



City of Independence

Minutes City Council Meeting Tuesday, June 10, 2025

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm in the council chambers by Mayor Kate Schwarzler.

2. **ROLL CALL.**
Mayor Schwarzler present

Council Present: Shannon Corr
Marilyn Morton
Bill Boisvert
Evan Sorce
Dawn Roden
Kathy Martin-Willis

Council Absent: None

City Staff Present: Kenna West, City Manager
Rob Moody, Finance Director
Shawn Irvine, Asst. City Manager
Myra Russell, City Recorder
Juventino Banuelos, Police Chief

3. **MINUTES.** The minutes of the May 27, 2025, regular session were submitted in the agenda packet.

ACTION:

Councilor Corr moved to approve May 27, 2025 regular session minutes as received. Second by Councilor Martin-Willis. No discussion. Roll call vote. Motion passed 5-0-1:

AYES: Corr, Morton, Boisvert, Sorce, Martin-Willis
NAYS: None
ABSTENTIONS: Roden

4. **VISITORS / PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

4.1. Terri Pierce-Comments about opening at store at 223 Main St.

5. **REPORTS / PRESENTATIONS.**

5.1. Mayor Schwarzler: Recognized birthdays for City Recorder and Finance Director. Congratulated Jill Thissell on officer of the year. Attended graduation for Latino Micro business program. 29 people graduated from program. Attended planning commission meeting at airpark. Went to IES 100th birthday with Councilor

Sorce. Attended ribbon cutting ceremony today in Monmouth at adult shelter with Councilor Corr. Mayor presented the members of Operation D.O.N.U.T with a proclamation honoring their first-place finish in Technical Merit in the Youth Coding League.

5.2. City Council Liaison Reports

5.2.1. Traffic Safety Commission: Councilor Roden. No meeting since October, will attend meeting June 18.

5.2.2. Historic Preservation Commission: Councilor Morton. Attended last meeting and enjoyed the training for the commission on the historic district.

5.2.3. Planning Commission: Councilor Martin-Willis. Went to planning commission meeting at the airpark for their June meeting.

5.3. City Manager: Biosolids removal contract signed. Work will start at the end of June and will be completed early because they are working on Saturdays. Two Osprey eggs have hatched in the nest; you can watch the livestream on the city's website. Lateral officer new hire starts next week. Wristbands are on sale now for Independence Days. Summer events, movies in the park on June 27, River's Edge Summer Series begins July 11. Sept 4-6 Shakespeare in the park by Struts and Frets. This is a free event. Carnival is back for Indy Days.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS. None

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1. 2025-26 Budget Adoption. Finance Director Moody presented the budget as submitted in the agenda packet and the proposed resolutions 25-1635 and 25-1633 for council consideration. This budget was approved by the budget committee at their May 14 meeting.

Budget Public Hearing:

- Open Public Hearing: Mayor Schwarzler opened the public hearing for the budget at 6:50 pm.
- Public Comment:
 - None
- Close public Hearing: Mayor Schwarzler closed the public hearing at 6:50pm

ACTION:

Councilor Morton moved to approve Proposed Resolution 25-1635 adopting a budget, appropriating funds, imposing and categorizing taxes for fiscal year 2025-26. Councilor Corr seconded. Discussion: Councilor Roden objects and will vote no. Councilor Sorce appreciates staff work that gives time to work on more options for for next year. Mayor Schwarzler acknowledged budget committee members and staff work on budget with tough but thoughtful choices.

Roll call vote. Motion passed 5-1-0:

AYES: Corr, Morton, Boisvert, Sorce, Martin-Willis

NAYS: Roden

ABSTENTIONS: None

State Revenue Sharing Public Hearing:

- Open Public Hearing: Mayor Schwarzler opened the public hearing for the budget at 6:56 pm.
- Public Comment:
 - None.
- Close public Hearing: Mayor Schwarzler closed the public hearing at 6:56 pm

ACTION:

Councilor Corr moved to approve Proposed Resolution 25-1633 declaring the City of Independence's Election to Receive State Revenues. Councilor Martin-Willis seconded. Discussion: None

Roll call vote. Motion passed 6-0-0:

AYES: Corr, Morton, Boisvert, Sorce, Martin-Willis, Roden

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

7.2. Supplemental Budget, FY 2024-25. Finance Director Moody presented the supplemental budget adjustment as submitted in the agenda packet and the proposed resolution 25-1634 for council consideration. Councilor Morton asked about a grant that city received for 2M.

ACTION:

Councilor Martin-Willis moved to approve Proposed Resolution 25-1634 authorizing budget adjustments for the fiscal year 2024-25 budget. Councilor Boisvert seconded. Discussion:

Roll call vote. Motion passed 6-0-0:

AYES: Corr, Morton, Boisvert, Sorce, Martin-Willis

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

7.3. Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement: Water Supply Planning and Preliminary Analysis of Water System Facilities. CM West presented information on IGA as submitted in the agenda packet. Regional project with City of Monmouth, Independence and Polk County. Mayor Schwarzler asked what if one of the parties wants to leave at some point. Entities can offramp at certain points. Councilor Sorce appreciates the oversight in the agreement.

ACTION:

Councilor Roden moved to approve the Intergovernmental Cooperative Agreement for Water Supply Planning and Preliminary Analysis and authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement on behalf of the City of Independence. Councilor Morton seconded. Discussion:

Roll call vote. Motion passed 6-0-0:

AYES: Corr, Morton, Boisvert, Sorce, Martin-Willis, Roden

NAYS: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None

8. **COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 8.1. Councilor Corr: Challenged all councilors to the reading challenge. Contest starts June 13. Ends Aug 15.
- 8.2. Councilor Morton: Last Day of school celebration June 13. Summer reading for the library starts at the same time.
- 8.3. Councilor Roden: Wall that Heals- it's time to sign up to volunteer
- 8.4. Councilor Sorce: Reminder about commencement at WOU on Saturday, June 14. Watch for extra traffic.

9. **GENERAL INFORMATION.** Items submitted here in the packet are for information only; no action was required by city council.

10. **ADJOURNMENT.** Councilor Morton moved to Adjourn, Councilor Roden seconded. Mayor Schwarzler adjourned the meeting at 7:10 pm.

MAYOR KATE SCHWARZLER

ATTEST:

Myra Russell, City Recorder