

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
May 7, 2026
501 Main Street
5:30 P.M.

The City Council of the City of Keokuk met in regular session on May 7, 2026, at 501 Main Street. Mayor Mark Smidt called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. There were eight council members present, one absent. Todd Marshall, Tyler Walker, Doug Matlick, Devon Dade, Steve Andrews, Matt VanBerkum, Roger Bryant, and Michael Greenwald were present. Kathie Mahoney was absent. Staff in attendance: City Administrator Jim Ferneau, City Clerk Celeste El Anfaoui, Public Works Director Brian Carroll, Police Chief Zeth Baum, Assistant Police Chief Andrew Whitaker, Waste Water Treatment Plant Manager Tom Wills as well as other city staff.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Informed of plans to update the City's website and of a goal-setting session scheduled for September 26. Two third-class patrol officers, Brandon Newlan and Nolan Riddle, were sworn in.

Motion made by Dade, second by Andrews to approve the agenda including the consent agenda. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

- Minutes of the Regular Council meeting of April 16, 2026;
- Minutes of the Civil Service Commission of April 29, 2026;
- Civil Service Commission Certified Candidates List for the Keokuk Police Department;
- Minutes of the Special Council Meeting of April 30, 2026;
- **RESOLUTION NO. 95-2026:** Setting public hearing on amendment to the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Annual Budget;
- **RESOLUTION NO. 96-2026:** Approving a Liquor License for The Sneezing Beaver, 820 Main Street, Class C Retail Alcohol License – effective May 22, 2026;
- Special Event Permit for Rand Park Pavilion Commission, 2026 Summer Concerts Requesting Permission for BYOB at Events;
- Special Event Permit for Keokuk Cultural & Entertainment District, 20th Annual Back Alley Bandfest, Friday, May 22, 2026;
- Appointment of Tom Buckley to serve on the Park & Recreation Advisory Board, term to expire 11/2/2029;
- Sidewalk Display Permit for Suite Escape Tanning & Boutique, 619 Main Street;
- Motion to pay bills and transfers listed in Register No.'s 5537-5539;

Motion made by Walker, second by Matlick approving Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Keokuk Junction Railway Co. LLC for Capital Improvement Project as well as ongoing maintenance and operations terms.

Roll Call Vote: AYES – None, NAYS - Marshall, Walker, Matlick, Dade, Andrews, Vanberkum, Bryant, and Greenwald., ABSENT – Mahoney. (0) AYES, (8) NAYS. Motion failed.

Motion made by Matlick, second by Walker to approve the initial reading of Ordinance to amend Code of Ordinances, City of Keokuk, Iowa, Section 9.60.010 Railroad Bridge Tolls Established. Motion made by Greenwald, second by Matlick to amend the ordinance from \$65.00 per car to \$70.00 per car.

Roll Call Vote: AYES – Marshall, Walker, Matlick, Dade, Andrews, Vanberkum, Bryant, and Greenwald., NAYS – None, ABSENT – Mahoney. (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried to approve ordinance as amended.

Motion made by Dade, second by Greenwald to approve the following proposed **RESOLUTION NO. 97-2026**: “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH KIRKHAM MICHAEL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR FIVE BRIDGE INSPECTIONS.” (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Matlick, second by Dade to approve the following proposed **RESOLUTION NO. 98-2026**: “A RESOLUTION SETTING GEORGE M. VERITY MUSEUM RATES FOR THE 2026 SEASON.” (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Walker to approve the following proposed **RESOLUTION NO. 99-2026**: “A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE CITY ATTORNEY AND/OR CITY CLERK AS THE CITY OFFICERS AUTHORIZED TO SIGN NOTICES OF EXPIRATIONN OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION PURSUANT TO IOWA CODE SECTION 447.9.” (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried. Motion made by Bryant, second by Walker to approve the following proposed **RESOLUTION NO. 100-2026**: “A RESOLUTION AWARDDING CONTRACT FOR BEL AIR STREET RECONSTRUCTION.” (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Walker to approve the following proposed **RESOLUTION NO. 101-2026**: “A RESOLUTION AWARDDING CONTRACT FOR S. 10TH STREET MILL & OVERLAY PROJECT.” (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made Bryant, second by Dade to approve the following proposed **RESOLUTION NO. 102-2026**: “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TERMINATION OF A CONTRACT WITH DANSCO CONTRACTING FOR THE ROOFING PROJECT AT 249 CARBIDE LANE AND AUTHORIZING THE REBIDDING OF SAID PROJECT DUE TO SUBSTANDARD INSTALLATION.” (8) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

COUNCIL LIAISON: Ferneau informed of upcoming subcommittee meetings for Personnel and Finance.

STAFF REPORTS: Baum questioned whether police presence is still necessary at events held at the Rand Park Pavilion given changing circumstances. The Council discussed the matter and agreed that, at this time, maintaining a police presence is a beneficial preventative measure. Ferneau reviewed recent Senate files and informed the Council of the potential negative impact on future revenues and fund balances.

Motion made by Matlick, second by VanBerkum to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m.