

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD DECEMBER 15, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Steve Dean at 7:02 PM at Le Roy City Hall, 207 S East Street, Le Roy. The council members present were Matt Steffen, Ron Legner, Kyle Merkle, Kelly Lay, Dawn Hanafin, Scott Tucker, and Curt Dunafin. Sarah Welte was absent.

Staff members present were Dan Lush, Jason Williamson, Perry Mayer, Dave Jenkins, Sean Spencer, Anita Corso, and Brad Frankovich.

There were no public comments.

Included on the consent agenda were Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes 11/17/2025, Special Projects Committee Meeting Minutes 11/17/2025, invoices from 12/1/2025 totaling \$229,706.21, invoices from 12/15/2025 totaling \$ 141,492.48 payroll for the period of 11/28/2025 in the amount of \$ 55,706.28 and payroll for the period of 12/12/2025 in the amount of \$ 57,041.58.

The items of the consent agenda were voted on separately.

Motion was made by Matt and seconded by Kelly for approval of the Regular Council Meeting Minutes 11/17/2025, Special Projects Committee Meeting Minutes 11/17/2025. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Kelly Lay-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-yes. Motion carried 7 yeas, 0 nays.

Motion was made by Kyle and seconded by Matt for approval of the 12/1/2025 invoices totaling \$229,706.21 and payroll for the period of 11/28/2025 in the amount of \$ 55,706.28. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Kelly Lay-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-abstain, Ron Legner-abstain. Motion carried 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 abstain.

Motion by Kyle was seconded by Matt for approval of invoices from 12/15/2025 totaling \$ 141,492.48 and payroll for the period of 12/12/2025 in the amount of \$ 57,041.58. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-abstain, Kelly Lay-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-abstain, Ron Legner-yes. Motion carried 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 abstain.

In Staff Reports Dan reported plowing has kept the street department busy along with Christmas light repairs and snowplow mechanical breakdowns.

Perry reported four leaks have been repaired and another reported today along US 150. The Chestnut St alley is still a work in progress, and the plant is running smoothly.

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Chief Williamson introduced the newest officer Brody Hanafin who will begin PTI on January 4, 2026. The department is still accepting applications for another officer.

Dave addressed the possibility of council using tablets instead of paper packets for council meetings.

Mayor Dean introduced Mark Young from American Legion Ruel Neal Post 79 to open discussion on the request for Tourism Funds for floor and sewer line replacement so they can maintain health department requirements for their meal events and remain the emergency hot/cold shelter for Le Roy.

Motion to approve the Hotel/Motel Tourism Fund request of up to \$43,084.16 from Ruel Neal, Post 79, The American Legion for new flooring and sewer line repairs/replacement was made by Scott Tucker and seconded by Kelly. Discussion included the regular events held at the legion attracting visitors to Le Roy and the building's use as the city warming/cooling center. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Kelly Lay-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-yes. Motion carried 7 yeas, 0 nays.

ORD 25-11-02-70 AN ORDINANCE VACATING A UTILITY EASEMENT. Specifically, Lot 88 in the Falcon Ridge Subdivision (Prairie Falcon Drive). Motion to approve by Kelly was seconded by Matt. Sean gave an overview of the situation. Discussion included concerns of drainage and utility company awareness. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Kelly Lay-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-yes. Motion carried 7 yeas, 0 nays.

Mayor Dean called on Chad Lange to give an overview of their plans for developing the lots on Independence Court within the Bel Vue Subdivision. Discussion included types of homes and project timeline.

ORD 25-12-02-10 AN ORDINANCE LEVYING TAXES FOR CORPORATE PURPOSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING ON THE FIRST DAY OF MAY 2026 AND ENDING ON THE 30th DAY OF APRIL 2027 FOR THE CITY OF LE ROY, MCLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS. Motion to approve by Matt was seconded by Curt. Dave gave an overview of the details. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Kelly Lay-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-yes. Motion carried 7 yeas, 0 nays.

ORD 25-12-03-10 ORDINANCE abating taxes heretofore levied for the year 2025 to pay debt service on \$ 2,865,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 20216A, \$2,510,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2016B, \$1,095,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2020, and \$3,440,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2021, of the City of Le Roy, McLean County, Illinois. Motion to approve by Kyle was seconded by Kelly. Dave explained this ordinance is to show the property taxes levied will not be used to pay the bonds. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Kelly Lay-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-yes. Motion carried 7 yeas, 0 nays.

Matt Steffen, Personnel Committee Chairman, reported on the Committee's recommendation that an employee time-audit is not necessary. Time constraints during the day would make them inaccurate. An expensive option would be an outside firm come shadow employees and create a time audit. Discussion included what the process would evaluate, its objective, and effect on employee morale. Council consensus agreed with the Personnel Committee recommendation.

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Motion by Kelly was seconded by Kyle to allocate a not-to-exceed amount of \$900.00 from the General Fund to purchase Christmas gifts for city employees and Zoning Board members. Discussion included the vouchers for Kirby Foods for a ham or turkey versus a 'gift catalog'. The catalog would require minimum amounts for each item making it unfeasible for the number of city employees. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Kelly Lay-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-yes. Motion carried 7 yeas, 0 nays.

Motion by Kyle was seconded by Matt to cancel the January 5, 2026, regularly scheduled council meeting. Dave reminded everyone that if something important arose that required action before January 19, 2026, then the January 5th meeting may be necessary. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Kelly Lay-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-yes. Motion carried 7 yeas, 0 nays.

In Old & New Business, Mayor Dean reminded everyone of the Downtown Christmas Stroll is 12/18/25.

The street department was praised for keeping the streets clear of the recent snowfall.

It was mentioned RP Lumber (formerly Alexander Lumber) was closing and the old Christian Church building on Center St has been sold. Interior work is due to begin in February.

Motion by Kyle was seconded by Curt to adjourn the regular council meeting. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Kelly Lay-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-yes. Motion carried 7 yeas, 0 nays.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.

Submitted by,

Anita Corso
City Clerk