

**CITY OF BRAIDWOOD AGENDA
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
141 W. MAIN STREET
BRAIDWOOD, IL 60408
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, January 27, 2026 at 7:00 pm**

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call by City Clerk

**Elizabeth Dixon
James Mikel, Jr.**

**Warren Wietting
Todd Lyons**

Dale Walsh

IV. Public Comment: State your full name and spell your last name.

Sec. 2-34. - Public comment. (a) At the beginning of each city council meeting, before action is taken on any item, except for approval of the minutes, there shall be a portion allowed for public comment. Public comment is allowed on any subject matter pertaining to city business and is not restricted to matters on the agenda. (b) No prior registration shall be required for any person giving public comment, but before speaking, the person shall state his name and address. There shall be a three-minute time limit to the public comment of each person, but the mayor may waive such time limit. (Ord. No. 98-16, § 3, 4-28-98; Ord. No. 99-13, § 1, 4-27-99)

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Approve Minutes of the Tuesday, January 13, 2026, Regular Meeting
- B. Approve Minutes of the Wednesday, January 21, 2026, Special Meeting

VI. REPORTS BY CITY OFFICIALS

A. Mayor

B. City Management Consultant

- 1. Request a motion for Ordinance 26-04 Amending a Purchasing Policy for the City of Braidwood

C. Clerk

D. Engineer

- 1. Request a motion to approve Pay Request #2 (partial-prefinal) for the FY2025 Road Program to PT Ferro in the amount of \$15,636.45

E. City Attorney

VII. REPORTS BY CITY COMMISSIONERS

A. Accounts and Finances

- 1. Approve Payment of Bills \$223,858.10
- 2. Approve Payroll \$94,816.26
- 3. Motion to approve Resolution 26-01 Authorizing the City of Braidwood the reimbursement of ineligible Motor Fuel Tax Fund Expenditures to the Motor Fuel Tax Fund from the General Fund, which will result in a net increase of funds owed by the General Fund to the Motor Fuel Tax Fund
- 4. Motion to approve Ordinance 26-05 Authorizing the City of Braidwood to enter into and for the Mayor of Braidwood to execute an agreement between the City of Braidwood and WIPFLI, LLP regarding an annual audit for the Fiscal Year ending April 30, 2025

C. Streets and Public Improvements

D. Public Buildings & Property

D. Public Health & Safety

E. Planning & Zoning

1. Next Planning and Zoning meeting is Wednesday, February 4, 2026, at 7:00 pm.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

IX. NEW BUSINESS

X. 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

- XI.** Next City Council Meeting is Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 7:00 pm
Next Committee of the Whole Meeting is Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 6:30 pm

XII. ADJOURNMENT

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council Tuesday, January 27, 2026
Braidwood City Hall 141 W. Main St., Braidwood, IL 60408**

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council on January 27, 2026 was called to order at 7:00 p.m., by Mayor Lyons in the Council Chambers of the Braidwood City Hall.

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

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

Elected Officials:

Present: Commissioner Dixon, Commissioner Walsh, Commissioner Mikel, and Mayor Lyons

Absent: Commissioner Wietting

Appointed Officials:

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

Absent: None.

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

Public Comment:

Chris Earling:

- Thanked Danita and the Community Coalition for their work.
- Expressed appreciation for the City’s progress under both past and current administrations.
- Praised the Police Department and its leadership.
- Offered to volunteer and support community efforts.
- Wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Mikel made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon, to approve the meeting minutes from the January 13, 2026 Regular Council Meeting. Motion carried with 3 ayes; 0 nays; 1 Abstain (Mikel, Dixon, and Lyons)

Commissioner Mikel made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Dixon to approve the meeting minutes from the January 21, 2026 Special Meeting. Motion carried with 3 ayes; 0 nays; 1 abstain (Mikel, Walsh, and Lyons)

Mayor’s Report:

- Highlighted the success of the City Business Spotlight on Facebook, featuring *The Polk-a-Dot*.
 - Post received 12,953 views and strong community engagement.

- Announced the City was awarded a \$600,000 OSLAD matching grant for the Town Center project behind Casey's.
 - Design work will begin with Hitchcock Design Group next week.
- Acknowledged the passing and contributions of Karen Elizabeth Bunting, mother of Commissioner Liz Dixon.
 - Recognized her decades of service to Braidwood, including:
 - Founding member of the Braidwood Historical Society
 - First female sworn officer assisting Braidwood PD
 - Volunteer firefighter/ambulance service member
 - Longtime healthcare worker and community volunteer
 - 75-year member of First Presbyterian Church
- Provided clarification regarding public rumors about a potential data center:
 - Property was not annexed into the City.
 - Project is on hold indefinitely.

Administrator Report:

City Consultant Manager Steve Gulden requested a motion to approve Ordinance 26-04. Commissioner Walsh made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mikel to approve Ordinance 26-04 Amending a Purchasing Policy for the City of Braidwood. Motion carried with 4 ayes; 0 nays; (Walsh, Mikel, Dixon, and Lyons)

Updates:

- Park District paid first installment for the **Park Site Master Plan**; second installment due June 2026.
- **585 W. Main Street** declared abandoned; City will receive deed after 30-day notice period.
- **Well #1 repairs:** Pump casing had holes; pump currently being evaluated for rebuild or cleaning.
- **SURF issues:**
 - Lack of follow-through on repairs and reimbursements.
 - No right-of-way agreement or bond in place.
 - City drafting a right-of-way agreement requiring outstanding items and a **\$250,000 bond**.
- **170 Roundhouse:** Potential buyer interested in converting long-vacant 4-unit building into 6-unit complex.
- **OSLAD Grant:** Reiterated the significance of the \$600,000 award.
- **Boundary Agreements:** Positive meetings with Diamond and Godley; upcoming meetings with Wilmington and Coal City.

City Clerk Report: No report.

Engineer Report:

The engineer requested a motion for partial-prefinal payment to PT Ferro. Commissioner Walsh made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mikel to approve Pay Request #2 (partial-prefinal) for the FY2025 Road Program to PT Ferro in the amount of \$15,636.45. Motion carried with 4 ayes; 0 nays; (Walsh, Mikel, Dixon, and Lyons)

City Attorney Report:

The attorney introduced Jessica Leisure, a NIU law student and long-time law clerk, attending for experience.

Accounts & Finance Report: Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mikel, to approve the Payment of Bills, in the amount of \$223,858.10, as identified in the Accounts Payable General Ledger dated January 27, 2026. Motion carried with 4 ayes; 0 nays. (Dixon, Mikel, Walsh, and Lyons)

Commissioner Dixon then made a Motion, seconded by Commissioner Mikel, to Approve Payroll Expenses in the amount of \$94,816.26 as identified in the Payroll General Ledger dated January 30, 2026. Motion carried with 4 ayes; 0 nays. (Dixon, Mikel, Walsh, and Lyons).

Commissioner Dixon requested a motion for Resolution 26-01. Commissioner Mikel made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Walsh to approve Resolution 26-01 Authorizing the City of Braidwood the reimbursement of ineligible Motor Fuel Tax Fund Expenditures to the Motor Fuel Tax Fund from the General Fund, which will result in a net increase of funds owed by the General Fund to the Motor Fuel Tax Fund. Motion carried with 4 ayes; 0 nays; (Mikel, Walsh, Dixon, and Lyons)

Commissioner Dixon requested a motion for Ordinance 26-05. Commissioner Mikel made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Walsh to approve Ordinance 26-05 Authorizing the City of Braidwood to enter into and for the Mayor of Braidwood to execute an agreement between the City of Braidwood and WIPFLI, LLP regarding an annual audit for the Fiscal Year ending April 30, 2025. Motion carried with 4 ayes; 0 nays; (Mikel, Walsh, Dixon, and Lyons)

Streets & Public Improvement Report:

- Offered condolences to Commissioner Dixon.
- Installed new **25 MPH** signs on East 3rd Street due to increased speeding after repaving.
- Recent work included:
 - Multiple water leak repairs
 - Replacement of streetlight outlets
 - Replacement of main heater in the shop

Public Property Report:

Report given by Commissioner Walsh:

- 25 locates
- 8 emergency water shutoffs
- 6 meter repairs
- 4 lead/copper surveys
- 5 new FlexNet meter installs

Public Health & Safety Report:

Police Activity Report (Jan 13–26):

- 224 calls for service
- 26 case reports
- 8 arrests (11 charges)
- 77 traffic stops
- 18 citations
- 36 written warnings
- 2 semi-truck violations
- 11 P-tickets

Code Enforcement:

- 7 abandoned/improper vehicles removed (all by compliance)

Additional Notes:

- Two joint active-threat trainings with the Fire Department
- Two new drone operators added
- Recent drone deployment de-escalated a high-risk traffic stop safely

Planning & Zoning Report: The next Planning and Zoning meeting is Wednesday, February 4, 2026, at 7:00 pm. Data center zoning hearings will be canceled due to the project being on hold.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Fresh donuts available after the meeting.

Adjournment: Commissioner Dixon made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Walsh, to adjourn the January 27, 2026 regular meeting of the Braidwood City Council. Motion carried with 4 ayes: 0 nays. (Dixon, Walsh, Mikel, and Lyons)

The next regular meeting of the Council will be held Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 7:00 pm.
The next Committee of the Whole Meeting is Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 6:30 pm.

Approved this 10 Day of February 2026.



Mayor



City Clerk

