

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council Tuesday, June 23, 2026.
Braidwood City Hall 141 W. Main St., Braidwood, IL 60408

I. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council on June 23, 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 Manage Steve Gulden, Chief Eric Allen, City Clerk Sarah Weaver, City Engineer Sean Kelly, City Attorney Adam Umek in place of Bryan Wellner

Absent: Bryan Wellner

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

IV. Public Comment

None.

V. Approval of Minutes

A. Approve Minutes of Regular Council Meeting Tuesday, June 9, 2026.

Comm. Streets & Public Improvements Dale Walsh 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)

VI. Reports by City Officials

A. Mayor

1. Mayoral appointment of Brittany Andrews to the Special Event Commission for the City of Braidwood
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)

2. Mayoral appointment of Michele Kondrisack to the Special Events Committee for the City of Braidwood
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. City Management Consultant

Additional Updates:

- Recognition of staff (Josh) for severe weather response and public safety efforts.
- Route 66 Bench installed under pavilion highlighting Braidwood history.
- Townes of Braidwood development agreement under review for amendment.
- Hickory Street Storage project revised (above-ground detention option approved; engineering ongoing).
- The City Hall roof was patched to extend life expectancy by 2–3 years.
- New City website nearing launch with online permit submission capability (phase 2 full permitting system planned).
- CivicPlus agenda and minutes system integration underway with the new website.
- Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2026

1. Requests a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-40 Authorizing the City of Braidwood to enter into and for the Mayor of Braidwood to execute a proposal for the Professional Services and a Professional Services Agreement with RVi Planning + Landscape Architecture regarding the Braidwood Dog Park

Comm. Public Health & Safety James Mikel made a motion, seconded by Comm. Accounts & Finance Liz Dixon, to Approve. Motion Passed with 3 ayes: 1 nays; 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, James Mikel, Todd Lyons)

C. Engineer Engineering Update

- IDOT Route 113 / I-55 interchange project ongoing.
- Additional submittals required for landscaping/tree removal mitigation contracts.
- Proposal-based procurement discussed for IDOT compliance requirements.

D. City Attorney

1. Discussion regarding the filing of a demolition complaint involving 360 N. Mitchell
The City Attorney presented an update regarding a potential demolition complaint for the property located at 360 North Mitchell. The residence is currently occupied and is in severe disrepair, with significant structural issues including roof damage, exposed rafters, holes, rotting wood, and water intrusion. The condition of the home has been determined to be dangerous to its occupants.

City officials noted that the property owners were previously notified and have been aware of the condition since 2025 but have not taken corrective action or accepted assistance. Staff also attempted to connect the residents with housing and community support resources, but those efforts were unsuccessful.

Because of the ongoing safety concerns and lack of voluntary compliance, the City is preparing a legal complaint that would request the court to:

- Order occupants to vacate the property,
- Require the owners to repair or demolish the structure, and
- Allow the City to demolish the property if the owners fail to act.

The Police Department and city officials confirmed that multiple attempts were made to assist the residents, including outreach, resource referrals, and housing options, but the occupants declined

assistance. Officials emphasized that the issue is centered on health, safety, and welfare concerns, including likely mold exposure and unsafe living conditions.

The discussion concluded with general agreement among officials that the City has exhausted reasonable alternatives and is proceeding cautiously through the legal process to address the unsafe structure. No formal council action was required at this stage; the item was informational.

VII. Reports by City Commissioners

A. Accounts and Finances

1. Approve Payment of Bills in the amount of \$108,834.36
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)

Highlighted expenditures:

- B&F Construction – \$5,800
- Braidwood Fuel – \$4,700
- Flock Group – \$9,000
- Hall Signs – \$19,000
- Accounting services – \$11,000
- Legal services – \$12,000
- Insurance – \$22,000
- Equipment (mower deck) – \$16,000

2. Approve Payroll in the amount of \$102,377.11
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)
3. Motion to approve Ordinance 2026-41 Approving and Authorizing the City of Braidwood to enter into and for the Mayor to execute agreements with Jack Henry
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)
 - Purpose: reduce manual entry (~95% reduction)
 - System integrates incoming payments into Springbrook and bank reconciliation workflow
 - Annual cost: implementation + \$250/month

B. Streets and Public Improvements

- Storm response discussed; staff recognized for emergency work.
- Reminder to residents: Tree debris should be placed curbside for pickup after storms
- Flooding conditions discussed; no major new complaints reported.
- Drainage responsibilities reaffirmed as private property responsibility.

C. Public Buildings & Property

City Consultant Steve gave the report:

- Food pantry ramp/deck/stair project:
 - Lowest responsible quote: approximately \$11,000–\$11,500
 - Recommendation to proceed with contractor award
- Public works activity:
 - Water meter repairs
 - Leak repairs
 - Signal/sign maintenance
 - 122 utility locates completed

D. Public Health & Safety

Police Department Activity Report

(June 9 – June 22, 2026)

Calls for service: 325

- Reports: 39
- Arrests: 3 individuals / 5 charges
- Traffic stops: 86
- Citations: 36
- Warnings: 51
- Parking tickets: 30
- Code enforcement compliance: 5 vehicles brought into compliance

Emergency Alert System Update

- Motorola RAVE Smart911 replacing Everbridge system effective July 1
- Residents must re-register for alerts

License Plate Reader (LPR) Program Discussion

- Strong discussion on benefits of LPR systems (Flock, squad-based LPR tools)
- Examples provided:
 - Burglary investigation assistance
 - Multi-state kidnapping case resolution involving Arkansas to Illinois
- Legislative concern:
 - Proposed restrictions (HB 1551) on LPR data retention and use
 - Council emphasized policy safeguards and proper use protocols

1. Motion to approve Ordinance 2026-42 Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor of Braidwood to enter into and execute an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Braidwood and Reed-Custer Community Unit School District No. 255U regarding a Reciprocal Reporting Agreement
Comm. Streets & Public Improvements Dale Walsh 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)

- Enables structured information sharing between police and school district

- Focused on student safety and juvenile welfare compliance

E. Planning & Zoning

1. The next Planning and Zoning meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 13, 2026, at 7:00 pm.

VIII. Old Business

None.

IX. New Business

- Lions Club ribbon installation event announced (Saturday at 10:00 a.m.)
- Discussion regarding municipal spending priorities:
 - Roads, fleet, parks, and capital improvements debated
 - Council expressed differing views on “needs vs wants” priorities.

Vac-Con truck delivery acknowledged (approximately \$800,000 equipment purchase)

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))

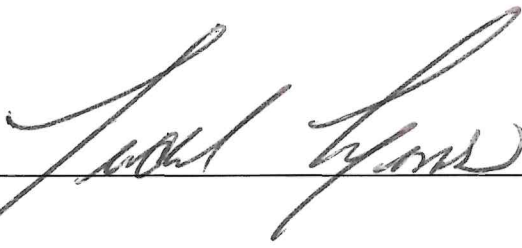
- B. Motion to close executive session

XI. Next Meeting

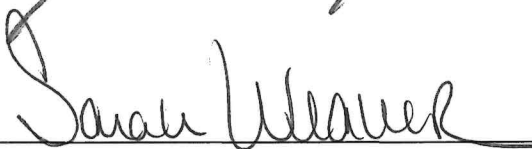
- A. The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 7:00 pm.
- B. The next Committee of the Whole Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 6:30 pm.

XII. Adjournment

Comm. Streets & Public Improvements Dale Walsh 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)



Mayor



City Clerk

