

**CITY OF HAZELWOOD
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 11, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Hazelwood City Council was called to order by Mayor Matthew G. Robinson at 6:02 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11, 2026, in the Council Chambers of Hazelwood City Hall, 415 Elm Grove Lane.

On roll call the following members of the Council were present:

Lesli M. Henderson
Kelly Wadlow
Matthew G. Robinson
Lisa M. Matlock
Warren H. Taylor
Robert C. Smith
Jen Hatton
William C. Hoops, Jr.
Robert M. Aubuchon

City Clerk Julie Lowery declared a quorum was present. Also present were City Manager David Leezer, Fire Chief Dan Luley and Director of Finance Brandi Enzwiler.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

**GO BONDS FOR
NEW FIRE STATION** A discussion with residents on the issuance of General Obligation (GO) Bonds for a new fire station took place.

Mayor Robinson reiterated that, to properly plan for the future, the Council should begin educating residents on infrastructure needs and available financing options. He stated that no property has been purchased for the proposed new firehouse.

Mr. Leezer stated that Navigate Building Solutions and Vector Communications were in attendance to discuss the construction timeline and public education efforts.

Ryan Wilson of Navigate Building Solutions provided an overview of the project budget, including soft costs, and outlined a tentative timeline. Design development is anticipated to begin in May/June, with Council consideration of placing the measure on the August ballot at its May meeting. Design would continue through October, with bidding to follow. The construction contract is expected to come before Council in December 2026, followed by an estimated 16 to 18 month construction period.

Cordell Whitlock of Vector Communications stated the ballot measure would be referred to as Proposition 1 and emphasized the need to educate the public on associated costs and existing issues with Firehouse No. 1.

Mrs. Enzwiler presented estimated tax impacts, noting a rate of \$0.23 per \$100 of assessed valuation. A \$20 million bond would increase taxes by approximately \$87.40 annually for a \$200,000 home and \$19.15 for a \$25,000 vehicle.

Ms. Hatton asked when design plans would be available.

Mr. Wilson stated schematic designs and a timeline would be provided once the site is finalized.

Warren Gillespie of 7518 Georgetown Drive suggested providing a master project schedule with key benchmarks.

Don Davidson of 4921 Rose Blossom Lane asked about an alternative plan.

Mr. Leezer responded there is no alternative plan and stated staff is focused on moving the project forward.

Joanie Hoescher of 535 Holiday Avenue expressed support for the bond issuance, stating it is a worthwhile investment.

Ron Simpson of 8421 Jacklin Avenue expressed support for moving forward with the project despite increased taxes.

Mr. Smith asked about prior tax reductions.

Mrs. Enzwiler stated that debt service had been paid off, with the rate decreasing from \$0.11 per \$100 assessed valuation in 2024 to \$0.00 in 2025.

Ms. Hoescher noted this point should be emphasized.

Mayor Robinson stated that several City buildings require attention and recommended completing an in-house feasibility and infrastructure study.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

ATTEST:

Julie Lowery, CMC - City Clerk
City of Hazelwood, Missouri

Matthew G. Robinson - Mayor
City of Hazelwood, Missouri