

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
ALDERMAN OF THE CITY OF FAYETTE,
MISSOURI
TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Fayette was called to order at 6:00 p.m., August 26, 2025, by Mayor Greg Stidham.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone in the Chamber rose for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Alderman Patrick Roll.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call verified Five Board Members present for the meeting.

Responding to the Roll Call: Alderman David Frees, Alderwoman Ronda Gerlt, Alderman Patrick Roll, Alderman Grafton Cook and Alderwoman Michelle Ishmael. Alderman JB Waggoner - absent.

ADDITIONS TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Alderwoman Ishmael requested the addition of Opening sealed bids for Surplus Equipment to New Business #7.

Alderman Cook moved to approve the Agenda with the above addition. Alderman Frees seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – none. Motion passed.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. PROPOSED TRASH COLLECTION FEE INCREASE TO BE EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2025

Several citizens expressed their dissatisfaction with the quality of trash collection service provided by RTS Waste Management LLC, mentioning that RTS workers fail to return trash cans to their proper locations, often leaving them on the road. Additionally, residents suggested that RTS workers should have a shovel and broom to clean up any debris that fall during the collection process. Mr. Addison voiced opposition to using RTS.

2. PUBLIC HEARING TO SET THE AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX RATE FOR 2025

No comments.

PUBLIC HEARINGS ENDED

INVITED GUESTS

1. Caleb Walker, City Insurance renewal – Heritage Insurance

Mr. Walker informed the Council that Anthem now is accepted by MU Health for employees. He also informed that MEM approved a 50/50 Safety grant for the City of Fayette to purchase a Confined Space Entry kit with Gas monitor for the Wastewater treatment plant.

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Mr. Walker also presented to the Council the City's Insurance Renewal Summary along with two quotes. He explained that the proposal renewal rate with Tokio Marine reflects a 9.5% increase. Additionally, presented a Deductible Buy-Down option due to the high wind hail deductibles. City Attorney, Mr. Nickolaus, recommended exploring alternative cooperative options such as MPR or Mirma. Mr. Walker noted that Mirma does not operate through agents. Regarding MPR, he mentioned that the City would be required to meet specific commitments and safety standards, which may involve additional expenses.

Mr. Walker will continue to research alternative options, and this matter will be discussed at the next Council meeting since the renewal date is September 20th.

2. John Geha – Zoning request

Mr. Geha presented a re-zoning request for a lot located on Cravens Street from commercial back to residential. He noted that it was originally zoned as residential but was changed to commercial a few years ago. Mr. Geha mentioned his intent to develop affordable housing there. The request will be tabled for further discussion until the City receives a recommendation letter from P&Z.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

- **Marsha Broadus**

Ms. Broadus presented to the Council her concern about grass being mowed into streets and sidewalks.

- **Regina Powell**

Ms. Powell expressed the same concern from Ms. Broadus.

CITY STAFF REPORTS

- **Timothy Wells – Police Marshal**

Police Marshal, Timothy Wells reported that the Police Department handled approximately 250 calls for service since August 1st, including traffic stops, building checks, DWIs and nuisance properties.

Ms. Cooper mentioned that not only have letters been sent out for ordinance violations like tall grass, animals or rubbish but there are also tags to be placed on the property's door in case the officer is not able to reach anyone.

Mr. Nickolaus suggested exploring the idea of placing yard signs to serve as visible notes of violations. These signs would contain the same information as the door tags but also help to demonstrate to the public that the City is actively enforcing ordinances and addressing issues.

Police Marshal stated that repairs are needed at the dog pound in order to pass inspections this year. He also reported the police presence in the schools noting that they don't have an SRO School Resource Officer.

Finally, Marshall Wells recognized Officer Abbott for his commendable action while he was off duty. On his way to a family member's house, Officer Abbott stopped to assist at the scene of a car accident, providing help to manage the scene even after medics arrived.

- **Deanna Cooper – City Administrator**

Ms. Cooper provided the Council with an update on the following topics:

- The City of Fayette was awarded the MEM Safety 50/50 Grant for \$3,124 for the purchase of a Confined Entry kit for the Wastewater treatment plant with gas monitor.
- The inventory of PC and laptops has been completed. Out of the 24 computers, 14 need to be replaced before October, due to the end of support for the Windows 10 operating system.
- The Secretary of State's office is scheduled to come in the first part of September to collect the first batch of records for digitizing. This service will be provided at no cost. Digitized records will help the City to save storage space.
- The railing for the City Hall main entrance will be completed soon.

- **City Attorney – Nathan Nickolaus**

Nothing to report.

- **Sonny Conrow – Electric Superintendent**

Mr. Conrow informed the Council of an upcoming auction in Columbia on Friday and requested approval to spend up to \$17,000 to purchase a dump trailer to replace the Streets Department dump truck. He also noted that this expenditure has already been budgeted for the current fiscal year.

OLD BUSINESS

1. DISCUSSION AN OR APPROVAL OF ALEXANDER & ASSOCIATES COMPLETION OF MANHOLE INSTALLATION AT GERLT SUBDIVISION.

Alderman Cook moved to table the approval of Alexander & Associates Completion of Manhole installation at Gerlt Subdivision until resolving the specs regarding the inspection and pressure and compaction testing. Alderman Frees seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – none. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

1. DISCUSSION AND OR APPROVAL OF PERMISSION TO BEKKI GALLOWAY TO APPLY FOR THE COMMUNITY FORESTRY COST SHARE GRANT

Ms. Galloway informed the Council that the Cost Share Grant is designed to support the community forest, including the educational components. She stated that this year the project will focus on the entry way to Fayette.

Alderwoman Gerlt moved to approve permission to Bekki Galloway to apply for the Community Forestry Cost Share Grant. Alderwoman Ishmael seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – none. Motion passed.

2. DISCUSSION AND OR APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AN INCREASE IN RESIDENTIAL TRASH COLLECTION FEES

Alderwoman Gerlt moved to table the Ordinance establishing an increase in the residential Trash Collection fees until further information is obtained about the last rate increase and details within the

current contract. Alderwoman Ishmael seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – none. Motion passed.

3. DISCUSSION AND OR APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE FIXING AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX RATES OF THE CITY OF FAYETTE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

1st Reading by Title Only

Alderman Cook moved to proceed with the first reading. Alderman Frees seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Alderman Frees, Alderwoman Gerlt, Alderman Roll, Alderman Cook, and Alderwoman Ishmael. Nays – None. Motion passed.

2nd Reading by Title Only

Alderman Frees moved to proceed with the second reading. Alderwoman Ishmael seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Alderman Frees, Alderwoman Gerlt, Alderman Roll, Alderman Cook and Alderwoman Ishmael. Nays – None. Motion passed.

4. DISCUSSION AND OR APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING MANDATORY IMPOUNDMENT, FINES, VACCINATION PROOF AND REMOVAL FOR VICIOUS DOGS

The Council held a discussion regarding the wording of the Ordinance and agreed that the Ordinance needs to be rewritten including the recommendations of the City Attorney, Mr. Nickolaus.

Alderman Cook moved to table the Ordinance establishing mandatory impoundment, fines and vaccination proof and removal for Vicious Dogs, for the next meeting. Alderwoman Ishmael seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – none. Motion passed.

5. DISCUSSION AND OR APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE AMENDING ZONING TO INCLUDE SHORT TERM RENTALS ON STREET LEVEL IN B-1 AND B-2 BUSINESS DISTRICT.

Alderman Frees moved to table the Ordinance Amending Zoning to Include short term rentals on Street Level in B-1 and B-2 Business District to allow time to receive recommendations from Planning and Zoning Commission and to clarify some definitions within the Ordinance. Alderwoman Ishmael seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – none. Motion passed.

6. DISCUSSION AND OR APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2025-18 APPROVING INVOICES FOR PAYMENT

Alderman Roll moved to approve Pay Resolution 2025-18, approving invoices for payment and salaries in the total sum of \$204,359.20 which includes, General Fund \$112,258.68, Electric Fund \$13,494.51, Water Fund \$70,485.38, Sewer Fund \$8,120.63. Alderman Frees seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – none. Motion passed.

7. SEALED BID OPENING FOR SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

The City Administrator proceeded to open the bids with the following results:

Equipment	Name	Amount
2000 Ford ½ Ton/4x4 Pickup	Jeff Parks	407.00
2009 Dodge Bucket Truck	Withdrawn from bid	---
Forklift Caterpillar V50B	Shane Hilgedick	350.00
Trencher – model 3610 w/ low hours	Conrow Digging Service	3,000.00
2024 Chevy 2500, 8' truck bed - New	No Bids received	---

Alderman Roll moved to accept the winning Bids received for the Surplus Equipment. Alderman Frees seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – none. Motion passed.

BOARD OF ALDERMAN COMMENTS & COMMITTEE UPDATE

Alderman David Frees - East Ward

Nothing to report.

Alderwoman Ronda Gerlt - East Ward

Nothing to report.

Alderman Patrick Roll - Northwest Ward

Alderman Roll reported that the Lily pads on DC Rogers Lake have become an issue. Ms. Cooper informed the Council that the Conservation Department sprayed them last week to address the problem.

Alderman Grafton Cook - Southwest Ward

Alderman Cook informed the Council that the CID Utility program is in the final stage.

Alderwoman Michelle Ishmael - Northwest Ward

Alderwoman Ishmael reported a concern received on a neighbor that keeps a rooster on Oakland Street. She also noted a concern about kids riding bikes against the traffic and failing to obey the stop signs around town. Ms. Ishmael also expressed her gratitude to Bekki Galloway for her work on the Tree Board and to Dennis Daniels for assisting in resolving a water issue. She also mentioned that the CMU fair on the square was a positive event that provided students an opportunity to connect with the community.

Alderman JB Waggoner - Southwest Ward

Absent


MAYOR'S COMMENTS


Mayor Stidham thanked Mr. Jeff Parks for organizing a community event in front of his business over the weekend. He also shared that during a building inspection he fell through the floor and got injuries to his head, knee and elbow.

ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Roll moved to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Alderman Frees seconded the motion. Five voting Aye. Nays – 0. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by:


____ Maria Rogers, City Clerk


____ Greg Stidham, Mayor