

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council Tuesday, May 26, 2026.
Braidwood City Hall 141 W. Main St., Braidwood, IL 60408**

I. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council on May 26, 2026 was called to order at 7:00 p.m., by Mayor Lyons in the Council Chambers of the Braidwood City Hall.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Lyons requested 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, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons

Absent: Warren Wietting

Appointed Officials:

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

Absent: City Engineer Sean Kelly

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

IV. Public Comment

No public comment.

V. Approval of Minutes

A. Approve Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2026.

Comm. Public Health & Safety James Mikel made a motion, seconded by Comm. Accounts & Finance Liz Dixon, to Approve. Motion Passed with 4 ayes; 0 nays; 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)

VI. Reports by City Officials

A. Mayor

• **Memorial Day Program:**

- Appreciation extended to Reed Township for hosting the annual Memorial Day ceremony.
- Thanks to Senator Patrick Joyce for attending before traveling to Springfield.
- Recognition of the Reed-Custer High School Madrigal Choir and High School Band for their performance.
- Appreciation to American Legion Post 39 for presenting the colors and for their scholarship and veteran-support efforts.

- Student Athletic Achievements:

The Mayor recognized Reed-Custer Middle School and High School athletes who placed at the IESA State Track Meet:

- Emmy Urban – 2nd place, 7th Grade Girls Shot Put
- Sydney Bohac – 2nd place, 7th Grade Girls Pole Vault
- Bryce Lamb – 3rd place, 8th Grade Boys Pole Vault
- Peyton Pivonka – 1st place, 8th Grade Girls 800m
- Alyssa Wollenzien– 6th place, 100m; broke her mother’s school record
- Katie Lantka – 12th place, Pole Vault
- Isabella Dixon – Qualified for two state events; new school record holder in the 400m

The Mayor noted that state champions will be recognized at a future meeting.

1. Request a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-33 Approving a Proposal from Comcast Business Comm. Public Health & Safety James Mikel made a motion, seconded by Comm. Accounts & Finance Liz Dixon, to Approve. Motion with 4 ayes: 0 nays; 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)

B. City Management Consultant

Remarks by Shelley Frieders:

Shelley thanked the Council for their confidence, noting improvements in efficiency and accountability within the reorganized Building Department.

Project Updates

Town Center:

RTI Architects are finalizing construction documents; bidding is anticipated in September with a possible award in October.

Roundhouse Redevelopment:

A developer has closed on the long-vacant Roundhouse property.

Interior renovation plans were submitted; site plan includes a new parking lot and ADA apartment. Awaiting four-bedroom layout and west parking lot plan.

Mitchell Street Dock:

Dock is bouncing; one pier in poor condition.

Staff researching specialized marine contractors.

Street Resurfacing:

Bids open June 4 at 10:00 a.m. for three streets.

Planning & Zoning:

Meeting scheduled May 27 at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda includes a Mastodon sign variance and a fence variance Secure Truck Line.

IDOT Comments:

Received comments on decorative signs and street signage for Main Street.

Revisions submitted back to IDOT.

1. Request a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-34 Amending Sections of the Braidwood Code of

Ordinances pertaining to the Mayor and Building Permit Coordinator
Comm. Public Health & Safety James Mikel made a motion, seconded by Comm. Accounts & Finance Liz Dixon, to Approve. Motion with 4 ayes: 0 nays; 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)

2. Request a motion to approve the hiring of Shelly Frideres for the position of Building Permit Coordinator

Comm. Public Health & Safety James Mikel made a motion, seconded by Comm. Streets & Public Improvements Dale Walsh, to Approve. Motion with 4 ayes: 0 nays; 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)

C. Engineer

1. Request a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-35 Approving and Authorizing the City of Braidwood to enter into and for the Mayor to execute a proposal for professional engineering services with Robinson Engineering regarding a Pedestrian and Bike Trail Master Plan

In the absence of the engineer, Steve requested to motion to approve Ordinance 2026-35.

Comm. Streets & Public Improvements Dale Walsh made a motion, seconded by Comm. Public Health & Safety James Mikel, to Approve. Motion with 4 ayes: 0 nays; 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)

D. City Attorney

No report.

VII. Reports by City Commissioners

A. Accounts and Finances

- Joint Review Board (TIF III) met earlier and approved the 2024 report.
- FY25 Audit remains under review.

1. Approve Payment of Bills in the amount of \$152,610.62

Comm. Accounts & Finance Liz Dixon made a motion, seconded by Comm. Public Health & Safety James Mikel, to Approve. Motion Passed with 4 ayes: 0 nays; 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)

2. Approve Payroll in the amount of \$114,631.28

Comm. Accounts & Finance Liz Dixon made a motion, seconded by Comm. Streets & Public Improvements Dale Walsh, to Approve. Motion Passed with 4 ayes: 0 nays; 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)

B. Streets and Public Improvements

- Public Works continues ditch filling, mowing, and routine maintenance.
- Ditch improvements have significantly reduced sump pump usage and drainage issues.
- Approximately 10 ditches per year have been completed over the past three years.
- Maintenance on vehicles

C. Public Buildings & Property

In the absence of Commissioner Warren, Steve read a report.

- 1 emergency shutoff

- 70 JULIE locates
- 8-meter repairs
- City Hall toilet repair
- TV installations at City Hall
- Work at the food station
- Buckling repairs at Reed's
- 3 turn-back lines for water shutoff

D. Public Health & Safety

Police Activity Report (May 12–25)

- 267 calls for service
- 30 case reports
- 2 arrests
- 95 traffic stops
- 26 citations
- 57 written warnings
- 8 parking tickets
- 5 abandoned/inoperable vehicle cases

BP Gas Station Burglary:

Suspects identified through Flock cameras, investigative work, and cooperation with Chicago Police. Arrest warrants forthcoming.

Major Arrest:

Chief reported a significant multi-jurisdictional arrest; coordinated press release pending.

E. Planning & Zoning

1. The next Planning and Zoning meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 27, 2026 at 7:00 pm.

VIII. Old Business

Commissioner Walsh discussed delays in audits, noting increased audit costs and COVID-era backlogs. Commissioner Dixon clarified that the City's audit delays were not caused by auditors prioritizing larger cities.

IX. New Business

Discussion regarding long-term street improvement strategy:

- Mayor raised the possibility of incorporating curb, gutter, storm sewer, and sidewalks into future street projects.
- Council discussed cost implications and benefits for drainage and community appearance.
- Staff will work with the engineer to prepare cost estimates for sample streets, including water main replacement where applicable.

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))
Comm. Accounts & Finance Liz Dixon made a motion at 7:22 pm., seconded by Comm. Public Health

& Safety James Mikel, to Approve. Motion with 4 ayes: 0 nays: 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)

B. Motion to close executive session

Comm. Public Health & Safety James Mikel made a motion at 7:31 pm, seconded by Comm. Streets & Public Improvements Dale Walsh, to Approve. Motion Passed with 4 ayes: 0 nays: 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)

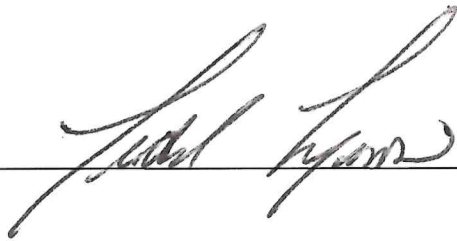
XI. Next Meeting

A. The next Committee of the Whole Meeting is Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 6:30 pm.


B. The next Regular City Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 7:00 pm.

XII. Adjournment

Comm. Public Health & Safety James Mikel made a motion, seconded by Comm. Streets & Public Improvements Dale Walsh, to Approve. Motion Passed with 4 ayes: 0 nays: 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)



Mayor



City Clerk

