

Aurora City Council Meeting Minutes

Aurora City Hall - City Council Chambers

2 W. Pleasant St. Aurora, Missouri 65605

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 - 6 P.M.

2/10/2026 - 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 the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Mayor Kennedy - Present

Chairman Pro Tem Lewis - Present

Councilwoman Oplinger - Present

Councilwoman Pettit - Present

Councilman Blades - Present

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Aiden Fillyaw addressed the Council with questions on the progress of the City Flag. Mayor Kennedy stated that they plan to open it up for a contest to get more community involvement. Then we would get the original committee together and create a survey to vote on the top four flags that were submitted. Aiden thanked the Council for supporting his dream and for making this flag possible. It has been a great honor to serve his town.

5. COUNCIL FORUM

Chairman Pro Tem Lewis attended the Lawrence County 911 Board meeting and the School Board meeting. Also mentioned that we should get with Miller Pipeline regarding street cuts and getting them fixed. There were 20 street cuts on Terrace, and there are no repairs listed for that street. We need to ensure they are repairing any street cuts they make before we get too far behind. Would like Miller Pipeline to produce their cut list and maybe do a blind audit. Doesn't feel they are following the city guidelines. Community Development and the Street Department do inspections on the repairs.

Councilman Blades had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Oplinger attended the Lawrence County 911 Board meeting.

Councilwoman Pettit attended the Solid Waste meeting and said that a new senate bill is trying to get passed to disband districts and increase tipping fees due to the landfills.

Mayor Kennedy attended the Lawrence County 911 Board meeting and attended the Chocolate Stroll downtown.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilwoman Oplinger 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 - Abstain

Councilman Blades - Aye

6.I. Approval Of Minutes - City Council Regular Session Minutes January 27, 2026

See Consent Agenda

6.II. January - February 2026 Appropriations

See Consent Agenda

7. OLD BUSINESS

None

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.I. Proclamation Of Ronald McDonald House

Mayor Kennedy read and presented the Ronald McDonald House Proclamation to Kim Booth, Development Assistant with the Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Ozarks.

8.II. Resolution No. 2026-2077 Continuity Of Operations Plan And Policy

City Manager Carrie Howlett addressed the Council with Resolution No. 2026-2077 Continuity of Operations Plan and Policy. This was previously discussed and part of the Emergency Action Plan. This is formalizing this plan and policy for the City of Aurora. Kamy Kulow, City Clerk/HR Director will be Carrie Howlett's backup and then Brad Blankenship, Cemetery Sexton, will be Kamy Kulow's backup in case of an emergency. Councilwoman Pettit asked if Brad will be a signer. City Manager Carrie Howlett stated yes he will, but only in emergency situations. There are certain accounts we cannot add anymore signers, but in the absence of Carrie or Kamy, Brad will become a signer to keep the city moving along as needed.

Councilwoman Pettit made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-2077 Continuity of Operations Plan and Policy. Councilwoman Oplinger 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 - Aye

8.III. Resolution No. 2026-2080 Aurora City Hall Restoration Change Order No. 8

City Manager Carrie Howlett addressed the Council with Resolution No. 2026-2080 Aurora City Hall Restoration Change Order No. 8. This request is similar to the change order from the north steps of City Hall. This is within the procurement policy for the City Manager to approve, but since this project is over budget, Mrs. Howlett felt the need to bring it to the Council for approval. The west side steps were hollow just like the north steps, and this change order is for the amount of \$9164.14, removal and replacement with a landing on the west side. We will have a \$4500 credit from the previous change order. This resolution also includes the east side as well for the future. There was no contingency added to this project. Mayor Kennedy asked if they could look ahead for possible problems, such as the steps for the ADA ramp. Chairman Pro Tem Lewis asked to review the procurement policy to see what the City Manager is allowed to approve and what needs to come to the Council. Review and bring back to the Council. In the future, we should have a contingency in place for any project.

Councilwoman Pettit made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2026-2080 Aurora City Hall Restoration Change Order No. 8. Councilman Blades 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 - Aye

8.IV. Special Event Application - National Day Of Prayer

City Manager Carrie Howlett addressed the Council with a Special Event Application - National Day of Prayer. The CMA Chariots of Grace submitted this application. March 1, 2026, around the City Hall Flag Pole from 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., with an organized motorcycle ride after the prayer. Staff recommendation is approval. Unsure of how many motorcycles will be in attendance. Will check with the organization to see how many will be in attendance, and may need some street closures to help with traffic control.

Chairman Pro Tem Lewis made a motion to approve the Special Event Application - National Day of Prayer. 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 - Aye

8.V. Special Event Application - Aurora Band Car Show

City Manager Carrie Howlett addressed the Council with the Special Event Application - Aurora Band Car Show. This event is a repeat of last year at the Aurora Airport. Justin Richmond, FBO for the Airport, works with the Aurora Schools for this event. Staff recommendation is approval.

Councilwoman Pettit made a motion to approve the Special Event Application - Aurora Band Car Show. 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 - Aye

9. STAFF REPORTS/ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS

The City Manager's report is attached.

When will the City Council have access to the BS&A software to view reports?

10. CLOSED SESSION 1-3-13

Mayor Kennedy made a motion to move into Closed Session at 6:29 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 - Aye

Councilwoman Oplinger made a motion to move out of Closed Session at 7:16 p.m. Chairman Pro Tem Lewis 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 - Aye

11. ADJOURNMENT

Councilwoman Oplinger made a motion to adjourn at 7:16 p.m. 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 - Aye

APPROVED



Tony Kennedy, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kamy Kulow, City Clerk

2 W. PLEASANT ST.
P.O. BOX 30
AURORA, MO 65605



PH: 417-678-5121
FAX: 417-678-6599
AURORA-CITYHALL.ORG

To: Mayor Kennedy & Aurora City Council

From: Carrie Howlett, City Manager

Re: City Manager Report

Date: 2/10/2026

Dept. Items

Police

- Body cams will be launched March 1st.
- Evan's Act Law passed the House of Representatives yesterday. Now going to the Senate. Effective statute date would be August 2026, if passed.
- Receiving a grant from the Community Foundation of the Ozarks for expanding drone capabilities.

Fire

- Emergency Management: Reviewing notes and recommendations from facilitator after the tabletop exercise and draft plan will be updated accordingly.
- ID tag system is down and not repairable. Ordering a new system.
- Assessing training facilities and planning improvements.

Street

- Completed culvert project on High Street.

Cemetery

- Painting entrance signs
- Side by side has been picked up and is in operation in the department.

Parks

- Continuing to work through the Park Board list of repair items and preparing list of items to be painted in each park. Painting will be in conjunction with Spring Clean Up Day organized by the Park Board. Scheduled for April 18th.
- Continuing to add mulch in Oak Park playground areas.
- Concrete pads poured for installation of benches at the skate park.

Rec Center

- Youth Basketball games continue.
- Youth Soccer registration opened yesterday.

- Adult Basketball League sign ups complete. League expanded to 8 teams due to interest.
- Winter Transformation Challenge has 17 participants. 6 more than last year.
- 813 active memberships.
- New X Training class is ongoing and has been successful.
- Daddy Daughter Dance is advertised and being coordinated.

Stormwater

- Nothing to report

Wastewater

- SRF Project construction continues. Startup of new mixers today. Construction of new solids wasting tank is in progress.
- Influent pumps installed today.

Airport

- Initial design documents submitted to MoDOT for 2026 projects. Preliminary meeting with MoDOT scheduled for Friday.

Finance

- Working through final items with BS&A. Receiving additional training and support.
- Annual audit preparation – auditor will be onsite March 30th – April 2nd.

Municipal Court

- Nothing to report.

Community Development/Public Facilities

- City Hall Rehabilitation project continues. North steps have been poured. West steps have been removed. Brick work mostly complete. Sealing of building to begin in coming days. Stucco work began this week.

Administration & Human Resources

- Animal Control position filled
- Parks Department Technician position filled
- Street Department Technician position interviews to begin in coming days.
- All projects submitted to FEMA for storm relief funding have moved to obligated status. Funds should be received this week.

Meetings and Events Attended/Held

- MU Extension Council Annual Meeting – 2/2/26
- City Hall Rehab OAC Meeting – 2/4/26

Upcoming Meetings and Events Attending

- Barry Lawrence County Economic Development Alliance – 2/11/26
- City Hall Closed – 2/16/26
- City Hall Renovation OAC Meeting – 2/18/26
- CDBG Grant Webinar – 2/18/26
- Park Board Meeting – 2/19/26
- Main Street Meeting – 2/23/26
- EAP Meeting – 2/23/26