

AGENDA
CHILLICOTHE CITY COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER
May 11, 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

Approve – Schedule of City Council Meetings
Approve – Mayoral appointment of Council Committees
Approve – Mayoral appointment of Supervisors and Officers
Approve – Mayoral appointment of Boards and Commissions
Approve – Schedule of Council Committee Meetings
Approve – Schedule of Boards and Commissions Meetings
Approve – Not Profit Special Event Application with Liquor - Summer Camp

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE – ALDERPERSON CANTWELL

Approve – Priority One Road & Bridge Project – Streets Overlay/Curb Improvements

FINANCE COMMITTEE – ALDERPERSON CRABTREE

Approve – First Quarter Appropriation
Announce – Appropriation Ordinance Schedule
Approve – Expenditure – Microsoft 365 Licenses

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – ALDERPERSON CONNOR

Approve – Priority One General Fund Project – Mural
Approve – Façade Application – Tin Top

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – ALDERPERSON BREDEMAN

Approve – Special Event Request – Flotsam River Circus
Approve – Special Event Request – Ethan Koch Cruise In
Approve – Live Entertainment Request – American Legion
Refer – City Attorney for Review – IGA with Peoria County – Viaduct Project

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE – ALDERPERSON GEHRIG

Closed Session – 5 ILCA 120/2 (C) (11) – Pending, Probable or Imminent Litigation
Open Session - Refer - City Attorney - Action(s) for Intergovernmental Agreement with Fire Protection District

ADJOURNMENT

AGENDA CLERK

**CITY OF CHILLICOTHE
COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
MAY 11, 2026**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Chillicothe, Peoria County, Illinois, met in Regular Session in person May 11, 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.

Present:
Mayor Michael D. Hughes
City Clerk Jill M. Byrnes
City Treasurer Andrea Bredeman

Alders Present:
Barry Bredeman, Brett Cantwell,
Patricia Westerman-Connor, Michael Crabtree,
Courtney Gehrig, Sandra Levell, Patrick Semtner,
Gary Sharp

Also Present:
Attorney Taylor Cascia
Police Chief Jeremy Cooper
Office Manager Denise Passage
Assistant Office Manager Chelsea White
Economic Development Director Amanda Beadles
Superintendent of Public Works Shawn Sutherland

Others Absent:
City Attorney Kevin Day

Chairman Hughes declared a Quorum present

**CITY OF CHILLICOTHE
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The Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on April 27, 2026 were presented. Motion Alderperson Bredeman, second Alderperson Sharp, that the Council dispense with the reading of the Minutes of the April 27, 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. Police Commission – 12/16/2025**
- 2. Zoning Board of Appeals – 02/18/2026**
- 3. Marketing & Tourism Commission – 04/06/2026, 5/4/2026**
- 4. Public Safety Committee – 04/07/2026**
- 5. Cemetery & Parks Committee – 04/21/2026**

Communications by the Clerk:

- 1. City Treasurer's Report – 04/2026**
- 2. City Collector's Report – 04/2026**
- 3. City Budget Report – 04/2026**

I am in receipt of the 2025 IEPA Consumer Confidence Report dated March 2026.

I am in receipt of the information provided by City Engineer Josh Harken that was presented at the Stormwater Program Public Open House held this evening at 6:00 p.m.

Motion Alderperson Bredeman, second Alderperson Gehrig, 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:

Alderperson Bredeman informed the Council that he and Treasurer Andrea Bredeman would be on vacation beginning May 31, 2026 – June 24, 2026.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS:

Alderperson Connor, announced that the "Back The Blue" dinner will be held Thursday May 14, 2026, 6:00 p.m. at Grecian Gardens.

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ANYONE WITH BUSINESS CONCERNING CITY GOVERNMENT:

None

Motion Alderperson Crabtree, second Alderperson Levell, 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 Alderperson Bredeman, second Alderperson Sharp, that the Council approve the schedule for the City of Chillicothe Regularly Scheduled Council Meetings for the Fiscal Year 2026-2027, which will convene on the Second and Fourth Mondays of each month, at 7:00 p.m., in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Note: May 25, 2026 meeting will be on TUESDAY MAY 26 due to the Holiday.

Roll Call Vote was:

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

Nays: None

Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderperson Bredeman, second Alderperson Gehrig, that the Council concur with the 2026-2027 Mayoral appointment of Council Committees as presented.

Roll Call Vote was:

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

Nays: None

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Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderperson Bredeman, second Alderperson Gehrig, that the Council concur with the 2026-2027 Mayoral appointment of Supervisors and Officers as presented.

Roll Call Vote was:

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

Nays: None

Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderperson Bredeman, second Alderperson Gehrig, that the Council concur with the 2026-2027 Mayoral appointment of Boards and Commissions as presented.

Roll Call Vote was:

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

Nays: None

Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderperson Bredeman, second Alderperson Levell, that the Council approve the 2026-2027 schedule of Council Committee Meetings, as presented.

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 Council approve the 2026-2027 schedule of Boards and Commission meetings, as presented.

**CITY OF CHILLCOTHE
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Roll Call Vote was:

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

Nays: None

Chairman declared motion carried.

Aldersperson Bredeman announced that the Mayor Hughes agenda item #7 is being withdrawn due to the event being cancelled.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE:

Motion Aldersperson Cantwell, second Aldersperson Sharp, that the Council approve the Road & Bridge Priority One Project – Street Overlay/Curb Improvement in the amount of \$240,000.00 as an approved project, and authorize the City Engineer to begin the process for Street Overlay/Curb improvement.

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 Levell, that pending the passage of the Annual Appropriation Ordinance for the current Fiscal Year, all Department Heads and all other separate agencies of the City, be authorized to make necessary expenditures on the basis of the Appropriation of the preceding Fiscal Year, as authorized under Section 8-1-7 of the Illinois Municipal Code, and that all employees salaries be paid at the amounts set forth in the Annual Appropriation Ordinance, with appropriate adjustment for resignations, retirements, promotions, overtime and the like.

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Roll Call Vote was:

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

Nays: None

Chairman declared motion carried.

ANNOUNCE:

Alderperson Crabtree announced that the Appropriation Ordinance must be passed within the first quarter of the Fiscal Year and a Public Hearing must be held prior to passage of the ordinance.

A draft of the Appropriation Ordinance will be prepared for review and the target date for the Public Hearing will be June 22, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. The Appropriation Ordinance will be presented for passage at the Council meeting that day.

Motion Alderperson Crabtree, second Alderperson Bredeman, that the Council approve an expenditure of \$2,688.00, payable to Pearl Technology for the renewal of the Microsoft 365 licenses. Payable from the General Fund \$2,188.00 and Water Fund \$500.00.

Roll Call Vote was:

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

Nays: None

Chairman declared motion carried.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

Motion Alderperson Connor, second Alderperson Gehrig, that the Council approve the General Fund Priority One Mural Project in the amount of \$8,000.00 as a project, and approve an expenditure of \$1,850.00 to be paid to Niccole Maloney upon completion of the mural project at the River Corridor Walkway. Payable from said Priority One General Fund Project.

**CITY OF CHILLICOTHE
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Motion Alderperson Connor, second Alderperson Gehrig to amend the motion, that the Council approve the General Fund Priority One Mural Project in the amount of \$10,000.00 as a project, and approve an expenditure of \$1,850.00 to be paid to Nicole Maloney upon completion of the mural project at the River Corridor Walkway. Payable from said Priority One General Fund Project.

Discussion: EDC Director informed the Council the mural would be on the south side wall of the walkway of the Tin Top building, there is money in the budget for murals, this project has been in development for over 2 ½ years and its been difficult to locate mural artists. Office Manager Passage asked who will own and maintain the mural. Attorney Cascia stated there would be no City ownership or responsibility of the mural. EDC Director Beadles explained that per the Council plan murals were identified as being needed for City improvement. This would be a joint effort between the City and Tin Top for a mural on the south side of their building wall of the walkway.

Roll Call Vote was:

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

Nays: **Sharp**

Chairman declared motion carried.

Motion Alderperson Connor, second Alderperson Gehrig, that the Council approve the façade application for the Façade Grant Program for Tin Top Hippie Shop at 935 N. Second Street up to the amount of \$2,400.00 and authorize payout once project is complete, receipts submitted and work verified by Economic Development Director. Payable from the General Fund.

Discussion: Office Manger Passage continued with her concern that since the City is paying the contractor and damage is done to the wall would the City be responsible. EDC Director Beadles explained that this is an unusual set of circumstances because we are utilizing Façade funds to create murals. The façade is an agreement between the City and Teresa Rusk, it is not unusual in a façade to pay the contractor, it has been done for other City businesses. It was mentioned that under the façade contract the City does not maintain the work once completed and this would be no exception to that.

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Roll Call Vote was:

Ayes: Connor, Levell, Semtner

Nays: Bredeman, Cantwell, Crabtree, Gehrig,
Sharp

Chairman declared motion failed.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:

Motion Alderperson Bredeman, second Alderperson Gehrig, that the Council approve the Special Event Request as submitted by Flotsam River Circus, for the use of Eagle Landing Riverfront, with allowing overnight parking of a 32-foot pontoon boat and a school bus, on Monday September 7, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., with allowing overnight parking of a 32-foot pontoon boat and a school bus.

Motion Carried Via Voce vote.

Motion Alderperson Bredeman, second Alderperson Sharp, that the Council approve the Special Event Request submitted by Beau Ledbetter for the use of Second Street, from Chestnut to Walnut, ½ block of Chestnut Street (west), ½ block of Pine Street (east & west) on September 12, 2026 from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the 4th Annual Ethan Koch Memorial Cruise-In.

Motion Carried Via Voce vote.

Motion Alderperson Bredeman, second Alderperson Crabtree, that the Council approve the Request for Live Entertainment in the outdoor pavilion, as submitted by the American Legion, as follows:

May 16, 2026	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	In the Middle
May 17, 2026	3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Kasino
May 24, 2026	2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Shot Gun Charlie
May 31, 2026	2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Eddie's Broken Halo

Motion Carried Via Voce vote.

**CITY OF CHILlicothe
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Motion Alderperson Bredeman, second Alderperson Sharp, that the Council refer to the City Attorney the Intergovernmental Agreement between Peoria County and the City of Chillicothe regarding the Viaduct Project for review and recommendation.

Discussion: Alderperson Crabtree thanked Terry Ruhland for his efforts with Peoria County and the City of Chillicothe in drafting the Intergovernmental Agreement.

Roll Call Vote was:

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

Nays: None

Chairman declared motion carried.

City Attorney Day entered the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE:

Motion Alderperson Gehrig, second Alderperson Bredeman, that the Council adjourn into Closed Session at 7:33 p.m., for Litigation ILCS 120/2/(c) (11) – Pending, Probable, Pending Litigation and to allow Attorney Day, Chief Cooper, Office Manager Passage, Assistant Manager White to attend. Potential action may be taken upon returning to Open Session.

Motion Alderperson Gehrig, second Alderperson Crabtree, to amend the motion, that the Council adjourn into Closed Session at 7:33 p.m., for Litigation ILCS 120/2/(c)(11) – Pending, Probable, Pending Litigation and to allow Attorney Day, Attorney Cascia, Chief Cooper, Office Manager Passage, Assistant Manager White to attend. Potential action may be taken upon returning to Open Session.

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 8:17 p.m.

**CITY OF CHILLICOTHE
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Motion Alderperson Gehrig, second Alderperson Bredeman, that the Council refer to the City Attorney Day to draft a letter to the Chillicothe Community Fire Protection District as discussed, placing them on notice, breach of Intergovernmental Agreement. They will have 31 days to comply with the IGA. The City will expect reimbursement should we incur cost if the Chillicothe Community Fire Protection District does not comply with the IGA.

Motion Carried Via Voce Vote.

Motion Alderperson Connor, second Alderperson Gehrig, that the meeting adjourn at 8:18 p.m.

Mayor Hughes declared the meeting adjourned.


Jill M. Byrnes
City Clerk

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT
BETWEEN COUNTY OF PEORIA AND CITY OF CHILLICOTHE**

This Agreement effective and commencing on _____, by and between the COUNTY OF PEORIA, a body politic and corporate of the State of Illinois, hereinafter called the COUNTY, and CITY OF CHILLICOTHE, hereinafter called the CITY.

WITNESSETH THAT:

Whereas, the COUNTY and the CITY desire to further intergovernmental cooperation between the two entities; and

Whereas, the Chillicothe Viaduct, two bridge structures carrying Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) train traffic over Illinois State Route 29, has a tight horizontal and vertical clearance that has been a long-standing safety concern for motorists and emergency responders, and

Whereas, the COUNTY and the CITY desire to replace the bridge structures with a widened roadway underneath, improve vertical clearance, and modernized rail span to ensure the long-term reliability of this high-volume freight corridor, and

Whereas, the COUNTY and the CITY recognize the importance of interstate commerce rail traffic used by the bridge, and

Whereas, the Illinois Department of Transportation is providing \$1,000,000 in funding for a Phase I Preliminary Engineering study for the replacement of the bridge structures to the CITY, and

Whereas, the COUNTY has experience in managing the Phase I Preliminary Engineering projects, and

Whereas, the Illinois Department of Transportation will transfer the Phase I Preliminary Engineering agreement from the CITY to the COUNTY, and

Whereas, the COUNTY and the CITY have reached an agreement pursuant to authority granted by Article VII, Section 10, of the Constitution of Illinois, 1970 and the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act, (5 ILCS 220/1 et seq.).

NOW THEREFORE, in cooperation with the mutual promises and covenants hereinafter set forth, it is agreed by and between the COUNTY and the CITY that:

I. DUTIES OF PEORIA COUNTY

- A. The COUNTY will serve as the "Lead Agency" and will coordinate the Phase I Preliminary Engineering with the Illinois Department of Transportation.
- B. The COUNTY will enter into a contract with an Illinois Department of Transportation Certified consultant engineering firm to perform Phase I Preliminary Engineering for the design of the project.
- C. The COUNTY will upfront engineering expenditures and send invoices to the Illinois Department of Transportation for reimbursement.
- D. The COUNTY will provide the CITY with project updates at an agreed upon frequency.

II. DUTIES OF CITY OF CHILLCOTHE

- A. The CITY is responsible for the coordination between the Phase I Preliminary Engineering consultant and the CITY'S engineer for infrastructure integration with the Phase I Preliminary Engineering study.

III. TERM

- A. This agreement shall commence on the day that the last party executes it and shall continue until Final Acceptance is given by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

IV. INDEMNIFICATION

The COUNTY shall indemnify and hold harmless the CITY and its directors, officers, employees, and agents from and against any and all losses, damages, claims, liability, costs, and expenses incidental thereto (including costs of litigation, settlement, and reasonable attorney's fees) which any or all of them may hereinafter incur, be responsible for or pay out as a result of bodily injuries (including death) to any person or damage (including loss of use) to any property (public or private) which arise out of or are caused by any negligent acts, negligent omissions, or willful misconduct of the COUNTY, its directors, officers, employees, agents, and contractors in the performance of the terms of this agreement.

The CITY shall indemnify and hold harmless the COUNTY and its directors, officers, employees, and agents from and against any and all losses, damages, claims, liability, costs, and expenses incidental thereto (including costs of litigation,

settlement, and reasonable attorney's fees) which any or all of them may hereinafter incur, be responsible for or pay out as a result of bodily injuries (including death) to any person or damage (including loss of use) to any property (public or private) which arise out of or are caused by any negligent acts, negligent omissions, or willful misconduct of the CITY, its directors, officers, employees, agents, and contractors in the performance of the terms of this agreement.

V. GENERAL CONDITIONS

- A. This agreement shall be binding upon the parties, their successors, and assigns.
- B. If any portion of this agreement shall be, for any reason, invalid or unenforceable, the remaining portion or portions shall, nevertheless, be valid and enforceable and carried into effect, unless to do so would clearly violate the present legal and valid intention of the parties hereto.
- C. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT – AMENDMENTS**
The preceding constitutes the entire agreement between the parties, and no verbal statements shall supersede any of its provisions. This agreement may be amended in writing by a mutual agreement executed with the same formalities as in the same manner by which this Agreement was executed.

COUNTY OF PEORIA CITY OF CHILLICOTHE

By: _____
SCOTT SORREL
Peoria County Administrator

By: _____
MICHAEL HUGHES
Mayor

ATTEST: _____
RACHAEL PARKER
Peoria County Clerk

ATTEST: _____
JILL BYRNES
City Clerk

Council Meeting
May 11, 2026

PLEASE PRINT

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