

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council Tuesday, April 14, 2026.  
Braidwood City Hall 141 W. Main St., Braidwood, IL 60408**

**I. Call to Order**

The Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council on April 14, 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, Warren Wietting, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons

Absent: None.

**Appointed Officials:**

Present: City Management Consultant 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. Public Comment**

Danita Morgan, representing the Braidwood Area Healthy Community Coalition (465 E. Reed Street), announced two upcoming events:

- Drug Take Back Day: April 25, 2026, from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- Coffee & Conversation: April 28, 2026, at 4:30 PM (prior to the Council meeting), focusing on youth substance use prevention

Flyers were made available to the public.

Joe Byers, 896 W. Kennedy Road, spoke regarding Fire District workshops and encouraged council members and the public to attend:

- April 29, 2026, from 6:00–8:00 PM at Lee Custer Elementary School
- A follow-up public meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2026

**V. Approval of Minutes**

**A. Approve Minutes of Tuesday, March 24, 2026, Regular Council Meeting**

Comm. Public Buildings & Property Warren Wietting 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)

## **VI. Reports by City Officials**

### **A. Mayor**

1. Request a motion to approve the hiring of three (3) new Full-Time Police Officers  
Comm. Public Buildings & Property Warren Wietting made a motion, seconded by Comm. Accounts & Finance Liz Dixon, to Approve. Motion with 5 ayes; 0 nays; 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, Warren Wietting, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)

Each officer successfully completed the required hiring process, including testing, interviews, and evaluations, and was recommended by the Police and Fire Board.

2. Swearing in new Police Officer, Christopher Wolfe
3. Swearing in new Police Officer, Brandon Norred
4. Swearing in new Police Officer, Nicholas Field

### **B. City Management Consultant**

Report:

- o Culvert Program: Three residents have applied in recent weeks.
  - o IDOT Updates:
    - o Ongoing Phase I study for Route 113 drainage and roadway improvements.
    - o A separate Phase I study was initiated for intersection safety improvements.
    - o Potential future bike path and pedestrian connectivity planning discussed.
  - o Recommendation to develop a city-wide pedestrian/bike path master plan.
  - o Beautification Committee restructuring is underway; volunteers are needed for planting even on April 25.
  - o Update on Division Street development:
    - o Developer has paid \$20,000 toward outstanding fees, with additional payment due.
    - o Eight-month permit extension granted; construction progress ongoing.
1. Request a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-22 Approving and Authorizing the execution of a Construction Agreement between the City of Braidwood and Jeremy McPherson Masonry  
Comm. Public Buildings & Property Warren Wietting made a motion, seconded by Comm. Public Health & Safety James Mikel, to Approve. Motion with 5 ayes; 0 nays; 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, Warren Wietting, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)

### **C. Clerk**

1. Request a motion to approve the American Legion 2026 Poppy Days for May 15-16.  
Comm. Streets & Public Improvements Dale Walsh made a motion, seconded by Comm. Public Buildings & Property Warren Wietting, to Approve. Motion Passed with 5 ayes; 0 nays; 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, Warren Wietting, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)

### **D. Engineer**

No report.

### **E. City Attorney**

No report.

## **VII. Reports by City Commissioners**

**A. Accounts and Finances**

Financial Report Highlights:

- General Fund surplus: \$456,000
- Total revenues: \$6.72 million
- Total expenditures: \$5.7 million
- Net surplus: \$1.04 million

1. Announcement of Public Hearing Notice at the next scheduled City Council Meeting. The Public Hearing will be conducted to receive public comment and testimony regarding the proposed Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2027
2. Approve Payment of Bills in the amount of \$346,511.42  
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)
3. Approve Payroll in the amount of \$97,904.96  
Comm. Accounts & Finance Liz Dixon made a motion, seconded by Comm. Streets & Public Improvements Dale Walsh, to Approve. Motion Passed with 5 ayes: 0 nays: 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, Warren Wietting, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)
4. Approve Payroll in the amount of \$91,825.54  
Comm. Accounts & Finance Liz Dixon made a motion, seconded by Comm. Public Buildings & Property Warren Wietting, to Approve. Motion Passed with 5 ayes: 0 nays: 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, Warren Wietting, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)
5. Motion to approve Ordinance 2026-23 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. Public Health & Safety James Mikel, to Approve. Motion Passed with 3 ayes: 0 nays: 2 Abstain (Liz Dixon, James Mikel, Todd Lyons)

**B. Streets and Public Improvements**

- Seasonal transition to spring operations underway.
- Safety concerns noted along Route 53 due to deteriorating culverts: IDOT has been notified.
- Public advised to use caution, especially near affected areas.

**C. Public Buildings & Property**

- Report included water service work, repairs, and system maintenance.
- Backup generator planning underway with ComEd coordination.

**D. Public Health & Safety**

- Police activity report (March 24 – April 13):

463 calls for service  
59 case reports  
13 arrests (28 charges)  
155 traffic stops (52 citations, 82 warnings)

- ESDA team recognized for outstanding service.
- Discussion held on enhanced truck route enforcement signage, including potential LED-equipped signs.

**E. Planning & Zoning**  
Next Planning and Zoning meeting is TBA.

**VIII. Old Business**

None.

**IX. New Business**

- Upcoming development proposal to be presented at the April 28 meeting (Phase 1 & 2 approach).
- Food Pantry stair repairs identified as a needed improvement.

**X. Executive Session**

None made a motion, seconded by None, to Approve. Motion with 0 ayes: 0 nays: 0 Abstain (None)

**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 7:45 pm, 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)

**B. Motion to close executive session**  
Comm. Public Buildings & Property Warren Wietting made a motion at 8:15 pm, 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)


**XI. Next Meeting**

**A.** The next scheduled City Council Meeting is Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at 7:00 pm.

**B.** The next scheduled Committee of the Whole meeting is Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at 6:30 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 5 ayes: 0 nays: 0 Abstain (Liz Dixon, Warren Wietting, James Mikel, Dale Walsh, Todd Lyons)

  
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Mayor

  
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City Clerk

