

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Braidwood Committee of the Whole Tuesday, April 14, 2026.**

**Braidwood City Hall 141 W. Main St., Braidwood, IL 60408**

**I. Call to Order**

The Regular Meeting of the Braidwood Committee of the Whole on April 14, 2026, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Lyons in the Council Chambers of the Braidwood City Hall.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Lyons requested that all rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Roll Call by City Clerk**

Upon Roll Call by the Clerk, the following members of the corporate authorities answered "Here" or "Present";

**Elected Officials:**

Present: Liz Dixon, Warren Wietting, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons

Absent: None

**Appointed Officials:**

Present: City Consultant Manager Steve Gulden, City Clerk Sarah Weaver, Police Chief Eric Allen, City Engineer Sean Kelly, and City Attorney Brian Umek

Absent: None

**Quorum:** There being sufficient members of the corporate authorities in attendance to constitute a quorum, the meeting was declared in order.

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

**A. Approve Minutes of the RESCHEDULED Council Meeting on Thursday, March 12, 2026.**

Comm. Accounts & Finance Liz Dixon made a motion, seconded by Comm. Public Health & Safety James Mikel, to Approve. Motion Passed with 5 ayes; 0 nays; 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, Warren Wietting, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)

**V. Discussion**

**A. Amend Professional Fee Agreement-Steve**

Steve presented a proposed amendment to the existing professional fee agreement. The amendment would expand applicability to include all projects, regardless of size, that require the use of outside consultants (e.g., engineering or legal services).

**Key Points:**

- The current agreement applies primarily to Planned Unit Developments (PUDs) over one acre.
- The amendment ensures the City is reimbursed for consultant costs incurred on smaller projects.
- The intent is cost recovery only, not revenue generation.
- Questions were raised regarding a proposed \$100 non-refundable fee; further clarification from Bryan is needed.
- Staff will review existing ordinance language and provide additional information.

**B. Intergovernmental Agreement with Braidwood Park District—Todd**

A discussion was held regarding a proposed intergovernmental agreement between the City and the Park District.

**Key Points:**

- The City would allocate revenue from the municipal grocery tax to the Park District.
- Funds would be used exclusively for capital improvements (e.g., park development, rehabilitation, recreation infrastructure).
- Both entities must mutually agree on projects and funding allocations.
- A long-term master plan (10–20 years) will guide park development.
- Estimated annual funding from the grocery tax is approximately \$60,000–\$70,000.
- Additional funding sources (e.g., gaming revenue, fundraising, grants) were discussed.
- The Park District faces challenges securing grants due to matching fund requirements and income thresholds.
- A proposed dog park project was discussed as a potential upcoming improvement.

Staff recommendation: Approval of the ordinance authorizing the agreement at the next Council meeting.

**C. Agreement with Jack Henry-Liz**

Discussion was held regarding upgrading financial processes through a partnership with Jack Henry & Associates.

**Key Points:**

- Implementation of a check scanning system interacted with financial software.
- The system will automate deposit processing, reducing manual work and errors.
- Expected benefits include improved efficiency and modernization of City operations.
- Cost details are pending review of the contract.

**VI. Public Comment**

None.

**VII. Executive Session**

**A.** Motion to go into executive session to discuss (i) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1)) and (ii) pending, probable, or imminent litigation against, affecting, or on behalf of the City (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11))

**B.** Motion to close executive session

**VIII. Adjournment**

Comm. Streets & Public Improvements Dale Walsh made a motion, seconded by Comm. Public Buildings & Property Warren Wietting, to Approve. Motion with 5 ayes: 0 nays: 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, Warren Wietting, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)

*Scott Lyon*

Mayor

*Barbara Weaver*

City Clerk

