

**CITY OF DUBUQUE, IOWA
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
SPECIAL SESSION**

The Dubuque City Council met in special session at 6:00 p.m. on May 5, 2025, in the second-floor Council Chambers of the Historic Federal Building, 350 W. 6th Street.

Present: Mayor Cavanagh; Council Members Farber, Jones, Resnick, Roussell, Sprank, Wethal; City Manager Van Milligen (attended virtually but experienced technical difficulties during roll call), City Attorney Brumwell.

Mayor Cavanagh read the call and stated this is a special session of the City Council called for the purpose of conducting a work session on Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (iJAG) City Life Student Presentation.

WORK SESSION

Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (iJAG) City Life Student Presentation to City Council

Community Engagement Coordinator Temwa Phiri introduced iJAG Program Manager Casey Smith and iJAG Education Specialist Janie Hassong, who presented on this semester's City Life session for students. Students Shayla Murphy, Tanner Mueller, and Jay Bermudez then presented on their experiences in the program. In response to questions, Smith explained that the program can accommodate 60 students in grades 9–10 and another 60 in grades 11–12. She stated that all funding comes from the state, participating school districts, and employer partners. Murphy noted that iJAG fosters a welcoming environment, which encourages students to enroll in the program in subsequent years. City Council Members commended the program and encouraged the students to continue sharing input with them.

There being no further business, Mayor Cavanagh declared the meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

/s/Adrienne N. Breitfelder, CMC
City Clerk

**CITY OF DUBUQUE, IOWA
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR SESSION**

The Dubuque City Council met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on May 5, 2025, in the second-floor Council Chambers of the Historic Federal Building, 350 W. 6th Street.

Present: Mayor Cavanagh; Council Members Farber, Jones, Resnick, Roussell, Sprank, Wethal; City Manager Van Milligen (attended virtually), City Attorney Brumwell.

Mayor Cavanagh read the call and stated this is a regular session of the City Council called for the purpose of conducting such business that may properly come before the City Council.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SWEARING IN

Mayor Cavanagh swore in Mayor Pro Tem Sprank.

PRESENTATIONS

1. LaMetra Murdock Receives Women's Leadership Network Women of Achievement Award: Assistant City Manager Cori Burbach recognized Multicultural Family Center Director LaMetra Murdock for receiving the Up and Coming Leader Award from the Women's Leadership Network (WLN).

PROCLAMATIONS

1. Building Safety Month (May 2025) was accepted by Building Code Advisory and Appeals Board Commissioner Corey Valaskey on behalf of the Building Code Advisory and Appeals Board and Inspection and Construction Services.

2. Mental Health Month (May 2025) was accepted by Brenna Burgart and Vicki Gassman on behalf of Mental Health America of Dubuque County.

3. Preservation Month (May 2025) was accepted by Historic Preservation Commission Chairperson Janice Esser and Assistant Planner Chris Happ-Olson on behalf of the Planning Services Department and the Historic Preservation Commission.

4. Neighborhood Associations Recognition was accepted by Thomas Lynn of the Tomahawk Neighborhood Association, Matthew Phelps of the Cleveland Park Neighborhood Association, and Chris Harrison of the Fenelon Hill Neighborhood Association on behalf of the Office of Shared Prosperity and Neighborhood Support and Dubuque's Neighborhood Associations.

5. Public Service Recognition Week (May 4-10, 2025) was accepted by Airport Administrative Support Professional Jenny Messerich on behalf of the City of Dubuque.

6. National Nurses Week (May 6-12, 2025) was accepted by Robert Wethal on behalf of MercyOne Dubuque.

7. Kids to Parks Day (May 17, 2025) was accepted by Jared McGovern on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Department and Dubuque Nature Everywhere.

8. Public Works Week (May 18-24, 2025) was accepted by Public Works Director Arielle Swift on behalf of the Public Works Department.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion by Resnick to receive and file the documents, adopt the resolutions, and dispose of as indicated. Seconded by Farber. Motion carried 7-0.

1. Minutes and Reports Submitted: City Council Proceedings of April 21, 22, 24, and 28, 2025; Historic Preservation Commission of February 20, 2025; Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission of March 11, 2025; Transit Advisory Board of March 20, 2024; Zoning Board of Adjustment from February 27, 2025; Proof of Publication for City Council Proceedings of March 31 and April 2, 3, and 7, 2025. Upon motion the documents were received and filed.

2. Disposition of Claims: City Attorney advised that the following claims have been referred to Public Entity Risk Services of Iowa, the agent for the Iowa Communities Assurance Pool: Nathan and Shauna Peterson for vehicle damage; Susan Schueller for vehicle damage. Upon motion the documents were received, filed, and concurred.

3. Approval of City Expenditures: Upon motion the documents were received and filed, and Resolution No. 148-25 Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer to make certain payments of bills that must be paid and approved for payment in accordance with City procedures was adopted.

4. Language Access Plan: City Manager recommended City Council approval of the language access plan in the amount of \$3,600 for fiscal year 2026 to ensure all residents, regardless of their language proficiency or ability, can access vital city services and information. Upon motion the documents were received, filed, and approved.

5. Assignment of Stormwater Facilities Fee Agreement for the Northwest Arterial Detention Basin for Lot 2 of Holliday Fourth Addition to Dubuque Hotel LLC: Upon motion the documents were received and filed, and Resolution No. 149-25 Consenting To The Assignment Of The Stormwater Facilities Fee Agreement Between The City Of Dubuque And QHQ Properties For The Northwest Arterial Detention Basin To Dubuque Hotel LLC was adopted.

6. Crescent Community Health Center Letter of Support for Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Health Center Program Funding: City Manager provided a letter of support from Mayor Brad Cavanagh to the Department of Health and Human Services in support of Crescent Community Health Center's Fiscal Year 2026 Service Area Competition application for continued HRSA Health Center Program Funding. Upon motion the documents were received, filed, and approved.

7. City Letter of Support for William M Black Dredgeboat: City Manager recommended City Council approval of a letter of support for the Dubuque County Historical Society's application to the State Historical Society of Iowa's Historical Resource Development Program (HRDP) grant program. Upon motion the documents were received, filed, and approved.

8. Housing Commissioner Removal Recommendation: Housing Commission recommended City Council remove David Wall from the commission and declare the term vacant due to a lack of response in executing the oath of office and in replying to other city staff communications. Upon motion the documents were received, filed, and approved.

9. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Subrecipient Agreement - ZTM Sober Living: Upon motion the documents were received and filed, and Resolution No. 150-25 Authorizing Execution Of CDBG Subrecipient Agreement With ZTM Sober Living was adopted.

10. Schmitt Island Development Corporation Fundraising and Naming Request City Manager recommending City Council approval of the fundraising and naming recognition request made by Schmitt Island Development Corporation for the installation of benches on Chaplain Schmitt Island. Upon motion the documents were received, filed, and approved.

11. City IT Department Commercial Office Renovation Project - Acceptance of Public Improvement Construction Contract: Upon motion the documents were received and filed, and Resolution No. 151-25 Accepting The City IT Department Commercial Office Renovation Project And Authorizing Final Payment To The Contractor was adopted.

12. Proposed Fiber Licensing Agreement – MVLink: City Manager recommended City Council approval of a Fiber Licensing Agreement between the City of Dubuque and Maquoketa Valley Electric Cooperative's internet service provider, MVLink. Upon motion the documents were received, filed, and approved.

13. Proposed Revised Project Statement to Master Co-location and Shared Services Agreement Between the City of Dubuque and Dubuque County: City Manager recommended City Council approval of a Revised Project Statement for the collaboration between the City and Dubuque County on providing fiber connectivity to the Emergency Operations Center and County Data Center under the Master Colocation and Shared Services Agreement in place between the City of Dubuque and Dubuque County. Upon motion the documents were received, filed, and approved.

14. Approval of Retail Tobacco, Tobacco Products, Alternative Nicotine Products, Vapor Products, and Device Permit Applications: Upon motion the documents were received and filed, and Resolution No. 152-25 Approving Applications for Retail Tobacco, Tobacco Products, Alternative Nicotine Products, Vapor Products, and Device Permits, as Required by Iowa Code 453A.47A and Senate File 345 was adopted.

ITEMS SET FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Motion by Roussell to receive and file the documents, adopt the resolutions, and set the public hearings as indicated. Seconded by Wethal. Motion carried 7-0.

1. Fiscal Year 2025 First Budget Amendment: Upon motion the documents were received and filed and Resolution No. 153-25 Setting The Date For The Public Hearing On Amendment No. 1 To The Fiscal Year 2025 Budget For The City Of Dubuque was adopted setting a public hearing for a meeting to commence at 6:30 p.m. on May 19, 2025 in the Historic Federal Building.

2. Setting a Public Hearing for the Adoption of the Public Housing Authority Annual Plan for Federal Fiscal Year 2025: Upon motion the documents were received and filed and Resolution No. 154-25 Setting A Public Hearing To Review And Approve The Public Housing Authority Federal Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Plan was adopted setting a public hearing for a meeting to commence at 6:30 p.m. on July 7, 2025 in the Historic Federal Building.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. 2025 Repair and Preventative Maintenance of the Iowa Street Parking Garage Public Hearing: Motion by Jones to receive and file the documents and adopt Resolution No. 155-25 Approval Of Plans,

Specifications, Form Of Contract, And Estimated Cost For The 2025 Repair And Maintenance Of The Iowa Street Parking Garage. Seconded by Sprank. In response to questions, Director of Transportation Services Ryan Knuckey stated that the parking garage was constructed between 1964 and 1968. He noted that while the goal is for the repairs to last 10 to 15 years, the actual lifespan will ultimately depend on usage. While installing a pitch was considered, it was deemed too costly, and a new membrane will be installed instead. Motion carried 7-0.

2. Resolution Approving a Development Agreement with FitzGerald EnterpriZes, L.L.C.: Motion by Sprank to receive and file the documents and adopt Resolution No. 156-25 Approving A Development Agreement By And Between The City Of Dubuque, Iowa And Fitzgerald EnterpriZes, L.L.C., Including The Proposed Issuance Of Urban Renewal Tax Increment Revenue Obligations. Seconded by Wethal. City Council Members voiced support for the project, as well as for the agreement's language restricting short-term rentals. Motion carried 7-0.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Private Lead Service Line Replacement Pilot Program - Phase 1 Award Construction Contract: Motion by Sprank to receive and file the documents and adopt Resolution No. 157-25 Awarding contract for the Lead Service Line Replacement - Phase 1 Project. Seconded by Farber. In response to questions, Water Department Director Chris Lester noted that, as the first program of its kind in the state, the project estimate was challenging to determine. He added that the contract requires Phase 1 to be completed by the end of this year. Motion carried 7-0.

2. Proposed Ordinance Prohibiting the Feeding and Harassment of Bears: Motion by Jones to receive and file the documents and that the requirement that a proposed ordinance be considered and voted on for passage at two Council meetings prior to the meeting at which it is to be passed be suspended. Seconded by Roussell. In response to questions, Ross Ellingson of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and Brian Preston of Dubuque County Conservation explained that bears are food-motivated, and once they become accustomed to a consistent food source, it becomes more difficult for them to leave urban areas. Ellingson noted that the current estimate is four bears in northeastern Iowa, all believed to be male, though that has not been confirmed. Brumwell clarified that the proposed ordinance specifies that negligently making food available could result in citations, with the City retaining discretion in determining whether actions are considered negligent. Brumwell emphasized that the ordinance is intended to deter residents from interacting with or following bears, as such behavior can alter the animals' natural patterns. Public Health Director Mary Rose Corrigan advised residents to report bear sightings within city limits to the Police Department or the Health Services Department. Ellingson and Preston confirmed that sightings outside city limits should be reported to the IDNR or Dubuque County Conservation. City Council Members thanked staff for modeling the ordinance from other city codes and acknowledged that public behavior toward bears in past years was inappropriate. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Jones for final consideration and passage of Ordinance No. 15-25 Amending City Of Dubuque Code Of Ordinances Title 7 Police, Fire, And Public Safety, Chapter 6 Animal Control And Adopting A New Article G Prohibiting The Feeding Of And Harassment Of Bears Within The Corporate City. Seconded by Roussell. Motion carried 7-0.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Roussell reported on recent tree planting events and the Arbor Day celebration.

Farber reported on the Visiting Nurses Association (VNA) and NAMI Dubuque recently hosting fundraisers.

Sprank reported on the annual Dubuque County Emergency Responder Training Facility fundraising event, the opening of the summer farmers market, attending neighborhood association meetings, the

City's upcoming employee recognition event, the Dubuque Labor Harvest food giveaway, and Dubuque Main Street's Architecture Days.

Wethal reported on the Fenelon Hill neighborhood association cleanup, the Forever 17 Foundation meeting with area high schools, and Hempstead and Wahlert High School students utilizing the riverwalk for prom pictures.

Jones reported on attending a Dubuque Racing Association (DRA) meeting, a local emergency management commission meeting, the workers memorial day event at the Labor Temple, the ribbon cutting for Roses and Berries, and the annual Dubuque County Emergency Responder Training Facility fundraising event. Jones also reported on the City recently adopting the Fiscal Year 2026 budget, Fire Chief Cal Motsch's recent retirement, and the 133rd infantry division's upcoming deployment.

Resnick reported on the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra and Heartland Ballet's performance of Swan Lake.

Cavanagh reported on attending Dubuque Senior High School's production of Peter and the Starcatcher, the Julien Dubuque International Film Festival (JDIFF), an Iowa League of Cities (ILC) meeting, and the Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative Midwest Climate Summit. Cavanagh also reported on speaking about the iJAG Program at Hempstead High School, sustainability at Dubuque Senior High School, and proposed property tax legislation in the Iowa Legislature.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Jones to convene in closed session at 8:02 p.m. to discuss Purchase or Sale of Real Estate – Chapter 21.5(1)(j) Code of Iowa. Seconded by Roussell. Mayor Cavanagh stated for the record that the attorney who will consult with City Council on the issues to be discussed in the closed session is City Attorney Brumwell. Motion carried 7-0.

The City Council reconvened in open session at 8:31 p.m. stating that staff had been given proper direction.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Cavanagh declared the meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

/s/Adrienne N. Breitfelder, CMC
City Clerk