

WAYNESVILLE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

August 20th, 2026

5:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wilson called the meeting of the Waynesville City Council to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Wilson and eight (8) council members were present:

PRESENT: Farnham, Harold, Dils, Hyatt, Rice, Hayden, Bland and Koren

ABSENT: None

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Invocation was given by Mayor Wilson and Councilman Hyatt led the City Council, staff and citizens in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Wilson called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman Rice made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Councilman Bland seconded. A roll call vote was called.

YEAS: Farnham, Harold, Dils, Hyatt, Rice, Hayden, Bland, Koren

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

a. *MPUA Electric Reliability Award – Presented by Brandon Ranaud:* Brandon

Ranaud presented the City of Waynesville with an electric reliability award from the American Public Power Association, recognizing the City for maintaining electric service more than 99.9% of the time during 2025. Mr. Ranaud explained that the American Public Power Association represents more than 2,000 community-owned utilities nationwide and recognizes communities demonstrating exceptional electric reliability.

Mr. Ranaud and Mayor Wilson commended the City's electric line workers, staff, management, and Council for their dedication and support in providing reliable service to the community.

c. *Recognition from AUSA – 45 Years of Community Partnership:* Mayor Wilson recognized the City's 45 years of outstanding support and partnership with the Association of the United States Army (AUSA). He emphasized the importance of regional partnerships and stated that the City cannot accomplish its goals independently.

The Mayor noted that approximately 18,000 veterans reside within the surrounding five-county region.

Councilwoman Dils, an AUSA board member, provided additional information regarding the organization. She stated that AUSA provides advocacy and educational support for soldiers, veterans, and their families and also assists service members and veterans experiencing financial needs through grants and other support.

d. Recognition from SOP – City of Waynesville 2026 Tier 1 Sustaining Member: Mayor Wilson also recognized the City’s partnership with the Sustainable Ozarks Partnership (SOP) and its recognition as a 2026 Tier 1 Sustaining Member.

The Mayor discussed the importance of regional cooperation and stated the SOP advocates for the region at both the state and federal levels while supporting economic growth, development and issues important to area communities. Mayor Wilson noted transportation infrastructure, Interstate 44, outer roads, and roadway safety as significant regional priorities requiring continued advocacy and coordination with state and federal representatives.

A motion was made by Councilman Hayden to recess Awards & Recognitions until after the scheduled public hearing. Councilman Harold seconded and all were in favor by show of hands.

PUBLIC HEARING: Ad Valorem Tax Rate – 2026 – 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Wilson called the Public Hearing to order at 5:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilman Farnham to open the public hearing and a second by Councilman Hyatt.

YEAS: Farnham, Harold, Dils, Hyatt, Rice, Hayden, Bland, Koren

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

Prior to receiving public comments, Mayor Wilson provided an overview of the Ad Valorem property tax process, explaining that property values are established by the County Assessor and the City applies its tax levy to the assessed valuation. Discussed how growth, new development, reassessments, inflation, and the Hancock Amendment affect assessed valuation and the City’s tax rate.

The Mayor noted that the City’s assessed valuation has increased over the past years while the tax rate has declined. The proposed 2026 Ad Valorem tax rate is \$0.5864 per \$100 of assessed valuation, consistent with the prior year.

a. Citizen Comments – Jerry Brown, 1390 State Route F: Addressed the Council and requested clarification regarding figures contained in the proposed ordinance. Mr. Brown questioned the \$515,000 in the ordinance. City officials explained that the \$515,000 figure represented the amount of property tax revenue estimated during preparation of the Fiscal Year 2025 budget. At the time the budget was adopted, the City’s final 2026 assessed valuation had not yet been received. The City’s annual budget is based upon estimates using the best information available at the time of adoption and may later be amended when actual revenues

or expenditures differ from those estimates. The approximately \$515,000 figure therefore represented the original budget estimate and was not a calculation based upon the final 2026 assessed valuation.

b. Council Comments – Councilman Farnham commended the explanation of the Ad Valorem tax information previously provided to the public, stating that the information offered citizens a helpful breakdown and explanation of the property tax process.

c. Close Public Hearing – Councilman Rice made a motion to close the public hearing at 5:52 p.m. and Councilwoman Dils seconded.

A roll call vote was called:

YEAS: Farnham, Harold, Dils, Hyatt, Rice, Hayden, Bland, Koren

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

d. PROPOSED ORDINANCE: 2026-14 Approving the 2026 Ad Valorem Tax Rate

The ordinance was read twice by title. A motion was made by Councilwoman Koren and seconded by Councilman Harold to approve Proposed Ordinance 2026-14.

A roll call vote was called:

YEAS: Farnham, Harold, Dils, Hyatt, Rice, Hayden, Bland, Koren

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS – CONTINUED

b. Recognition of Summit Park Kid’s Sign Competition Winners: Councilman Hayden explained that Summit Park has been without a playground sign and that he wanted neighbored children to participate in designing a new sign for the park. Children from the neighborhood were invited to submit their own designs. The entries were brought to City Hall, where City staff voted to select the winning designs.

The three contest winners. Carly-1st, Julia-2nd and June-3rd, were invited forward and recognized for their participation. Their submitted artwork was returned to them during the presentation. All three contest winners received a Walmart gift card.

Carly was recognized as the grand-prize winner. Carly’s design will be professionally developed into a permanent sign for Summit Park.

The Mayor congratulated the winners and presented each child with additional recognition items. The winning posters will be temporarily displayed at City Hall before being returned to the participants.

MAYORAL COMMENTS: Mayor Sean A. Wilson

a. *Special Presentations:* Mayor Wilson introduced a special presentation regarding economic growth, new business development, and expanded opportunities within the City of Waynesville. The Mayor recognized local businessman Rajwant Bedi, along with his mother, Shivjot Bedi, and thanked them for their willingness to invest in the community and work with the City officials to develop a project intended to meet identified community needs.

Mr. Bedi thanked the Mayor, City Council, City Administrator John Doyle, and others who assisted in developing the vision for the project.

Mr. Bedi presented plans for Patriots Landing, a proposed multi-phase commercial development that has been in planning for approximately 14 to 16 months. The project is anticipated to include approximately five total buildings totaling 50,000 square feet of retail and office space, along with dining, entertainment, walking trails, and common areas, while also increasing the visibility of the City of Waynesville from the Interstate 44 corridor. Mr. Bedi stated that the development is intended to support local business growth and provide a gathering place for the community. Phase One is expected to include the first retail building, walking trail, and common areas.

Mr. Bedi announced for concepts planned for the initial phase: Baja Fresh, a coffee shop, a specialty dessert shop, and Bos Entertainment, a family party and entertainment venue featuring an arcade and toddler play area. Mr. Bedi encouraged interested businesses to contact him regarding available space at rajwantbedi@gmail.com.

b. *Additional Comments:*

- Recognized the Business Spotlight of the Month as The Riverside Shop, located in downtown Waynesville east of the Roubidoux Bridge.
- Discussed Missouri's Good Neighbor Week, scheduled for September 28th thru October 4th, and encouraged residents to nominate individuals who perform acts of kindness and service within the community.
- Recognized September as Suicide Prevention Month and encouraged residents to become more aware of available prevention resources and educational opportunities.
- Discussed opportunities for residents and businesses to submit information regarding community events, business promotions, yard sales, and other activities for potential promotion through the City's informational displays. Submissions would be subject to an approval process, and the goal is to assist local businesses and organizations in increasing awareness of activities taking place throughout the community.
- Addressed the importance of civility, responsible communications, and verifying information before sharing it, particularly on social media. The Mayor referenced a previous community initiative encouraging individuals to stop, check, think, and choose civility before sharing information.
- The Mayor addressed a petition and information circulating in the community and on social media regarding City operations and decisions. Mayor Wilson disputed several allegations

and provided clarification on matters involving public information, utility services, City property, RV park improvements, local business activities and community events.

The Mayor clarified that utility service at a downtown business was terminated at the request of the account holder, not by the City, and the business was given an opportunity to establish continued service. Addressed concerns regarding unauthorized utility tampering. The City did not cancel the Hogs and Frogs event and that Old Settlers Day was canceled by its organizer due to lack of volunteers.

- The Mayor and Council Members encouraged residents to seek accurate information, communicate respectfully, avoid personal attacks, and become positively involved in the community. Council Members also recognized Councilman Hayden for organizing the Summit Park children's sign competition.
- The Council discussed the need to maintain confidentiality during certain economic development negotiations to protect potential projects and allow businesses to make announcements at the appropriate time.
- The Mayor concluded by emphasizing the City's continued efforts toward growth, improvements, and public service and thanked City employees and Council Members for their work.

COMMUNITY

a. *Public Comments:*

Mayor Wilson called for citizens to give comments.

- *Ryan Jensen* | 14640 Hobby Rd, Saint Robert MO 65583: addressed the Council asking if Waynesville currently has a contract involving Flock Safety cameras. City representatives confirmed the City does utilize the camera system. Mr. Jensen referenced a recent decision by the Pulaski County Sheriff regarding future contracts and asked whether the Council would prefer to present additional information regarding the cameras at a future meeting. The Council indicated that a future meeting would be more appropriate for a detailed presentation.

The Mayor provided background on the City's participation in the camera program, stating that it was initially considered as part of a collaborative public-safety effort. He emphasized that future decisions regarding the system would be based on the best interests and safety of the Waynesville community, with the public to be informed of any changes.

Mr. Jensen continued his comments regarding Flock Safety cameras and requested an opportunity to discuss his research and findings. The Mayor encouraged him to schedule a meeting and stated that the matter could be referred to the appropriate committee for further discussion.

- *Vannie Williams* | 21715 Ranch Rd, Waynesville MO 65583: addressed the Council regarding vegetation and debris along Route 66/Hwy 17. Stated that the vegetation had recently been cut but that the resulting debris remained along the roadway. City officials

indicated the work appeared to have been performed by MoDOT and stated the staff would check the matter.

Mr. Williams also expressed concern regarding tree branches extending over Ruby Road that had struck his vehicle on multiple occasions. The City Administrator noted the location and advised that the matter would be reviewed and addressed.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: City Administrator John C. Doyle

- Presented updates from various City committees and departments. Reports included updates from the Park Board, Utility Committee, Economic Development Committee, Roads and Grounds Committee, Emergency Services Committee, Finance, and Human Resources & Governmental Affairs Committee. The Planning and Zoning Commission did not meet this month and no updates were provided. Mr. Doyle also noted upcoming events.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

No separate Council Discussion items were presented.

ITEMS OF CONSIDERATION

a. RESOLUTIONS – None

b. ORDINANCES

- i. PROPOSED ORDINANCE 2026-15: *Approving Mid-Year Budget Adjustment for Fiscal Year 2026*

The ordinance was read twice by title. A motion was made by Councilman Farnham and seconded by Councilwoman Koren to approve Proposed Ordinance 2026-15. A roll call vote was called.

YEAS: Farnham, Harold, Dils, Hyatt, Rice, Hayden, Bland, Koren

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

- ii. PROPOSED ORDINANCE 2026-16: *Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest*

The ordinance was read twice by title. A motion was made by Councilman Rice and seconded by Councilman Hayden to approve Proposed Ordinance 2026-16. A roll call vote was called.

YEAS: Farnham, Harold, Dils, Hyatt, Rice, Hayden, Bland, Koren
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

- iii. PROPOSED ORDINANCE 2026-17: *Execute Aviation Project Consultant Agreement between the City of Waynesville, City of St Robert and Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc.*

The ordinance was read twice by title. A motion was made by Councilwoman Koren and seconded by Councilman Harold to approve Proposed Ordinance 2026-17. A roll call vote was called.

YEAS: Farnham, Harold, Dils, Hyatt, Rice, Hayden, Bland, Koren
NAYS: None
Motion carried unanimously.

- iv. PROPOSED ORDINANCE 2026-18: *Quit Claim Deed – Cordry Property*
Councilman Hyatt requested additional information regarding the property. City Administrator John Doyle explained that a portion of Ms. Cordry's yard extends across the recorded boundary onto City property. Research conducted by the City confirmed the boundary issue, and the proposed Quit Claim Deed was recommended as the appropriate means of correcting the legal description and clearing potential title issues. The affected area is a long, narrow strip of property and that appropriate easements will remain in place for existing City gas, water, and electric utilities. The location of the existing utilities also appears consistent with the corrected property line. City staff worked with the City Attorney to determine the appropriate method for resolving the boundary and title issue.

The ordinance was read twice by title. A motion was made by Councilman Farnham and seconded by Councilman Harold to approve Proposed Ordinance 2026-18. A roll call vote was called.

YEAS: Farnham, Harold, Dils, Hyatt, Hayden, Bland, Koren
NAYS: Rice - abstained
Motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Council noted the upcoming events previously discussed during the City Administrator's Report, including:

- **Big Bam** – September 7, 2026
- **Route 66 Summer Concert Series**

- August 22, 2026 – Featuring Lindley Creek
- September 26, 2026 – Featuring Eastern Heights
- **Veterans Day Parade** – November 7, 2026

Councilman Hayden asked for an update regarding a recently awarded grant for improvements at Downtown Service Station. It was reported that work was underway by Studio 66 and that painted aluminum panels were being prepared for installation on the front of the canopy. Councilman Hayden complimented the artwork and expressed enthusiasm regarding the improvements.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was a need for an executive session regarding RSMo 610 (1) Legal (2) Real Estate (3)(11) Personnel. Councilman Rice made a motion to go into executive session. Councilwoman Koren seconded. A roll call vote was called.

YEAS: Farnham, Harold, Dils, Hyatt, Rice, Hayden, Bland, Koren

NAYS: None

Motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor advised that no additional action or vote was anticipated upon returning from executive session.

Council entered executive session at 7:16 p.m.

Council returned to open session at 8:33 p.m.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

No council comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey York

Deputy City Clerk

City of Waynesville, Missouri