

City Council Minutes
January 20, 2026

Minutes of Regular Meeting of the City Council, at City Hall.
Petersburg, Illinois

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Snyder called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

II. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A. Members present were Aldermen Bruce Gorman, Megan Loberg-Simmering, Mike Allison, Rick Sonnemaker, Andrew Gain, and Neil Conklin. Also, present were Mayor Rick Snyder, Treasurer Melissa Riley, Attorney Jason Brokaw (7:14), City Sec. Tracy Ciesler and City Clerk John Ramage.

B. Mayor Snyder led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

C. A motion was made by Alderman Gain and seconded by Alderman Loberg-Simmering to approve the agenda. VOTES: Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Conklin, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

III. CITY CLERK

A. The City Clerk presented the Warrant List and Accounts Payable. After a review, a motion was made by Alderman Gain and seconded by Alderman Loberg-Simmering to accept the Warrant List and the Accounts Payable. VOTES: Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Conklin, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

B. The Regular City Council meeting minutes of January 6, 2026, were presented. A motion was made by Alderman Gorman and seconded by Alderman Conklin to approve the January 6, 2025, regular City Council meeting minutes. VOTES: Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, abstain; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

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C. The Special city council meeting minutes of December 22, 2025, were presented. A motion was made by Alderman Gorman and seconded by Alderman Gain to approve the December 22, 2025, Special city council meeting minutes. VOTES: Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, abstain; Gorman, yes, Conklin, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

D. The Water/Personnel Committee meeting minutes of 1.15.2026 was presented. A motion was made by Alderman Gorman and seconded by Alderman Loberg-Simmering to approve the January 15, 2026, Water/Personnel Committee meeting minutes. VOTES: Allison, abstain; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, abstain. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

IV. HEARING OF CITIZENS

1. None present.

V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

A. Water Department

1. Water Department Monthly Report. The Water Collector, Angela Henderson gave the December 2025 water collector's report along with four requests for sewer adjustments because of leaks from broken pipes, and a request for a payment agreement. The total revenues for 2025 were \$1,079,908.78, compared to the 2024 total of \$1,082,192.20. A motion made by Alderman Gorman seconded by Alderman Conklin to approve the Water Collectors Report, the four requests for adjustments and the payment agreement. VOTES: Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

2. Water Superintendent's Monthly Report, oral and written, was presented by Mayor Snyder for the Water Superintendent. In December 9,255,000 gallons of water were pumped up for use. The water department finished the replacement of all valves and solenoids in

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the bulk water system at the old water plant. Also, the department should have final closeout of the OSHA action items identified earlier. Additionally, the department received the renewal for NPDES permit for the water treatment plants discharge of wastewater.

Also, SCADA updates have been scheduled for the water treatment plant in January/February, multiple sewer lines will be cleared out by Henson Robinson who has a truck with a special cutting head to cut tree roots.

The department worked with the street department to build a set of steps at the river's edge to make it easier and safer to collect the bi-monthly samples for sewer discharge testing.

New water well #11 has passed the two coliform tests and these tests should be the final requirements necessary to obtain the operating permit.

Engineering Company, Klinger & Associates, provided a report on options to improve the sewer treatment plant so that it will meet evolving state standards. The council will become familiar with the complexities of each of the options that are under discussion, prior to making any decisions.

B. Street Department

1. Street Department Monthly Report was given by Supervisor Brian Whitehurst. The department did the usual bag and brush pickup, leaf pickup, and cleaned drop boxes. After the snowfall, the department ran the snowplow, spread salt and cinders, hauled snow out of the city, and performed snowplow maintenance.

-Patched some streets as conditions allowed. Also repaired a water shutoff valve on the square which involved removal and replace of bricks.

-Sold the red ford truck.

-Completed Motor Fuel Tax paperwork for 2025 and began prep for 2026.

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-Performed maintenance on the backhoe including replacing kingpins in the front steering and welding the battery box. Also, tuned up the backpack blower.

-Performed tree work around the dog park/orchard area. Additionally, stump grinding.

-Performed cleanup at JC park, dog waste stations at the dog park, removed trash and the city refuse area.

C. Zoning Department

1. VFW TIF Application. The VFW Post 6871 provided an application for TIF funding to help with the purchase and installation of a new furnace for their facility at 501 S. 6th Street in Petersburg. Estimates for the new furnace are around \$30,000. After discussion the council, by show of hands, agreed to provide \$14,000 to support the new furnace and installation, with a future vote.

VI. OFFICERS' REPORTS

A. Mayor

1. Bid Opening for Cleaning of City Hall. The mayor opened a bid for cleaning city hall at a cost of \$285 per month. After discussion a motion made by Alderman Gorman and seconded by Alderman Sonnemaker to approve the bid. VOTES: Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

2. The mayor gave an update to the process regarding the demolition of the old grade school.

B. Treasurer's Report

1. Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Riley. Two accounts that were no longer used were closed. The General Fund had \$2,300,717.74 at the end of December 2025. Additionally, Treasurer Riley proposed that the city start the budget process earlier in the year,

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around the March time frame. This generated discussion and general agreement. A motion made by Alderman Gain seconded by Alderman Allison to approve the treasurer's report. VOTES: Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Alderman Gorman and seconded by Alderman Gain to adjourn the meeting. VOTES: Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED. Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


John Ramage
City Clerk

Approved February 3, 2026

Audio WS700798