

STATE OF ILLINOIS

MACOUPIN COUNTY

May 18, 2026

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**PRESENT:** Alderman Ober, Alderman Link, Alderman Reichmann, Alderman Gracey, Alderman LeVora, Alderman Brockmeier, Alderman Fogle, Mayor Doug Downey, City Clerk Mary Heller, Police Chief Derek Graham, Bobbi Bates Zoning Administrator/Econ Dev/Grant Writing.

**ABSENT:** Alderman Reese

Approval of Previous Minutes - Motion was made by Alderman Ober to approve the minutes of the May 4th, 2026, Council Meeting and place on file, seconded by Alderman Brockmeier, motion passed unanimously. 7-0

Approval of Bills - Motion was made to approve the bills and place on file by Alderman Reichmann, seconded by Alderman Ober, motion passed unanimously. 7-0

Police Department Report – No Questions or Concerns.

**Correspondence**

Rotary Club / Ice Cream Social – Motion was made to approve and place on file the Carlinville Rotary Clubs Ice Cream Social Event on Friday July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 6:00pm – 8:00pm on the square by Alderman LeVora, seconded by Alderman Link, motion passed unanimously. 7-0

Macoupin County Pork Producers – Motion was made to allow the Macoupin County Pork Producers Cookout's to have Cookouts the following week if the weather is bad because they have already purchased the meat, as long as there are no other conflicts by Alderman Brockmeier, seconded by Alderman Riechmann, motion passed unanimously. 7-0

**Public Comment**

Mayor Downey let the Council know that he is planning the Annual State of the City Presentation on Wednesday May 27, 2026, at 6:00p.m. and invited them all to come.

Mayor Downey informed the Council that the Shipman Blacktop Project will hopefully be starting June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 and the Mayor, Chief of Police and Chair of Public works had a meeting with the Park District about opening the gate at Loveless Park to help control traffic.

Mayor Downey spoke about the SCP (Strong Communities Program) IHDA Grant for funding to take down vacant and abandoned residential properties. He invited the Alderman to attend to webinar next Wednesday to discuss the plans to apply for this grant.

Bobbi Bates Zoning Administrator/Econ Dev/Grant Writing updated the Alderman about the Work Force Training Program and how they only had 2 people signed up and it started today and they now have a waitlist of over 26 people signed up. This Program is going very well.

**Old Business:** NONE

**New Business**

Illini Tech Bid / Service Request – Motion was made to approve the bid from Illini Tech for a one-time charge of \$300.00 to add a service request link to the city website by Alderman Reichmann, seconded by Alderman Link, motion passed unanimously. 7-0

Advertising Part Time Camping Season Help / Approve Hourly Rate – Motion was made to advertise for part-time office help during the camping season and approved an hourly rate of \$15 an hour for up to 500 hours for the season by Alderman Gracey, seconded by Alderman Ober, motion passed unanimously. 7-0

City Hall Closure / 6-26-26 – Motion was made to allow the Carlinville City Employees to have 6-26-26 day off due to all the special events happening around town by Alderman Link, seconded by Alderman Fogle, motion passed unanimously. 7-0

Appointments – Mayor Downey read his appointments Mayor Pro Tem, Jody Reichmann, City Attorney, Don Craven, Zoning Administrator/Economic Development/Grant Writing, Bobbi Bates, Carlinville Police Commissioners, Robert Anderson, BJ Vineyard and Pete Oswald the 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion was made to approve appointments by Alderman Link, seconded by Alderman Fogle, motion passed unanimously. 7-0

Zoning Variance Request / Jim & Valerie Knight Garage Addition, 1039 S. Mayo Street – Motion was made to approve the Zoning Variance to extend Jim Knight's garage straight back to what is presently there by Alderman Link, seconded by Alderman Ober, motion passed unanimously. 7-0

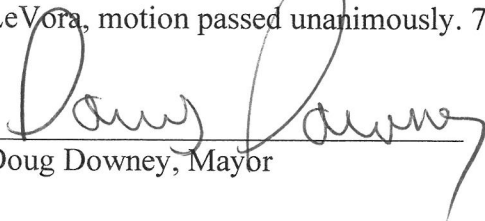
Zoning Code Amendment / Pollinator Gardens (Section 40-4-20) & Special Use Permit / Blackburn College Solar Array – Motion was made to approve Blackburn College's request for an annual special use permit to have a pollinator field around their solar array by Alderman Link, seconded by Alderman LeVora, motion passed unanimously. 7-0

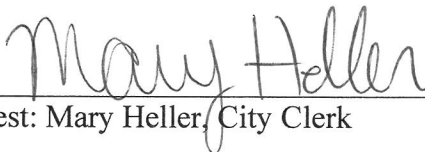
TIF Agreement / Panda Restaurant – Motion was made to approve the Panda Restaurants TIF Agreement for \$7,500.00 by Alderman Reichmann, seconded by Alderman Link, motion passed unanimously. 7-0

Landscape / Gazebo / Approval – Motion was made to approve the bid from Davis Lawncare for \$1,200.00 to tear out the present shrubbery around the gazebo on the square and plant 8 new

hydrangeas and 4 new spirea and put down new mulch, by Alderman Link, seconded by Alderman Reichmann, motion passed unanimously. 7-0

Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Reichmann at 6:24 p.m., seconded by Alderman LeVora, motion passed unanimously. 7-0

  
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Doug Downey, Mayor

  
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Attest: Mary Heller, City Clerk