

**AGENDA  
CHILlicothe CITY COUNCIL  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER  
JANUARY 26, 2026  
7:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
ROLL CALL BY CLERK  
READING OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING BY CLERK  
PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS BY CLERK  
PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND ALDERPERSON  
COUNCIL COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS  
ANYONE WITH BUSINESS CONCERNING CITY GOVERNMENT  
PRESENTATION OF BILLS, TRANSFERS AND PAYROLLS FOR PAYMENT AND DISCUSSION**

**MAYOR HUGHES**

1. Approve – Appointment Janey Welch – Shademakers Committee

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – ALDERPERSON SHARP**

1. Approve – Resolution – 2026 MFT General Maintenance
2. Approve – Payment - Willis Electric - Well
3. Approve - Payment - GA Rich and Sons - Well

**FINANCE COMMITTEE – ALDERPERSON CRABTREE**

1. Approve – Purchase – Pro Data Key Red Door Access System – City Hall

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – ALDERPERSON BREDEMAN**

1. Announce – Meeting Time Change for Economic Development Committee
2. Refer – Attorney Draft Consultant Contract – Patricia Mough

**HUMAN RESOURCE- ALDERPERSON SEMTNER**

1. Approve – Advertising for Seasonal Employees

**STURGEON LANE PROPERTY COMMITTEE – ALDERPERSON CRABTREE**

1. Closed Session - Section 2 (c) (11) to Discuss Litigation, when an Action Against, Affecting, or on Behalf of the City of Chillicothe is Probable, Imminent, or Pending Before a Court.
2. Approve -The Filing of Eviction Proceedings for 1121 Sturgeon Lane.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**AGENDA CLERK**

**CITY OF CHILLICOTHE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 26, 2026**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Chillicothe, Peoria County, Illinois, met in Regular Session in person January 26, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. with Mayor Michael D. Hughes presiding and with proper notice having been posted.

Mayor Hughes called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance, to the Flag of the United States of America, was recited.

Chairman Hughes directed Clerk Byrnes to take roll.

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| <b>Present:</b> | <b>Mayor Michael D. Hughes<br/>City Clerk Jill M. Byrnes<br/>City Treasurer Andrea Bredeman</b> |
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| <b>Alderspersons Present:</b> | <b>Barry Bredeman, Patricia Westerman-Connor,<br/>Brett Cantwell, Michael Crabtree, Courtney Gehrig,<br/>Sandi Levell, Patrick Semtner, Gary Sharp</b> |
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| <b>Also Present:</b> | <b>City Attorney Kevin Day<br/>Police Chief Jeremy Cooper<br/>City Engineer Josh Harken<br/>Office Manager Denise Passage<br/>Economic Development Director Amanda Beadles<br/>Superintendent of Public Works Shawn Sutherland</b> |
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| <b>Others Absent:</b> | <b>Attorney Taylor Cascia</b> |
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Chairman Hughes declared a Quorum present

**CITY OF CHILLICOTHE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
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The Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on January 12, 2026 were presented. Motion Alderperson Semtner, second Alderperson Gehrig, that the Council dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the January 12, 2026 Regular Council Meeting and approve the Minutes as presented.

**Motion Carried Via Voce vote.**

**PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS BY THE CLERK:**

Clerk Byrnes presented the following Committee and Commission Minutes:

1. Marketing & Tourism Commission – 1/5/2026
2. Public Safety Committee – 1/6/2026
3. Public Works Committee – 1/7/2026
4. Sturgeon Lane Property Committee – 1/8/2026
5. Economic Development Committee – 1/13/2026, EDC meeting for 1/22/2026 was cancelled.
6. Finance Committee – 1/14/2026
7. Human Resources Committee – 1/15/2026

Communications by the Clerk:

1. City Treasurers Report – 12/31/2025

I am in receipt of a letter from the Illinois Department of Commerce dated 1/15/2026, regarding the Application for Energy Transition Community Grant Program which reads: Thank you for submitting your grant application to the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Office of Energy and Business Utility. We have completed the review of your organization's application and are happy to inform you that your application has been approved to move to the next stage of the grant process. As the process progresses, please look for communication from our team with requests for information or documentation from your team. We anticipate this process to conclude within 8-12 weeks of the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

Office of Energy & Business Utility, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

Motion Alderperson Connor, second Alderperson Sharp, that the petitions and communications as presented by Clerk Byrnes be accepted and placed on file.

**Motion Carried Via Voce vote.**

**PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND ALDERPERSONS:**

Mayor Hughes recognized Alderperson Levell's birthday and presented her with a card.

**CITY OF CHILLICOTHE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
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Aldersperson Connor stated she had received resident phone calls regarding the Smart Energy Program. These residents are receiving phone calls from a 3<sup>rd</sup> party offering a \$100.00 Visa gift card if they switch from their current provider of either Homefield or Ameren. The City of Chillicothe does not promote one provider over another, it is the resident's decision who they choose. Please refer to the City's website [www.cityofchillicotheil.org](http://www.cityofchillicotheil.org) for additional information.

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS:**

None

**ANYONE WITH BUSINESS CONCERNING CITY GOVERNMENT:**

None

Motion Aldersperson Crabtree, second Aldersperson Bredeman, that the bills as presented be paid and the payrolls and transfers be approved.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Bredeman, Cantwell, Connor, Crabtree,  
Gehrig, Levell, Semtner, Sharp

**Nays:** None

**Chairman declared motion carried.**

**MAYOR HUGHES:**

Motion Aldersperson Semtner, second Aldersperson Crabtree, that the Council concur with the Mayoral appointment of Janey Welch to the Shademakers Committee with a term of 2027.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Bredeman, Cantwell, Connor, Crabtree,  
Gehrig, Levell, Semtner, Sharp

**Nays:** None

**Chairman declared motion carried.**

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:**

Motion Aldersperson Sharp, second Aldersperson Gehrig, that the Council approve Resolution No. 26-01-01, a Resolution that the City of Chillicothe appropriates the sum of \$80,000.00 of

**CITY OF CHILLCOTHE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
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JANUARY 26, 2026**

Motor Fuel Tax Funds for the purpose of maintaining streets and highways under the applicable provision of the Illinois Highway Code, from January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Bredeman, Cantwell, Connor, Crabtree,  
Gehrig, Levell, Semtner, Sharp

**Nays:** None

**Chairman declared motion carried.**

Aldersperson Sharp withdrew Agenda Item #2 – Payment Willis Electric – Well, and will bring back at a future meeting.

Motion Aldersperson Sharp, second Aldersperson Bredeman, that the Council approve an expenditure of \$10,500.00, payable to G.A. Rich and Sons for the installation of a 6" insta valve for the Walnut East Well. Payable from the Water & Sewer Fund.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Bredeman, Cantwell, Connor, Crabtree,  
Gehrig, Levell, Semtner, Sharp

**Nays:** None

**Chairman declared motion carried.**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Motion Aldersperson Crabtree, second Aldersperson Gehrig, that the Council approve an expenditure of \$2,100.00, payable to Surveillance Technologies, LLC for the purchase and installation of a Pro Data Key Red Door Access System for City Hall (20 fobs included). Payable from the General Fund.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Bredeman, Cantwell, Connor, Crabtree,  
Gehrig, Levell, Semtner, Sharp

**Nays:** None

**Chairman declared motion carried.**

**CITY OF CHILLICOTHE  
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**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:**

Alderman Bredeman announced that the remainder of the fiscal year the Economic Development Committee will meet at 4:00 p.m. instead of 4:30 p.m. when a meeting is called.

Motion Alderman Bredeman, second Alderman Gehrig, that the Council refer to the City Attorney to draft an Independent Contract Agreement and Ordinance for Patricia Mough.

Discussion: EDC Director Beadles informed the Committee that Marketing & Tourism & EDC developed a plan to begin increasing City events to promote tourism and establish overnight stays. Downtown Thursdays have been moved to a Saturday, increasing the hours from 3 hours to a 7 hour day, with added events. Nikolausmarkt is a 2 day event, and the Sweet Corn Festival. All of these events include numerous hours of paperwork, etc. for the vendors. Patty has been assisting the vendors for approximately the last 3 years and paid by the City a nominal fee for her services. EDC Beadles stated that she did contact the City Attorney and he recommended the City establish an Independent Contract Agreement with Patricia Mough for her services. The Independent Contract will state her roles and responsibilities to include increased advertising, minimum wage, no benefits and a limit of approximately 400 hours for the Sweet Corn Festival, and approximately 200 hours for the Nikolausmarkt, with a limit of 600 hours per year.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Bredeman, Cantwell, Connor, Crabtree,  
Gehrig, Levell, Semtner, Sharp

**Nays:** None

**Chairman declared motion carried.**

**HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE:**

Motion Alderman Semtner, second Alderman Gehrig, that the Council authorize the Superintendent of Public Works to advertise for Seasonal Employees at an hourly rate of \$17.00 with no benefits.

Discussion: Superintendent Sutherland stated these positions would be advertised in both the Hometown Voice and the Lacon Home Journal. Alderman Gehrig suggested these positions be added to the City website as well.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** Bredeman, Cantwell, Connor, Crabtree,  
Gehrig, Levell, Semtner, Sharp

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COUNCIL MEETING  
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**Nays:** **None**

**Chairman declared motion carried.**

**STURGEON LANE PROPERTY COMMITTEE:**

Motion Alderperson Crabtree, second Alderperson Sharp, that the Council adjourn to Closed Session at 7:21 p.m., for Litigation – ILCS 120/2 (C)(11) – Pending, Probable or Imminent Litigation and allow Attorney Day, Office Manager Passage and Police Chief Cooper to attend. Upon returning to Open Session possible action may be taken.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

**Ayes:** **Bredeman, Cantwell, Connor, Crabtree,  
Gehrig, Levell, Semtner, Sharp**

**Nays:** **None**

**Chairman declared motion carried.**

Council returned to Open Session at 7:36 p.m.

Motion Alderperson Crabtree, second Alderperson Gehrig, that the Council authorize the City Attorney to proceed with the filing of Eviction Proceedings for 1121 Sturgeon Lane.

**Roll Call Vote was:**

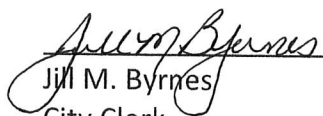
**Ayes:** **Bredeman, Cantwell, Connor, Crabtree,  
Gehrig, Levell, Semtner, Sharp**

**Nays:** **None**

**Chairman declared motion carried.**

Motion Alderperson Bredeman, second Alderperson Crabtree, that the meeting adjourn at 7:37 p.m.

Mayor Hughes declared the meeting adjourned.

  
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Jill M. Byrnes  
City Clerk