CITY OF INDIANOLA COUNCIL MEETING
January 19, 2026
6:00 PM
City Council Chambers
110 N 1st Street, Indianola, IA
Minutes

Call to Order
The Indianola City Council met in regular session at 6:00 PM on January 19, 2026, in the City Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Steve Richardson called the meeting to order and on roll call the following members were present: Josh Rabe (via Teams), Ron Dalby, Steve Armstrong, Tiffany Davis, Mellisa Sones (via Teams), Bob Lane. Absent: None.

Public Comment
Leah Hartford and Alana Moser from the Mayor's Youth Council were in attendance. No public comments were offered.

Consent Agenda
Minutes and Claims were pulled from the consent agenda. Council Member Lane moved to approve the Consent Agenda and Armstrong seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Dalby, Armstrong, Davis, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously. The consent agenda was as follows:

- Approval of Agenda
- Resolution 2026-005 setting a public hearing on Monday, February 2, 2026, at 6:00 PM regarding an amendment to Chapter 165.10(8), Zoning Regulations.
- Resolution 2026-006 setting a public hearing on Monday February 2, 2026, at 6:00 PM regarding various amendments to Chapter 170.05(1)(C) and 170.05(2)(A), Subdivision Regulations.
- Consideration of the approval of a liquor license renewal for Desi Liquor, doing business as Spirits World.
- Resolution2026-007 approving Amendment Number 1 to the Professional Services Agreement with HR Green, Inc (Engineer) for the South C Street Sanitary Sewer Improvements.
- Resolution 2026-008 authorizing a memorandum of agreement with Mid-Iowa Planning Alliance for the EECBG Project Administration.
- Resolution 2026-009 approving Payment Application Number 16 in the amount of $88,303.23 to Vanderpool Construction, final project acceptance and release of retainage for the East Hillcrest Avenue Reconstruction Project (North 4th Street to North 14th Street).
- Resolution 2026-010 authorizing the certification of liens to the Warren County Treasurer for purposes of assessing the cost of nuisance abatement against property.
- Consideration of the approval of a Home Base Iowa Initiative Application from Billy Ragan and authorization of a handwritten warrant in the amount of $1500.00.
- Approval of Urban Revitalization Designations
- Resolution 2026-011 approving salaries.

Council Member Armstrong moved to approve Claims and Dalby seconded it. Staff answered questions about certain claims. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Dalby, Armstrong, Davis, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Lane moved to approve Minutes of the prior meetings and Armstrong seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Dalby, Armstrong, Davis, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Council Reports
Council Member Lane reported on the IMU Board of Trustees meeting.

Council Member Armstrong moved to receive and file the Treasurer's Report and Lane seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Dalby, Armstrong, Davis, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor's Report
Mayor Richardson reported on Legislative Policy Committee discussions and upcoming events.

Council Member Armstrong recommended that the Mayor Pro Tem appointment be rotated annually. The Council agreed; the appointment will be on the next agenda.

Old Business
Council Member Dalby moved to approve Resolution 2026-012 accepting Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Facade Easement Agreements. Lane seconded it. Community and Economic Development Director Bryce Johnson explained the agreements. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Rabe, Dalby, Armstrong, Davis, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Community and Economic Development Director Johnson discussed possible options for the tax abatement program. The Council discussed the options. No directions were given to staff.

Council Member Rabe left the meeting at 7:33 PM.

City Manager Jacob Meshke discussed the Strategic Goals the Council developed on December 12, 2025. Council Member Lane moved to approve the Strategic Goals and Davis seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Dalby, Davis, Sones, Lane. NAYS: Armstrong. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion passed.

Other Business
City Manager Meshke discussed animal control and provided other updates on City departments.

Council Member Lane moved to enter into closed session at 8:02 PM in accordance with Iowa Code Section 21.5 (1)(i) to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual’s reputation and that individual requests a closed session. Dalby seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Dalby, Armstrong, Davis, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Lane moved to close the public hearing and Sones seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Dalby, Armstrong, Davis, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

No action was taken on the item discussed in closed session.

Council Member Davis moved to enter into closed session in accordance with Iowa Code Section 21.5 (1)(c) to discuss strategy with legal counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent and where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the government. Dalby seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Dalby, Armstrong, Davis, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Lane moved to exit the closed session at 8:42 PM and Dalby seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Dalby, Armstrong, Davis, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Dalby moved to approve Resolution 2026-013 authorizing litigation involving Indianola Municipal Utilities and Lane seconded it. On roll call, the vote was AYES: Dalby, Armstrong, Davis, Sones, Lane. NAYS: None. Whereas the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn
The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM on a motion by Dalby and seconded by Davis. Question was called for and on voice vote the Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously.

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Steve Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Jackie Raffety, City Clerk