

Aurora City Council Meeting Minutes

Aurora City Hall - City Council Chambers

2 W. Pleasant St. Aurora, Missouri 65605

Tuesday, January 13, 2026 - 6 P.M.

1/13/2026 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kennedy called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PRAYER AND PLEDGE

City Manager Carrie Howlett led the Council in prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Mayor Kennedy - Present

Chairman Pro Tem Lewis - Present

Councilwoman Oplinger - Present

Councilwoman Pettit - Present

Councilman Blades - Absent

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Lisa Boyer with the Aurora Downtown Project addressed the Council with the upcoming Special Event - Chocolate Stroll. It will take place on Friday, February 6, 2026, from 10 am - 6 pm. Tickets are now on sale, two tickets for \$40.00. There will be twelve businesses participating, and they will all have different chocolates, drinks, candy, etc. Some businesses also donated for a chance to win a Pamper You basket. There will be two Pamper You baskets to win. Businesses are doing well this time of year, which is normally slow.

Aiden Fillyaw addressed the Council with his newest flag design. He said that he had the help of multiple artists and community members. Councilwoman Oplinger told Aiden that we would discuss it at the next Council meeting and let him know.

5. COUNCIL FORUM

Chairman Pro Tem Lewis had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Oplinger attended the Hospital Board meeting and stated that the OB Department was featured in the US News and World Report for an excellence award.

Councilwoman Pettit attended the Planning and Zoning meeting last week and had a rezone of 4-5 parcels of land. The summary of all of it is that they go back and make sure the change is acceptable for the business and the residents around it. Solid Waste meeting as well. Some house bills in the Senate are about increasing the tipping fee at the landfills. \$64k to distribute from district grants to help clean up tire waste sites, which requires a minimum of 100 tires to qualify. This is statewide, and they are only picking three sites to choose from. If anyone has any suggestions, please let Councilwoman Pettit know.

Mayor Kennedy attended the Planning and Zoning meeting, and the Park Board meeting will be this Thursday, January 15, 2026.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilwoman Pettit made a motion to Approve the Consent Agenda. Chairman Pro Tem Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed with votes documented as follows:

Mayor Kennedy - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Lewis - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Blades - Absent

6.I. Approval Of Minutes - City Council Regular Session Minutes December 23, 2025

See Consent Agenda

6.II. December 2025 - January 2026 Appropriations

See Consent Agenda

7. OLD BUSINESS

None

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.I. Resolution No. 2026-2074 Bad Boy Mower Cemetery Purchase

City Manager Carrie Howlett addressed the Council with the Bad Boy Mower purchase for the cemetery. Mrs. Howlett stated that this is a 2026 budgeted item. Cemetery Sexton Brad Blankenship addressed the Council about the mowers and stated that they have had great luck with the Bad Boy brand. Chairman Pro Tem Lewis asked if services were included in the bid, and Mr. Blankenship told him no. If they need parts to fix anything, they go to Sutherland's to get the parts and fix it, but they haven't had to fix any of their Bad Boy mowers yet.

Councilwoman Oplinger made a motion to Approve Resolution No. 2026-2074, Bad Boy Mower purchase Cemetery Purchase. Councilwoman Pettit seconded the motion. The motion passed with votes documented as follows:

Mayor Kennedy - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Lewis - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Blades - Absent

8.II. Special Event Application - Aurora Downtown Farmers Market

City Manager Carrie Howlett addressed the Council and stated that it will be a repeat of last year with just a few minor changes. Staff have no concerns. Recommendation is approval. Lisa Boyer with the Aurora Downtown Project addressed the Council, stating that last year they wanted 20 vendors and received 47 applications. Most vendors sold out. Looking for more veggie farmers this year. Same place as last year, in the Chamber of Commerce parking lot. Will have more live entertainment this year and will be doing an Art Walk two times this year during the Farmer's Market.

Councilwoman Oplinger made a motion to Approve the Special Event Application - Aurora Downtown Farmers Market. Councilwoman Pettit seconded the motion. The motion passed with votes documented as follows:

Mayor Kennedy - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Lewis - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Blades - Absent

9. STAFF REPORTS/ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS

The City Manager's report is attached.

Chairman Pro Tem Lewis stated that he loves the new layout of appropriations. Thank you to Jessica Jenkins

10. CLOSED SESSION 1-3-13

Mayor Kennedy made a motion to move into Closed Session at 6:22 p.m. Councilwoman Pettit seconded the motion. The motion passed with Roll Call votes documented as follows:

Mayor Kennedy - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Lewis - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Blades - *Absent*

Councilwoman Oplinger made a motion to move out of Closed Session at 8:29 p.m. Councilwoman Pettit seconded the motion. The motion passed with Roll Call votes documented as follows:

Mayor Kennedy - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Lewis - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Blades - *Absent*

11. ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Oplinger made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Councilwoman Pettit seconded the motion. The motion passed with votes documented as follows:

Mayor Kennedy - Aye

Chairman Pro Tem Lewis - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger - Aye

Councilwoman Pettit - Aye

Councilman Blades - *Absent*

APPROVED

Tony Kennedy, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kamy Kulow, City Clerk