye: Durkee, Logemann, Tuneberg, Frost, Prunty, Hoffman, Granath, Beach, Salgado, Meeks, Bell, and Bonne

Absent: Torina

Away: Wilkins

Enactment No: 2026-60-O

X. CLOSED SESSION

1. Motion to Convene into Closed Session in Order to Discuss Pending Litigation Matters

The Motion to Convene into Closed Session was not made.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Bell moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Durkee. MOTION PREVAILED with a unanimous voice vote (Alderman Torina was absent and Alderman Wilkins was away). The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

THE CITY OF ROCKFORD INTENDS TO COMPLY WITH THE INTENT AND SPIRIT OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. IF A SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER, PERSONAL P.A. SYSTEM, OR OTHER SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS ARE NEEDED, PLEASE CALL THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT AT (779) 348-7391 AT LEAST 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE, SO WE CAN BE PREPARED TO ASSIST YOU.