

**CITY OF HAZELWOOD
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 16, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Hazelwood City Council was called to order by Mayor Matthew G. Robinson at 6:31 p.m. on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, in the Council Chambers of Hazelwood City Hall, 415 Elm Grove Lane.

Mayor Robinson asked those present to join in a moment of silent meditation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

City Clerk Julie Lowery declared a quorum was present. Also present were Interim City Manager David Leezer and City Attorney Kevin O'Keefe.

AGENDA

There being no amendments proposed, Mr. Taylor moved, seconded by Mr. Hoops, the adoption of the agenda as printed. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Taylor moved, seconded by Mr. Hoops, the adoption of the consent agenda as printed. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

AYE - 9

NAY - 0

Mr. Aubuchon
Mr. Marquez
Ms. Wadlow
Mayor Robinson
Ms. Matlock
Mr. Taylor
Mr. Smith
Ms. Hatton
Mr. Hoops

The motion passed unanimously and the consent agenda, including a closed meeting immediately following the regular meeting to discuss litigation and consult with the City Attorney in accordance with the provisions of RSMo 610.021(1), was adopted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Taylor moved, seconded by Mr. Hoops, to approve the minutes of the April 2 regular and closed Council meetings as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS

As his biography was read, Park Ranger Keith Walley received his 10-year service award.

RESULTS OF 04/08/25 ELECTION

Ms. Lowery reported the results of the April 8 general municipal election.

Mr. Hoops ran unopposed and received 172 votes, Mr. Marquez ran unopposed and received 132 votes, Ms. Matlock ran unopposed and received 94 votes, and Mr. Smith received 140 votes for a 42.94% for Ward 7.

OATHS OF OFFICE

Ms. Lowery administered the oath of office to re-elected Council Members Mr. Hoops, Mr. Marquez, Ms. Matlock, and Mr. Smith.

RECEPTION

A reception was held in honor of all re-elected Council members.

RECONVENE

The meeting reconvened with all Council members in attendance.

PROCLAMATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

WATER SAFETY MONTH PROCLAMATION Mayor Robinson called for the reading of a proclamation designating May 2025 as "Water Safety Month".

There were no objections, and Proclamation 2504 was read.

Mr. Aubuchon moved, seconded by Mr. Hoops, the adoption of Proclamation 2504 designating the month of May 2025 as "Water Safety Month" in the City of Hazelwood and encouraging citizens to take appropriate steps to promote increased education to make everyone more "Water Aware". The motion passed unanimously.

BUILDING SAFETY MO. PROCLAMATION Mayor Robinson called for the reading of a proclamation designating May 2025 as "Building Safety Month".

There were no objections, and Proclamation 2505 was read.

Ms. Wadlow moved, seconded by Ms. Matlock, the adoption of Proclamation 2505 designating the month of May 2025 as “Building Safety Month” and encouraging citizens to take appropriate steps to ensure the safety of our built environment and recognize the implementation of safety codes by local and state agencies that have saved lives and protected homes and businesses. The motion passed unanimously.

CITIZENS HEARINGS AND PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

Mayor Robinson explained the procedures to be followed during a hearing. He invited anyone desiring to make a comment to come forward at this time.

CITIZEN CONCERNS Phillip March of 40 Oliver Avenue in Ferguson, Missouri, stated he is concerned with ongoing litigation with the City of Hazelwood.

SCAMS Vik-Thor Rose of 5037 Tulip Tree warned the Council and residents about being aware of internet and phone scams.

SPEEDERS Jeremy Denson of 23 Flamingo Drive presented a list of 40 signatures of residents in support of speed calming measures.

Mr. Denson stated he spoke to the Police Chief James Hudanick regarding this matter and thanked the Council for their support.

CHRISTIAN ACADEMY Ron Simpson of 4421 Jacklin Avenue presented the Council with photos of issues with the property abutting the fence line.

Mr. Simpson stated that these issues are ongoing, and residents need a resolution.

CITY MANAGER'S STATUS REPORT Mr. Leezer responded to several concerns made by citizens at the April 2 Council meeting and updated residents on upcoming activities.

He stated that Public Works Director David Stewart has reviewed Helena Smith's concerns and responded internally. Some of the concerns are public safety-related, and Mr. Leezer will seek input from Chief Hudanick.

Regarding the speed limit radar sign, it has been removed for repairs. Concerning the bushes on Ville Rosa Lane and Ville Maria Lane, photos confirm they are on private property leading to apartment buildings. The property owner is responsible for maintenance. The Council will be updated once Chief Hudanick provides further information.

Mr. Leezer also responded to Mr. Foley's request for an update on the new firehouse. A contract has been signed with Navigate to assess the City's needs and determine if the current Firehouse 1 site can accommodate a new facility. This initial phase involves site

selection, funding identification, final design, bidding, and construction planning. Navigate will report its findings to the Council later this fall.

Mr. Leezer announced that limb collection began this week and that the Parks and Recreation Department will host an Easter egg hunt on Sunday, April 19, at 10 a.m. at White Birch Bay Park for children aged 10 and under.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

SIGN VARIANCE Mayor Robinson called to order the public hearing to consider
5790 CAMPUS PKWY. four sign variances for Concrete Strategies, LLC, located at 5790 Campus Parkway.

Project Development Coordinator Nikki Miller stated Concrete Strategies, LLC is requesting the following sign variances:

- 1) A 12-foot variance to exceed the 8-foot maximum monument sign height, allowing a 40-foot monument sign.
- 2) A 580 sq. ft. variance to exceed the 20 sq. ft. maximum size, allowing a 600 sq. ft. sign.
- 3) A 4.5-foot variance to exceed the 3.5-foot maximum directional sign height, allowing a sign 8 feet above grade.
- 4) A 32.5 sq. ft. variance to exceed the 2 sq. ft. maximum for directional signs, allowing a 34.5 sq. ft. sign.

The proposed monument sign includes a crane feature that aligns with the company's branding and will be relocated to their new headquarters. Directional signs are also proposed to manage traffic flow across the 16-acre campus. Ms. Miller stated the variances would not negatively impact traffic, public safety, or neighborhood character. Mr. Smith asked if the crane was not part of the monument, whether it would still be out of compliance.

Ms. Miller responded affirmatively.

Ms. Wadlow asked if this was to be placed within the campus, and not on the street.

Ms. Miller responded affirmatively, and stated signs will be placed in designated areas to inform staff, visitors, and delivery personnel.

Ms. Wadlow asked if there are other signs on this campus and if they are as large.

Ms. Miller responded that there would not be other signs of similar size on the campus.

Concrete Strategies representative Joe Phillips, of Piro Signs, Inc., was available for questions and gave a brief description of the project.

Ms. Wadlow expressed concern about how large the signs would be. She stated this sets a new precedent within the City.

Mr. Phillips emphasized the importance of making the signs clearly visible to truck drivers entering and exiting the facility.

Mr. Hoops asked about the sign variances granted in the TradePort facility.

Ms. Miller replied that the area is part of a Planned District, which has its own set of regulations.

Mr. Marquez asked what direction the sign would be facing.

Ms. Miller responded perpendicular to Campus Parkway.

Mr. Smith asked what anchors the crane to the sign to ensure safety.

Mr. Phillips replied that the crane will be fully engineered and have footing and anchors for proper placement and stability.

Mayor Robinson asked if anyone present wished to speak in favor of or in opposition to the proposal.

Don Davidson of 4921 Rose Blossom Lane expressed opposition to the proposal and stated the sign will be too big.

Kevin Foley of 5274 Ville Rosa Lane also spoke in opposition of the proposal.

Vik-Thor Rose of 5037 Tulip Tree Lane spoke in favor of the proposal.

Mayor Robinson declared the hearing closed.

Ms. Matlock moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, to concur with the staff recommendation to approve a 12-foot variance of the eight-foot maximum height regulation for a 40-foot-high monument sign. Mr. Hoops recused himself from the vote. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

AYE - 5

Mr. Marquez

Mayor Robinson

Ms. Matlock

Mr. Taylor

Mr. Smith

NAY – 3

Mr. Aubuchon

Ms. Wadlow

Ms. Hatton

The motion passed by a vote of five in favor and three opposed, with Mr. Aubuchon, Ms. Wadlow and Ms. Hatton casting the dissenting votes.

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Matlock, to concur with the staff recommendation to approve a 580 square foot variance of the 20 square foot maximum size regulation for a 600 square foot monument sign. Mr. Hoops recused himself from the vote. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

<u>AYE - 5</u>	<u>NAY – 3</u>
Mr. Marquez	Mr. Aubuchon
Mayor Robinson	Ms. Wadlow
Ms. Matlock	Ms. Hatton
Mr. Taylor	
Mr. Smith	

The motion passed by a vote of five in favor and three opposed, with Mr. Aubuchon, Ms. Wadlow and Ms. Hatton casting the dissenting votes.

Ms. Matlock moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, to concur with the staff recommendation to approve a four-and-a-half-foot variance of the three-and-a-half-foot maximum height above grade for an 8-foot above grade directional sign. Mr. Hoops recused himself from the vote. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

<u>AYE - 6</u>	<u>NAY – 2</u>
Mr. Marquez	Mr. Aubuchon
Mayor Robinson	Ms. Wadlow
Ms. Matlock	
Mr. Taylor	
Mr. Smith	
Ms. Hatton	

The motion passed by a vote of six in favor and two opposed, with Mr. Aubuchon and Ms. Wadlow casting the dissenting votes.

Ms. Matlock moved, seconded by Ms. Hatton, to concur with the staff recommendation to approve, and a 32½ square foot variance of the two square foot maximum size for a 34½ square foot directional sign. Mr. Hoops recused himself from the vote. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

<u>AYE - 5</u>	<u>NAY – 3</u>
Mr. Marquez	Mr. Aubuchon
Mayor Robinson	Ms. Wadlow
Ms. Matlock	Mr. Taylor
Mr. Smith	
Ms. Hatton	

The motion passed by a vote of five in favor and three opposed, with Mr. Aubuchon, Ms. Wadlow and Mr. Taylor casting the dissenting votes.

COMMUNICATIONS

EWGCG
BRIEFINGS The April 3 issue of Briefings was received from the East-West Gateway Council of Governments.

CHARTER
COMMUNICATIONS A notice of upcoming channel changes was received from Charter Communications.

EWGCG
BRIEFINGS The April 10 issue of Briefings was received from the East-West Gateway Council of Governments.

Mr. Taylor moved, seconded by Mr. Hoops, to receive and file all communications. The motion passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS

WORK SESSION
AGENDA ITEMS No items were added to the May 11 Council work session agenda.

ELECTION OF
MAYOR PRO
TEMPORE Ms. Wadlow nominated Mr. Marquez and Mr. Smith nominated Ms. Matlock for Mayor Pro Tempore. After discussion, a roll call vote was taken.

The following vote was recorded on the nomination:

<u>AYE - 6</u>	<u>NAY – 2</u>
Mr. Aubuchon	Mr. Marquez
Mayor Robinson	Ms. Wadlow
Ms. Matlock	
Mr. Taylor	
Mr. Smith	
Ms. Hatton	

The motion to appoint Councilwoman Lisa Matlock as 2025/2026 Mayor Pro Tempore to act as mayor in the absence of Mayor Robinson passed by a vote of six in favor and two opposed with Mr. Marquez and Ms. Wadlow casting the dissenting votes.

CODE REFERENCES Ms. Wadlow read the purpose and intent of Codes 405.555 and 405.595.

SIGN CODE Mr. Smith stated that he thinks the sign code needs to be updated.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

**CONTRACT
CONCRETE
IMPROVEMENTS**

Public Works Director David Stewart reported staff recommends authorizing a contract with M & H Concrete Contractors, Inc. for the 2025 concrete improvements at a cost not to exceed \$442,362.25.

Mr. Stewart stated three bids were received for concrete improvements and the low bidder was M & H Concrete. M & H Concrete has satisfactorily performed this type of work for the City in the past.

Mr. Smith asked if they had identified the pads that needed replacement.

Mr. Stewart replied affirmatively.

Ms. Wadlow moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, to concur with the staff recommendation to authorize a contract with M & H Concrete Contractors, Inc. for the 2025 concrete improvements project at a cost not to exceed \$442,362.25, and to place the draft bill on this agenda for introduction. The motion passed unanimously, and the bill was added to the agenda as item 17.a.

**REPORT ON ED
PROJECTS**

Mr. Leezer gave a report on economic development projects within the City.

Mr. Leezer gave an update on the following companies/projects: 8th Avenue Foods and Provisions, Inc., Artur Express, Aviator Business Park (Panattoni), Bommarito Automotive, CABKA, Hazelwood Business Park, Hazelwood Logistics, Hazelwood TradePort, Icon Design, Imperial Dade, Marson Foods, LLC, MiTek, Pivot Bio, Inc., Pallet Logistics Management, Silgan Plastics, Village Square, Circle K, and Dive Bomb Industries.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT - None

CITY CLERK'S REPORT - None

**COMMISSION AND
BOARD REPORTS**

Mr. Taylor moved, seconded by Mr. Hoops, to receive and file the minutes of the January 27 and March 24 Historic Preservation Commission and March 4 Parks and Recreation Commission meetings. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS - None

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF BILLS

**CONTRACT
CONCRETE REPAIRS**

Mayor Robinson called for the first reading of a bill to authorize a contract with M & H Concrete Contractors, Inc. for the 2025 concrete improvements project.

There were no objections, and Bill 5165 was read by title only:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH M & H CONCRETE CONTRACTORS, INC., FOR THE 2025 CONCRETE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED FOUR HUNDRED FORTY-TWO THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SIXTY-TWO DOLLARS AND TWENTY-FIVE CENTS (\$442,362.25).

Bill 5165 will be on the agenda for second reading on May 7.

SECOND READING OF BILLS AND ACTION ON BILLS - None

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION	Mayor Robinson announced a council budget work session will be held on April 30 at 6 p.m.
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COUNCIL MEETING	Mayor Robinson announced the next regular Council meeting would be held Wednesday, May 7, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.
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ADJOURNMENT	There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.
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Matthew G. Robinson - Mayor
City of Hazelwood, Missouri

ATTEST:

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