

**City Council Minutes**  
**August 5, 2025**

**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 7:04 p.m.

**II. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

A. Members present were Aldermen Bruce Gorman, Megan Loberg-Simmering, Andrew Gain, Rick Sonnemaker, Mike Allison, and Neil Conklin. Also present were Mayor Rick Snyder, Treasurer Melissa Riley, City Clerk John Ramage. Attorney Jason Brokaw was absent.

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 Gorman 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 Allison to accept the Warrant List and the Accounts Payable. VOTES: Gorman, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Conklin, yes; Sonnemaker, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

B. The Regular meeting minutes of July 15, 2025, were presented. A motion was made by Alderman Gorman and seconded by Alderman Gain to approve the July 15, 2025, regular City Council meeting minutes. VOTES: Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

C. The Executive Session minutes of July 15, 2025, city council meeting was presented to the city council members. A motion was made by Alderman Gorman and seconded by Alderman Gain to approve the Executive Session minutes. VOTES: Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes;

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Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes, Conklin, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

D. The Finance Committee minutes of July 15, 2025, were presented. A motion was made by Alderman Gain and seconded by Alderman Allison to approve the minutes. VOTES: Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

E. The Water Committee minutes of July 28, 2025, were presented. A motion was made by Alderman Gorman and seconded by Alderman Gain to approve the minutes. VOTES: Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

**IV. HEARING OF CITIZENS**

A.Brie Allison - Street Closures for Harvest Fest. Brie presented information regarding the upcoming Harvest Festival to be held September 20<sup>th</sup>. Staging for the parade starts at 9:00 and the parade kicks off at 10:30. The parade route is the same as last year which starts on 7<sup>th</sup> Strret at Lincoln. Street closures are 7<sup>th</sup> Street from Jackson Street northward to Sheridan Street. And, both 6<sup>th</sup> and 8th street, between Douglas and Jackson.

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

B.Mandy Shamhart presented information for the Witches Walk 2025 scheduled for Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am to 5:00pm. She requested road closure for Jackson Street between 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Streets. Closure will be from 6am through 7:00pm. There are 13 vendors confirmed at this time, a band will play, and there will be multiple activities for children.

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

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C.Josh Kane - Car Show. Josh proposed the city allow a car show to be held on Sunday October 19<sup>th</sup> to benefit the Menard County Food Bank and the Good Samaritan's. This requires road closure on 7<sup>th</sup> Street between Jackson Street and Douglas Street, and Jackson between 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Registration will be from 9:00 to noon and running to 4:00pm. A motion was made to approve the Car Show and associated street closures, by Alderman Gain and seconded by Alderman Loberg-Simmering. VOTES: Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

D.Jason Dick - Menard County Jaycees - Circus. Jason asked to use the ballpark on August 29<sup>th</sup> to host a circus for two/three performances, one at 5:00pm and 7:30pm and of enough tickets are sold a third at 9:00pm. A motion was made to approve the Jaycees Circus and associated street closures, by Alderman Gain and seconded by Alderman Conklin. VOTES: Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes, Conklin, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

E.Deer Saugh - 330 E Sangamon - Gaming, Liquor & Convenience Store. Dee asked if he could open a store at 300 E. Sangamon Street that would sell liquor, have gaming and would be a convenience store. After discussion, a motion was made to approve a Liquor and Convenience Store with some gaming at 330 E Sangamon Street by Alderman Gorman and seconded by Alderman Sonnemaker. VOTES: Gain, yes; Allison, Abstain; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

**V. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

**A. Police**

1. Police Department Monthly Report was given by Chief Mike Nichols. He reported that the department had 184 contacts with the community, with 45 of them being related to traffic stops. His overall assessment was that the city is calm at this point.

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**B. Fire Department**

1.Fire Department Monthly Report was created by Chief Eric Hubner and presented by the mayor. There were twelve incident reports for last month, with ten of them being medical in nature and two related to smoke detector activation or smoke detection.

Additionally, the Ford F450 Command 1 vehicle was taken into Tri-County Fleet for service and repairs. This truck is back in service and running well now.

The purchase of a portable generator was put on hold until more information could be obtained.

**VI. OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**A. Mayor**

1.Vote on Purchase of Dump Truck for Street Dept. Mayor Snyder presented information regarding this purchase which is within budget. A motion made by Alderman Gorman seconded by Alderman Gain to approve the purchase of the dump truck at \$40,000 plus title and licensing fees. VOTES: Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

Purchase 2<sup>nd</sup> truck. Water Department found a  $\frac{3}{4}$  ton truck they would like to get that is within their existing budget. After discussion a motion was made by Alderman Gain seconded by Alderman Gorman to approve the purchase of this vehicle for \$25,000. VOTES: Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

2.Bids for new windows at City Hall. Tracy Ciesler presented bids to replace windows for the city hall building at 122 S 6th Street. After discussions a motion made by Alderman Gorman seconded by Alderman Gain to approve the bid from United Glass and Door, Inc. VOTES: Gorman, yes; Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

3.Amendments to Water Employee Handbook. Time requirements for class D, C, and B EPA water operator licenses were added to the handbook. Also, the distance from an employee's home to the water plant that is allowed was increased from 10 miles to 20 miles, permanent employees

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will have evaluations annually no later than April 30<sup>th</sup>, and the official retirement plan is through IMRF. After discussion a motion was made by Alderman Gorman seconded by Alderman Conklin to approve the changes to the Water Employee Handbook. VOTES: Conklin, yes; Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED.

4. There was a conversation regarding the old elementary school on the square. Abatement efforts have started on the building. No other decisions have been made.

**B. Treasurer's Report**

1. Treasurer Riley provided comments from the city auditor about the budget. There will be a vote at the next city council meeting to make the draft budget available for public review.

**III. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Alderman Gain and seconded by Alderman Allison to adjourn the meeting. VOTES: Loberg-Simmering, yes; Gain, yes; Allison, yes; Sonnemaker, yes; Gorman, yes, Conklin, yes. Mayor Snyder declared the MOTION CARRIED. Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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John Ramage  
City Clerk

Approved: August 19, 2025