

**MINUTES OF THE
STE. GENEVIEVE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY – JANUARY 8, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER. Mayor Brian Keim called the regular meeting of the Ste. Genevieve Board of Aldermen to order at 6:00 p.m. and all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL. A roll call by City Clerk Pam Meyer showed the following members present:

Mayor Brian Keim	
Alderman Amie Dobbs	Alderman Patrick Fahey
Alderman Bob Donovan	Alderman Sam Hughey
Alderman Jeff Eydmann	Alderman Joe Prince
Alderman Joe Steiger	

Absent: Alderman Teddy Ross

APPROVAL OF AGENDA. A motion by Alderman Steiger second by Alderman Eydmann to amend the agenda so that public comments is moved to above presentation/awards. Motion carried 7-0-1 with Alderman Ross absent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS. At this time Kathy Kreitler a domestic violence advocate addressed the Mayor and Board and to also thank Chief Halek for all he has done for group. The appreciate all he has done for them over the last year.

PRESENTATION/AWARDS. None.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE. At this time Kenny Steiger, Fire Chief with the Ste. Genevieve Fire District briefed the Mayor and Board of Aldermen and answered any questions.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT. (see attached report)

STAFF REPORTS.

DAVID BOVA – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (See Attached Report)

AARON SMITH – TOURISM (See Attached Report)

CONSENT AGENDA.

- Minutes – Board of Aldermen – Regular Meeting – December 11, 2025
- Minute – Board of Aldermen – Work Session – December 11, 2025

- **STREET CLOSURE REQUEST** – Mr. Justin Bowen with Rockinator Racing, LLC is requesting a street closure for Saturday, April 18, 2026 for the Missouri Outlaw Bike Race. The closure will include Main Street from Audubon’s Restaurant to Washington Street. The closure will be from 4 a.m. to 2 p.m.

A motion by Alderman Steiger, second by Alderman Eydmann to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried 7-0-1 with Alderman Ross absent.

OLD BUSINESS.

BILL NO. 4702. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES WITH TAYLOR ENGINEERING TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR A PROJECT TO EXPAND CRESTLAWN CEMETERY. 2ND READING. A motion by Alderman Donovan, second by Alderwoman Dobbs, Bill No. 4702 was placed on its second and final reading, read by title only, considered, and passed by a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Alderman Joe Steiger, Alderman Jeff Eydmann, Alderman Parick Fahey, Alderman Joe Prince, Alderwoman Amie Dobbs, Alderman Sam Hughey and Alderman Bob Donovan. Nays: Absent: Alderman Teddy Ross, Motion carried 7-0-1. Thereupon Bill No. 4702 was declared Ordinance No. 4624 signed by the Mayor and attested by the City Clerk.

NEW BUSINESS.

RESOLUTION 2026-09. A RESOLUTION RE-APPOINTING TOM HOOPER TO THE STE. GENEVIEVE HERITAGE COMMISSION. A motion by Alderman Steiger, second by Alderman Eydmann to approve Resolution 2026-09. Motion carried 7-0-1 with Alderman Ross absent.

APPROVAL OF THE LOW BID OF SRS (SUPERIOR ROOFING STRATEGIES) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,757.88 FOR THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT ROOF REPAIRS. A motion by Alderman Steiger, second by Alderman Prince to Approve the low bid of SRS in the amount of \$28,757.88 for the water treatment plant roof repairs. Motion carried 7-0-1 with Alderman Ross Absent.

OTHER BUSINESS. None.

MAYOR/BOARD OF ALDERMEN COMMUNICATION. None.

ADJOURNMENT. With no further business Mayor Keim adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,


Pam Meyer
City Clerk



CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

January 8, 2026

1. Filing for the April municipal election ended on December 30th – candidates who filed for the election were: Alderman Ward 1 – Patrick Fahey; Alderman Ward 2 – Robert “Bob” Donovan; Alderman Ward 3 – Jeffrey Eydmann; Alderman – Ward 4 – Joseph D. (Joe) Prince. The municipal election will be April 7, 2026.
2. All 3 Prop S FY2025 street projects substantially complete; we’re awaiting final payment requests from concrete & asphalt projects.
3. Jokerst completed their repairs to the N 4th Street sewer lines at the end of December.
4. Kimes Contracting beginning TAP Project – St. Mary’s Sidewalk Improvements this week.
5. Cochran has completed majority of surveying work on FY26 Prop S street repair / replacements & water line replacements. Tentative plans are to put project out to bid in early February.
6. Bid opening for Water Treatment Plant roof was December 10th. We had two bidders; low bidder was Superior Roofing Strategies at \$28,757.88. Acceptance of bid is on tonight’s agenda. We budgeted \$30,000 for this project.
7. Cochran is working to have suggested Pointe Basse improvements to us by the end of January. I have relayed that timetable to McBride and to the affected residents on Pointe Basse Drive.
8. I’ll be meeting with the Christmas Holiday Festival organizers in January to discuss the 2026 festival.
9. City Hall will be closed on Monday, January 19th for MLK, Jr. Day.

Year End Operations Report

Date: Year End 2025

Calls for Assistance:

- SGFD responded to **286** emergency calls in 2025.
- Highest year before **2023 – 274 calls**
- **We responded to 82 since becoming a fire district October 1st.**

Staffing:

- SGFD roster is down 1. Due to the fireman being volunteer, openings will occur.
- **We added 2 more since becoming a district**
- Volunteers are still needed to form an applicant list, contact any SGFD firefighter if interested

Vehicles

We have all of the titles switched over but the ladder truck. The city had to apply for a title and right now it is lost in DMV land.

Training

We are continuing the trend of sending people to Fire Fighter 1 & 2 certification. We have 2 that started last week.

KnoxBox Program

Boxes Approved, shipped and Waiting for installs

Ste. Genevieve Do It Center (still waiting for warehouse on Chadwell)

Mid State Wood Products for Trautman Building

Ste Genevieve Early Childhood Center

Ste Genevieve Elementary School

Heavenly Hair

SGHS Wrestling Facility

Sam Only Child Originals

Breeze Westoff Attorneys

Elena Treasured Memories

We now have 87 Knox boxes that have been approved in the city.

Misc.

It has been a lot of work making the switchover. We had to switch all of the vendors we used to the district and get a new tax exemption. We are slowly starting to adopt ordinances and resolutions as needed to make the place operate.

As promised the board approved a bid for concrete sidewalk repair.

The board approved the 2026 budget in December. The budget for ¾ of the year is anticipated to be around \$550,000.00 In the budget the board approved putting \$150,000.00 aside for fire truck replacement and \$50,000.00 aside for small vehicle replacement. They also decided they wanted a full-time fire chief so I have started 5 days a week and unless I am out of the office for supplies or meetings there will be someone at the firehouse every day.

Some goals that we are working towards include setting up long range budget planning with the goal being a 10-year spending/capital improvement plan.

Continue to add resolutions and ordinances along with a new policy manual.

Our budget for the 2027 budget year is anticipated to be around \$800,000.00 and the hope is that we may be able to hire 1 or 2 more fulltime firefighters having a truck staffed at least Monday – Friday during the week. Having full-time firefighters will be a good thing for the next ISO audit.

Our goal is to improve from our current ISO class 4 to an ISO class 3 in the future.

We/I have/will continue to work closely with current city staff, especially the building department. I have continued to attend the city department head meetings when I am available to keep city staff up to speed on what is going on with the district. I will try to make quarterly reports to the board on the status of the district.

I have really found out what good staff the city has. As the chief, I had a lot of help from the staff with different things like budget, billing, payroll, and other things too many to mention. Now, all that goes through me and my workload has grown immensely.

I spent 40 years in the City Fire Department, 11 years as the chief and on behalf of the district board and members of the district fire staff, I would like to thank the board for the support shown to us not only during the election but in the years since the department was founded back in 1894. We will not forget where we came from and promise to do the best we can to continue to serve the citizens we protect.

City of
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Community Development
January 2026 Staff Report

12/6/25 – 1/5/25

Historic Preservation – Heritage Commission

- Met Dec. 15 – 2 COAs & 1 Attestation approved administratively, 1 COA tabled; annual CLG report delivered
- Next meeting – 1/26
- 2024 HP grant application – mobile app walking tour – agreement signed by city – received 5 submittals for RFP, selected Statistical Research, Inc. – public meeting in Jan/Feb

Building Department / Code Enforcement

- Occupancy Permits / Inspections 24
- Building Permits Issued 3
- Demolition Permits 0
- Sign Permits 0
- Chicken Permits 0
- Special Use Permits 0
- Sidewalks – repairs / replacements complete for 2025

Comprehensive Plan

- Annexation Committee to tentatively meet again in February

Planning & Zoning

- No meeting in January
- Next scheduled meeting – 2/5
- Staff preparing report on data centers / server farms

City / County Cooperation

- Tourism / Economic Development – Provided \$5k in '23 & '24 / discussion of forming CVB type organization with County & Chamber / County partnered w/ City for Parkland REDI membership for '24 / Bill passed by Mo legislature to allow increasing of transient guest tax on local ballot – signed by Governor 7/11/25 – HB199 allows county to place transient guest tax of up to 6% on the ballot – County plans to place lodging tax on April ballot
- Progress Parkway property – county provided assistance to IDC for infrastructure – 12/3-met with IDC & County to confirm County still committed to infrastructure assistance

- FLAP Grant (N 4th Street bridge) – cost has risen to approximately 950k (originally 750k) now & county has asked for assistance from city / Federal grant – now requires historic resources survey – tentative construction in Spring 2026 (originally 2025)
- 911 Tax Board created (includes City officer) – payments from City & Amb. District to continue until new infrastructure installed and paid; potentially 4-5 years ('27-'28) / City portion of dispatching services lowered in FY25 / City portion lowered further in FY26
- TAP Grant (Hwy 61) – County appl. Approved – on track for '26 – currently being completed
- Improvements to Ferry Landing – UP asked for \$10k per year lease for grounds for improvement or purchase at minimum \$50k; UP will not accept a zero-dollar lease. City also working with Port Authority and others to try and help Ferry remain financially viable – funds run out end of June – 5311 funds approved for FY26 but those are matching funds and Ferry continues to look for source for those to match those funds – will receive state funding but not until August or September – Board agreed to assist Ferry with temporary access to funds - \$9,475.61 in expenses reimbursed – Ferry has received 88k from MODOT for FY26 and have been approved for \$100k 5311 funds – Illinois has committed 88k to the Ferry also but they are working on details

Board of Adjustment

- Nothing new to report

Floodplain Management

- Current long range forecasts show <5% chance of Minor Flooding in Jan-Feb-Mar.
- Current long range forecasts show <5% chance of Moderate Flooding in Jan-Feb-Mar.
- Current long range forecasts show <5% chance of Major Flooding in Jan-Feb-Mar.
- Current river stage (1/5) is 2.85'; expected to drop to 2.2' by end of next week.
- Ferry is currently closed.

Property Maintenance

- Nuisance Property Issues 2
- Vegetation Nuisance Issues 0
- Code Violation Issues 2
- Sidewalk Issues 2

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YEAR END KPI REPORT

DESTINATION PERFORMANCE (Real-World Outcomes)

Total Visits (Placer AI)

- Baseline (2025): 356,500
- YoY Change: +6.2%. vs. 335,700 (2024)
- Total Visitors
- 85,200 (2025) vs. 94,400 (2024)
- YoY Change: - 9%

Average Dwell Time

- Baseline: 101 minutes

Visits per Visitor

- Baseline: 4.19

Share of Visits from Target DMAs:

- Kansas City - 0.1%
- Chicago - 0.1%
- Nashville - 0.1%

Using these numbers as a benchmark for successive years.

2VISITOR QUALITY & ECONOMIC POTENTIAL

% Visitors in Upper-Income Households (\$100K+ HH income, Placer / Experian)

- Baseline: ~22–24% (true trade area)
- Actual - 12%

% College-Educated Visitors (Bachelor's or higher)

- Baseline: ~15–16%
- Actual: 21%

Visitor Quality Index (VQI)

(Income + Education + Travel Propensity;
Index = 100 baseline)

- 2025 Baseline VQI: 101

Summary:

- Ste. Genevieve attracts slightly fewer high-income households than the national average
- Visitors are slightly more educated than average
- Visitors show meaningfully higher a engagement / trip-planning behavior
- When combined, visitor quality is ~1% above the national benchmark

TRIP INTENT & CONVERSION PROXIES

Engaged Sessions (GA4)

- 2025: 217,865
- YoY Change: +108.5%

Engagement Rate

- 98.8%

Average Engagement Time

- Baseline: 27 seconds

Defined Soft Conversions (Combined)

Plan Your Trip page sessions

Event page views

Lodging referral clicks

Directions / Ferry-related page views

Total Soft Conversion Activity:

130,141 clicks in 2025

MARKETING EFFICIENCY & REACH

Cost per Engaged Session (Paid Media)
\$0.38 (blended Meta + Google Display)

Click-Through Rate (CTR)

- Meta: 1.39% (Travel benchmark: 0.90%)
- Google Display: 3.87% (Travel benchmark: 0.47%)

Share of Traffic from Paid Media Baseline:

- Kansas City: \$0.38
- Chicago: \$0.38
- Nashville: \$0.38