

MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
CITY OF BRANSON, MISSOURI
MARCH 25, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Branson, Missouri, met in Regular Session in the Council Chambers of the City Hall on March 25, 2025 at 6:00 PM. Mayor Milton called the meeting to order.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

An invocation was provided by Police Chief Eric Schmitt.

ROLL CALL

City Clerk Briand called roll. Present: Mayor Milton, Alderman Artie Lucas, Alderman Ruth Denham, Alderman Clay Cooper, Alderman Marshall Howden, Alderman Ralph LeBlanc, Alderman Glenn Schulz. Absent: none.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor Milton began the Public Comments section of the Board of Aldermen meeting by stating the Board would hear citizens who signed up in the order they are listed.

Speaker:

Matt Kendrick discussed “2030 Community Survey.” He inquired if a member of the public could nominate a City employee for employee of the month and he complimented Jim Cartright of the Parks and Recreation Department. He discussed the Community Survey and how important everyone’s input is and he requested help getting the word out for public knowledge.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Milton asked if any member of the Board had any items they wished to have removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion. Chief of Staff Alex Girard requested Item Number 5 be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed as the first item on the Regular Agenda. The following items were read by title:

1. APPROVAL OF BOARD OF ALDERMEN MINUTES FOR MARCH 11, 2025 REGULAR MEETING AND MARCH 13, 2025 SPECIAL MEETING.
2. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES FOR THE FEBRUARY 4, 2025 REGULAR MEETING.

3. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES FOR THE FEBRUARY 23, 2024 REGULAR MEETING.
4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DISBURSEMENTS FROM FEBRUARY 20, 2025 THROUGH MARCH 18, 2025.
5. FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6528 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF BRANSON, MISSOURI APPROVING THE EXTENSION OF THE TERM OF THE HISTORIC DOWNTOWN BRANSON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT.

Bill No. 6528 has been removed from the Consent Agenda and placed as the first item on the Regular Agenda.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6528 AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF BRANSON, MISSOURI APPROVING THE EXTENSION OF THE TERM OF THE HISTORIC DOWNTOWN BRANSON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT. Alderman Schulz so moved, seconded by Alderman Cooper.

Alderman Cooper moved to postpone the Final Reading of Bill No. 6528 sometime into the next Legislative Term, seconded by Alderman LeBlanc. Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Bill No. 6528 was postponed until sometime into the next Legislative Term.

Discussion.

6. FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6529 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE FIRST ADDENDUM TO THE 2025-2027 COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH SOUTHERN MISSOURI PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL NO. 152, AFFILIATED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS, AFL-CIO CLC PERTAINING TO AMENDING OF THE 2025-2027 AGREEMENT FOR MINOR CORRECTIONS AND A ONE-YEAR TRIAL PERIOD FOR THE 48/96-HOUR SHIFT SCHEDULE AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT.

The floor was opened for a motion to approve all items on the Consent Agenda as amended. Alderman Schulz so moved, seconded by Alderman Denham.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

REGULAR AGENDA:

7. PRESENTATION BY ANGIE TEEL ON THE 2024 YEAR-END CONVENTION CENTER REPORT.

A presentation was provided by Angie Teel, General Manager of the Convention Center.

Discussion.

8. PRESENTATION OF THE 4TH QUARTER 2024 - PERIOD 12 FINANCIALS FOR THE CITY OF BRANSON.

A presentation was provided by Finance Director Allison Ramsey.

Discussion.

9. A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF BRANSON, MISSOURI, STATING FACTS AND REASONS FOR THE NECESSITY TO AMEND AND INCREASE THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET FOR THE MANDATORY REDEMPTION, WATERFALL, DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS AND TRANSFERS IN VARIOUS FUNDS.

This item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF BRANSON, MISSOURI, STATING FACTS AND REASONS FOR THE NECESSITY TO AMEND AND INCREASE THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET FOR THE MANDATORY REDEMPTION, WATERFALL, DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS AND TRANSFERS IN VARIOUS FUNDS. Alderman Denham so moved, seconded by Alderman Cooper.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Resolution No. 2025-R005 was adopted.

No discussion.

10. FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6530 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ADOPTED 2024 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BRANSON TO ADJUST MONIES FOR THE MANDATORY REDEMPTION, WATERFALL, DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS, TRANSFERS AND OTHER EXPENSES IN VARIOUS FUNDS.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6530 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ADOPTED 2024 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BRANSON TO ADJUST MONIES FOR THE MANDATORY REDEMPTION, WATERFALL, DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS, TRANSFERS AND OTHER EXPENSES IN VARIOUS FUNDS. Alderman Schulz so moved, seconded by Alderman Denham.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Alderman Cooper moved to read Bill No. 6530 for its final reading due to timing, seconded by Alderman Howden. Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6530 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ADOPTED 2024 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BRANSON TO ADJUST MONIES FOR THE MANDATORY REDEMPTION, WATERFALL, DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS, TRANSFERS AND OTHER EXPENSES IN VARIOUS FUNDS. Alderman Schulz so moved, seconded by Alderman Howden.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Ordinance No. 2025-0016 was duly enacted.

No discussion.

11. A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF BRANSON, MISSOURI, SETTING FORTH THE FACTS AND REASONS FOR THE NECESSITY TO AMEND AND INCREASE THE CITY'S ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 IN VARIOUS FUNDS DUE TO CAPITAL PROJECTS AND UPDATED 2025 PROJECTIONS.

This item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF BRANSON, MISSOURI, SETTING FORTH THE FACTS AND REASONS FOR THE NECESSITY TO AMEND AND INCREASE THE CITY'S ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 IN VARIOUS FUNDS DUE TO CAPITAL PROJECTS AND UPDATED 2025 PROJECTIONS. Alderman Denham so moved, seconded by Alderman Cooper.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Resolution No. 2025-R006 was adopted.

No discussion.

12. FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6531 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ADOPTED 2025 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BRANSON TO INCREASE THE CITY'S ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 IN VARIOUS FUNDS DUE TO CAPITAL PROJECTS AND UPDATED 2025 PROJECTIONS.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6531 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ADOPTED 2025 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BRANSON TO INCREASE THE CITY'S ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 IN VARIOUS FUNDS DUE TO CAPITAL PROJECTS AND UPDATED 2025 PROJECTIONS. Alderman LeBlanc so moved, seconded by Alderman Schulz.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Alderman Cooper moved to read Bill No. 6531 for its final reading due to timing, seconded by Alderman Schulz. Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6531 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ADOPTED 2025 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BRANSON TO INCREASE THE CITY'S ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 IN VARIOUS FUNDS DUE TO CAPITAL PROJECTS AND UPDATED 2025 PROJECTIONS. Alderman Schulz so moved, seconded by Alderman Lucas.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Ordinance No. 2025-0017 was duly enacted.

No discussion.

13. A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING A LOGO TO BE DISPLAYED ON THE REC PLEX WATER TOWER.

This item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion to adopt A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING A LOGO TO BE DISPLAYED ON THE REC PLEX WATER TOWER. Alderman Lucas so moved, seconded by Alderman Cooper.

Alderman Cooper moved to amend the Resolution by selecting Exhibit “1” – Branson Schools Mascot Logo as the logo designation for the RecPlex Water Tower and removing all other Exhibit “1” options, seconded by Alderman Lucas.

Vote on the amendment. Voting aye: Lucas, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: Denham. Motion Carried.

Vote on the Resolution as amended. Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Resolution No. 2025-R007 was adopted.

Discussion.

14. PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6532 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTION 94-11 OF THE BRANSON MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO TREE PRESERVATION.

The item was read by title. Mayor Milton opened the public hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of or opposing this matter. Hearing none. Mayor Milton closed the public hearing.

The floor was opened for a motion approving FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6532 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTION 94-11 OF THE BRANSON MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO TREE PRESERVATION. Alderman LeBlanc so moved, seconded by Alderman Schulz.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Alderman Cooper moved to read Bill No. 6532 for its final reading due to timing, seconded by Alderman Howden. Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6532 AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTION 94-11 OF THE BRANSON MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO TREE PRESERVATION. Alderman Schulz so moved, seconded by Alderman Denham.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Ordinance No. 2025-0018 was duly enacted.

Discussion.

- 15. PUBLIC HEARING AND FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6533 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A ZONING CHANGE FROM AGRICULTURAL TO HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL FOR A PORTION OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 598 ANIMAL SAFARI ROAD, BRANSON, MISSOURI 65616.**

The item was read by title. Mayor Milton opened the public hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak in favor of or opposing this matter. Hearing none, Mayor Milton closed the public hearing.

The floor was opened for a motion approving FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6533 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A ZONING CHANGE FROM AGRICULTURAL TO HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL FOR A PORTION OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 598 ANIMAL SAFARI ROAD, BRANSON, MISSOURI 65616. Alderman Lucas so moved, seconded by Alderman Denham.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

No discussion.

- 16. FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6534 AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING A MEMBER TO FILL A CERTAIN VACANCY ON THE CITY OF BRANSON TAX INCREMENT FINANCING COMMISSION.**

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FIRST READING OF BILL NO. 6534 AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING A MEMBER TO FILL A CERTAIN VACANCY ON THE CITY OF BRANSON TAX INCREMENT FINANCING COMMISSION. Alderman Denham so moved, seconded by Alderman Howden.

Alderman Cooper moved to read Bill No. 6534 for its final reading to get the replacement filled promptly, seconded by Alderman Denham. Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

The item was read by title. The floor was opened for a motion approving FINAL READING OF BILL NO. 6534 AN ORDINANCE APPOINTING A MEMBER TO FILL A CERTAIN VACANCY ON THE CITY OF BRANSON TAX INCREMENT FINANCING COMMISSION. Alderman Schulz so moved, seconded by Alderman Cooper.

Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

APPOINTMENTS:

- 17 APPOINTMENTS TO THE BRANSON HILLS INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES AND BRANSON COMMERCE PARK COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS.**

City Clerk Hillary Briand stated this appointment process is in accordance with the Board and Committee Appointments Procedure for Category 5, appointments made by the Mayor with approval by the Board of Aldermen. Mayor Milton announced his slate of appointments to be voted on:

Appointments to the Branson Hills Infrastructure Facilities Community Improvement District with terms expiring June 2028:

- Robert Davis
- Jerry Givens
- Mac McGregor

Appointments to the Branson Commerce Park Community Improvement District with terms expiring June 2026:

- Butch Lomax
- Joseph Boyd

Appointments to the Branson Commerce Park Community Improvement District with terms expiring June 2028:

- Kelly Trimble
- Bob Huels

Alderman LeBlanc moved to approve the slate of appointments, seconded by Alderman Schulz.

Alderman Schulz moved to postpone the appointments until May 13, 2025, seconded by Alderman Lucas. Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

The appointments were postponed until May 13, 2025.

Discussion.

REPORTS

Alderman Lucas is amazed at the level of cooperation on the Board and he expressed appreciation for the Board, Administration and Staff. He looks forward to working with everyone in the future.

Alderman Denham said she learned a lot tonight and she appreciates sitting with everyone on the Board. She thinks the City has the best Mayor, City Administrator and Staff any City could ever want.

Alderman Cooper thanked City Engineer and Public Works Director Michael Woods for adding pedestrian signs he requested. He mentioned seeing another wreck on Highway 248 in front of Yakov Smirnoff's Theater and he asked if there had been any follow up with the Missouri Department of Transportation on what can be done to make this area safer. Public Works Director Michael Woods provided an update on MoDOT improvements for Highway 248.

Alderman Howden commented on the City's social media and complimented Communications Manager Mariya Serykh for recent social media posts. He feels the more successful the City's social media posts are, the better the communication and transparency which is important.

Alderman LeBlanc shared his children's positive responses regarding the Branson High School logo being put on the City's water tower. He explained they graduated from Branson High School and were athletes. He discussed Highway 248 and feels people speeding on this road is an issue. He complimented City Staff for their professionalism and for finding solutions to problems as quickly as they can. He commented on the Downtown Streetscape Project and he's looking forward to everything that's going to happen with the infrastructure projects. He believes residents are very pleased with what's going on.

Alderman Schulz thanked City Engineer and Public Works Director Michael Woods for addressing a traffic light problem on Branson Landing Boulevard and Commercial Street. He reported traffic backups are no longer an issue at that intersection. He's still receiving complaints about engine braking noise on Branson Hills Parkway and he suggested banning it completely within the City limits. He mentioned taking classes through the Missouri Municipal League and he discussed Missouri's Sunshine Law. He feels the City of Branson is in extraordinarily good shape from a Sunshine Law perspective and he thanked City Clerk Hillary Briand for making sure the City's doing the right things for citizens and the Board of Aldermen.

Mayor Milton thanked the Aldermen for showing appreciation for several City Departments. He feels every City Department is running on all cylinders and he complimented the way they treat each other and communicate with each other. He believes it starts from the top and feels the City is blessed to have Cathy Stepp as City Administrator. Last week he attended the annual Chamber lunch and he felt it was inspiring to hear what Silver Dollar City and Johnny Morris are doing. He also attended the Blue Angels ribbon cutting and reported they've added a third day on their production in Branson. They're excited about the patriotism and authenticity they feel when they're in Branson and he thanked everyone. Mayor Milton reminded everyone the upcoming Spring Cleanup is March 31st through April 2nd.

ADJOURN

The floor was opened for a motion to adjourn. Alderman Lucas so moved, seconded by Alderman Denham. Voting aye: Lucas, Denham, Cooper, Howden, LeBlanc, Schulz. Nays: none. Motion Carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Larry D. Milton
Mayor

Hillary Briand
City Clerk