CITY OF Savannah MISSOURI
816-324-3315
816-324-5997
402 Court Street | Savannah, MO 64485

SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL
JULY 20, 2026 AT 6:00 P.M.
CLASBEY CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

BUDGET WORK SESSION – Golf/Water

Mayor Keven Schneider presiding.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Call meeting to order – Mayor Keven Schneider brought the meeting to order. Roll Call – City Clerk Minde Dreher called roll. Council members: Pam Kessler, Joy Thompson, and Jackson Jones. City Officials/Employees: City Administrator Brooke Bell, City Clerk Minde Dreher, Chief of Police Zach Long, Water Superintendent Jason Mercer, Golf Pro Dee McCullagh, and Director of Public Works Tyler Swink attended. The meeting notice was posted at City Hall on July 17, 2026.

Approval of Agenda- Joy Thompson made motioned to approve the agenda as presented Pam Kessler seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Public Testimony: None

Golf Cart Policy – Administrator Bell presented the Golf Cart Policy prepared by Attorney Joe Gagnon. Pam Kessler made a motion to approve the Golf Cart Policy as presented. Jackson Jones seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Golf Committee Resignation- Golf Committee member Roxanne Weagle submitted her resignation to Mayor Schneider and Administrator Bell. Jackson Jones motioned to accept the resignation. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Public Works Purchase – Public Works Director Tyler Swink approached council at the last meeting about purchasing a used side by side utility vehicle to support daily operations and reduce reliance on employee-owned equipment. Jackson Jones motioned to approve Swink to purchase a used side by side for up to $40,000.00. Pam Kessler seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

Sewer Purchase – Mercer met with Administrator Bell to discuss the purchase of spare pumps for the City's lift stations and other critical wastewater infrastructure. To maintain one spare pump for each lift station, the total cost would be $27,241.44**.**

Mercer also reported that the motive pump station currently has only one pump in service and requires a total of three pumps to provide adequate redundancy. The estimated cost to purchase the additional motive pumps is $50,033.57**.**

Additionally, Mercer presented the cost to replace the north side ditch pumps, which is estimated at $34,572.85. These purchases would improve system reliability, minimize downtime during equipment failures, and ensure the City has adequate backup equipment available for critical wastewater operations.

Joy Thompson made a motion to approve the pump purchases for the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Pam Kessler seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

September Meetings – Administrator Bell discussed the September Council meeting schedule, noting that the regularly scheduled meeting dates would not allow sufficient time to finalize the City's budget. Due to training scheduled during the second week of September and the delayed receipt of monthly bank statements, the necessary financial information would not be available in time for the budget process. Following discussion, the Council agreed to reschedule the September meetings to September 21 and September 28 to allow adequate time for budget preparation and review.

Payment of Bills & Financials:
Jackson Jones made a motion to accept payment of bills and file for audit. Joy Thompson seconded. Motion passed on 3 yes votes.

Reports:
Minutes from July 6, 2026.

Chief of Police Report: Chief Long reported that officers recently completed the annual MIRMA simulated active shooter training. Lieutenant Casteel attended evidence training in St. Louis, and Officer Macaulay is progressing well through the FTO program and is currently completing his night-shift training. Long also reported that one of the department's Tahoe patrol vehicles experienced issues with its emergency lighting system. The vehicle has since been repaired, and he is hopeful the repairs will keep it in service. He continues to work on obtaining bids for the work that needs to be completed at the new Police Department building prior to the planned move-in date. Chief Long noted that the department is once again experiencing issues with juveniles now that school is out for the summer. The Maryville Police Chief has provided copies of ordinances related to electric scooters for review as the department considers possible ordinance updates. Long concluded his report by stating that the Police Department has handled approximately 50 more cases than at the same time last year.

City Administrator Report:

- Bell attended meetings of Chamber of Commerce, Region D, and Rotary.
- Bell, Swink, and Malhiwsky met with Matt from MODOT about some issues that the City has experienced in the past.
- Bell, Swink, and Mayor Schneider met with Jason and Cliff from Burns and McDonnell about projects they had begun in the past and the city did not complete. Cliff also said he was going to look into possible funding for the reservoir.

Director of Public Works Report: Public Works Director Tyler Swink reported that the fountain at Memorial Park has been repaired and is back in operation. He also shared that the first fishing derby held in partnership with the Andrew County Fair was a success, with every child who participated receiving a prize. Swink provided an update on the recent house fire on Arbor Street, noting that the property owner is working to secure the structure by boarding up the windows. Department crews have placed approximately 10 tons of cold patch on City streets and have been busy with tube replacements, routine mowing, watering newly planted trees, and conducting regular reservoir inspections.

Pam Kessler motioned to accept the reports as presented. Jackson Jones seconded. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

BILL FOR CONSIDERATION:

BILL 2026-9: Holidays – Second Reading.

Ordinance No. 2896 – An ordinance amending Savannah City Code Section 155.380 regarding the number of paid holidays for employees. Joy Thompson motioned to adopt ordinance no. 2896. Pam Kessler seconded. Vote: Jones- aye; Kessler- aye; Thompson- aye. Motion carried.

BILL 2026-10: Waterworks – Second Reading.

Ordinance No. 2897 – An ordinance adding article III to Chapter 215 of the municipal code of Savannah, Missouri. Joy Thompson motioned to adopt ordinance no. 2897. Jackson Jones seconded. Vote: Jones- aye; Kessler- aye; Thompson- aye. Motion carried.

ELECTED OFFICIALS' DISCUSSION

Mayor Report- Mayor Schneider reported receiving a call from Mr. Brewer regarding the donation of a flagpole for Memorial Park.

Council Members Discussion:

Pam Kessler – Kessler reported seeing many residents taking advantage of the ponds at Memorial Park and expressed her appreciation for the park being well utilized by the community. Kessler also reported receiving a call from a resident regarding drainage issues at the intersection of 2nd Street and Benton Street and asked that the concern be reviewed.

Than Wagers – Absent

Joy Thompson – Thompson reported receiving complaints regarding potholes at the intersection of Price Street and 1st Street. Staff advised that the area is included on the list of street projects planned for next year. Thompson also shared concerns from a resident at 805 West Davis regarding only one side of a drainage ditch being cleaned out. It was noted that the ditches in that area have not been cleaned in recent years and that the drainage issue is being caused by homeowners not maintaining the adjacent alley. Thompson reported receiving complaints about a business being operated out of a residence on North 2nd Street, the business is not doing anything that is not legal.

Jackson Jones – Nothing

Pam Kessler motioned to go into closed session for reasons of Personnel 610.021(3). Jackson Jones seconded. Vote: Thompson- aye; Jones- aye; Kessler- aye. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: Personnel 610.021(3)

Discussion on personnel.

Pam Kessler made a motion to go back into open session. Joy Thompson seconded. Vote: Thompson- aye; Jones- aye; Kessler- aye. Motion carried.

Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m. on a motion by Pam Kessler and seconded by Joy Thompson. Motion carried on 3 yes votes.

_____

Keven Schneider, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Minde Dreher, City Clerk