



**REPORTS FROM CITY APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

City

Attorney: Michael Cainkar, City Attorney, had no report.

Police

Department: Chief Dominguez reported that the police department is tackling new mandates and completing training. There is a crew working in the area, hitting the gaming facilities. There have been several attempts here in Hometown, the police have thwarted a couple attempts, the crew got spooked during another attempt. They are brazen and using stolen cars. Chief is meeting with ATF on Thursday. Chief wanted to mention a commendable arrest, thanks to a citizen’s report. Investigator Tado got on it right away and was able to make a narcotics arrest. He found the source of the drugs. It was street lever, and all kinds of drugs. \$24,500 worth plus a gun. They were able to make felony arrests.

Public Works: Mark Trlak, Director reported they are doing routine maintenance. Cleaning the frontage roads. There was an issue with some streetlights, but they are up and running now. Build up Cook put up new exterior doors in the building and will be back to paint and tie up a few other loose ends. They will also be back in the spring to work on sewers and fire hydrants.

Building: James Melnik, Building Commissioner, had no report

Public

Health: Chris Gatch, Director of Code Enforcement, had no report.

**REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Accounts Payable/ Payroll December 23, 2025: Moved by Alderman Weber, seconded by Alderman Barnhouse, to approve for payment the accounts payable vouchers in the amount of \$122,441.35 and payroll vouchers in the amount of \$82,918.09 for a total expenditure of \$205,359.44. (List of vouchers marked “EXHIBIT A” attached to and made a part of this Journal)

Roll Call Indicated:

AYES: (8) Aldermen Rivas, Weber, Brookman, Kurysz, Reynolds, Dolan, Zak and Barnhouse.

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (2) Aldermen Grochowski and Forney.

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

Accounts Payable/ Payroll January 13, 2026: Moved by Alderman Weber, seconded by Alderman Brookman, to approve for payment the accounts payable vouchers in the amount of \$460,968.99 and payroll vouchers in the amount of \$79,397.58 for a total expenditure of \$540366.57. (List of vouchers marked “EXHIBIT A” attached to and made a part of this Journal)

Roll Call Indicated:

AYES: (8) Aldermen Rivas, Weber, Brookman, Kurysz, Reynolds, Dolan, Zak and Barnhouse.

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (2) Aldermen Grochowski and Forney.

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

Alderman Weber acknowledged receipt of the City Treasurer's Report and the Clerk Collector's Report.

**STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE:**

Alderman Zak had no report.

**WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE:** Alderman Dolan, Chairman reported that he spoke to Mark. Public Works has repaired 3 hydrants on 89<sup>th</sup> and they will be repairing the hydrant on Duffy next week.

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE:** Alderman Brookman had no report.

**BUILDING COMMITTEE:**

Alderman Barnhouse, Chairman gave the building report.

**LICENSE COMMITTEE:** Alderman Grochowski, Chairman was absent.

**CODE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE:** Alderman Reynolds, Chairman reminded everyone about the Code & Ordinance meeting next Tuesday at 7pm.

**INSURANCE COMMITTEE:** Alderman Weber, Chairman had no report.

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Chairman Kurysz, Chairman reported there was a recall on large, restaurant size bags of Ore-Ida tater tots.

**POLICE COMMITTEE:** Alderman Rivas gave the December police report.

C Tickets: 88 LO Tickets: 6 State Tickets: 80 Verbal Warnings: 2 Written Warnings: 119  
Hometown Residents: 14 Misdemeanor Arrests: 24 Felony Arrests: 3 Traffic Stops: 230 Total  
Incidents: 276

**REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

**Library:** Alderman Barnhouse reported they have not received any tax money yet. Circulation was up from December 2024. Staff have gone through Narcan training. The winter reading program will run though February 28 for all ages. The next book discussion is January 26. There is Valentine's story hour on February 7. A new laptop was purchased for the kid's section. They thanked the City for the new doors. The library will be closed on January 19 for MLK day. The next meeting is February 4 at 7pm.

**Legislation:** Alderman Weber reported the Summary of Rights for Safer Homes Act was passed and in effect as of January 1, 2026. The Act requires all landlords to attach state issued "Summary of Rights for Safer Homes" to every written residential lease including both new leases and renewals. This requirement is now part of Illinois landlord-tenant law and is intended to make sure renters are informed of important protections under state law if they or a household member experience domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking. The Act applies to all residential properties in Illinois that are rented under a written residential lease.

Fire

**Department:** Alderman Reynolds reported they are switching to Oak Lawn dispatching in March. They are still waiting for tax money. The next meeting is TBD.

Personnel

**Review:** Mayor Finnegan, Chairman, had no report.

**PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, RESOLUTIONS,  
ORDERS AND ORDINANCES BY ALDERMEN**

**SPECIAL**

**EVENTS:** Liaison Grochowski was absent.

**HEALTH, WELFARE & COMMUNITY AWARENESS:** Liaison Grochowski was absent. Alderman Barnhouse reminded everyone that City Hall and the Library will be closed on January 19 for MLK Day. The VFW is having Trivia Night on January 23 at 7pm. The VFW is also hosting a Superbowl Party February 8 at 4pm. St. Germaine School is having an Open House on January 25 after Mass. The next food pantry date is January 20 from 9am-11am. Worth Township Food Pantry is Tuesdays-Thursdays 10am-2pm.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** Alderman Kurysz wanted to inform any disabled Veteran's that Worth Township will help with taxes.

**CITIZEN'S HEARING:** Mike Nichols, 8830 Main St., had concerns about the rats and hired an exterminator personally. Will the City put more boxes out when Nicor begins digging again? Mayor Finnegan responded, yes, we will increase the service from semi-monthly to weekly as needed. Mr. Nichols also asked about Nicor repairing the driveways that they cut. Mayor Finnegan responded they will repair everything when the weather gets nicer. Thomas Starmach, 4526 W. 88<sup>th</sup> St., asked if Nicor is moving meters to the front of the house. Mayor Finnegan responded yes. Please voice any concerns about Nicor and we will address them.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion made by Alderman Kurysz seconded by Alderman Reynolds to adjourn the regular meeting of the Hometown City Council. **MOTION STATED CARRIED**  
The meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm

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Christina M. Walker, City Clerk/Collector