CITY OF HAZELWOOD
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 17, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Hazelwood City Council was called to order by Mayor Matthew G. Robinson at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 17, 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. Mayor Robinson invited Boy Scout Troop 739 to assist with reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

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

AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

AYE - 9	NAY - 0
Mr. Hoops	
Mr. Aubuchon	
Ms. Henderson	
Ms. Wadlow	
Mayor Robinson	
Ms. Matlock	
Mr. Taylor	
Mr. Smith	
Ms. Hatton	

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), to discuss a property acquisition or sale in accordance with the provisions of RSMo 610.021(2), and to discuss a personnel matter in accordance with the provisions of RSMo 610.021(3), was adopted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Ms. Matlock moved, seconded by Mr. Taylor, to approve the minutes of the December 3 Council meeting as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

OATH OF OFFICE	Mike Feldman who was recently reappointed to the Civil Service Board was not present to receive his oath of office.

PROCLAMATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS - None

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.

No one from the audience came forward to address the Council.

PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

COMMUNICATIONS

MLMSTL NEWSLETTER	The December issue of The Link was received from the Municipal League of Metro St. Louis.
EWGCG BRIEFINGS	The December 4 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 December 11 issue of Briefings was received from the East-West Gateway Council of Governments.

Ms. Matlock moved, seconded by Mr. Taylor, 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 January 14 Council Work Session agenda.

APPOINTMENT TO EXTENSION COUNCIL — A request from the University of Missouri for the appointment of a City representative to the St. Louis County Extension Council was received.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

AMEND CH. 215 RE: CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES — Police Chief James Hudanick reported staff recommends amending *Chapter 215: Offenses* regarding controlled substances and drug paraphernalia.

Chief Hudanick stated the proposed ordinance updates the City's drug and drug paraphernalia regulations to align with Missouri law, including adult marijuana legalization, updated definitions, and required civil penalties. He explained that Section 215.440 is repealed because it conflicts with the Missouri Constitution. He further stated that Sections 215.442, 215.443, and 215.450 are amended to clarify that controlled substances remain illegal unless allowed by state law, address offenses involving persons under 21, prohibit marijuana use on school property, establish civil penalties for unlawful possession or cultivation by unlicensed individuals, and update drug paraphernalia regulations while maintaining existing prohibitions. All other provisions remain unchanged.

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Wadlow, to concur with the staff recommendation to amend *Chapter 215: Offenses* regarding controlled substances 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.

AMEND CH. 215 RE: HEMP-DERIVED & KRATOM PRODUCTS — Chief Hudanick reported staff recommends amending *Chapter 215: Offenses* relative to hemp-derived intoxicants, kratom products, and similar substances.

Chief Hudanick stated the proposed ordinance adds Sections 215.483 and 215.485 to address public health and safety by limiting youth access to certain products. He explained the ordinance establishes a minimum purchase age of 21 and prohibits related unlawful conduct. Section 215.483 defines hemp derived intoxicants and prohibits their sale or provision to persons under 21, as well as false identification or age misrepresentation by minors. Chief Hudanick stated Section 215.485 similarly regulates kratom, an herbal substance with stimulant and sedative effects, by prohibiting its sale, provision, possession, or attempted purchase by persons under 21, except when prescribed by a licensed healthcare provider, and prohibiting false identification or age misrepresentation by minors.

Mr. Hoops moved, seconded by Mr. Aubuchon, to concur with the staff recommendation to amend *Chapter 215: Offenses* to regulate the sale, possession, and display of hemp-derived intoxicants, kratom products, and similar substances 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.b.

E.D. LOAN AGREEMENT ICON DESIGN, LLC

Mr. Leezer reported staff recommends authorizing an Economic Development and New Employment Training and Opportunities Forgivable Loan Agreement with Icon Design, LLC.

Mr. Leezer stated that in 2023 the Council approved a Chapter 100 incentive for Icon Design, LLC, and the company is in full compliance. The company renovated a 97,000 square foot facility at 123 James S. McDonnell Boulevard, relocated operations from another community due to growth, and will continue operating its Hazelwood location at 5657 Campus Drive. Icon Design requested a $400,000 forgivable loan for relocation and equipment, which was approved by the Economic Development Sales Tax Board and vetted by the St. Louis Partnership. The loan will be disbursed once the company is operational, secured by an irrevocable letter of credit, repaid over five years, and forgiven annually if job and investment requirements are met, with prorated repayment if they are not. The project includes a $3 million investment, 13 new jobs, and retention of 31 positions.

Ms. Hatton asked whether failure to meet requirements after the first year would require repayment of 80% of the loan and whether meeting all requirements through year five would result in full forgiveness.

Mr. Leezer responded affirmatively, noting the loan would then be considered a grant.

Mr. O'Keefe clarified that the repayment obligation decreases by 20% each year over the five-year term.
Ms. Wadlow asked whether any companies had been denied this type of funding.

Mr. Leezer stated two companies have been denied during his tenure.

Ms. Hatton asked whether sufficient funds were available in the Economic Development budget.

Mr. Leezer responded affirmatively.

Mr. Aubuchon moved, seconded by Ms. Wadlow, to concur with the staff recommendation to authorize an Economic Development and New Employment Training and Opportunities Forgivable Loan Agreement with Icon Design, LLC, 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.c.

CONTRACT

Mr. Leezer reported staff recommends authorizing a contract

DESIGN SERVICES — with JEMA for architectural and design services for the proposed new fire station.

Mr. Leezer stated the approved program budget is $13,405,000, representing the estimated cost for engineering, design, bidding, environmental reviews, and construction, excluding land acquisition. The estimated construction cost of $8,734,000 and JEMA's services cost of $830,000 are included in the total budget. Under the contract, JEMA will provide materials needed for the public to make an informed decision on the proposed bond issue, including renderings, cost estimates, and project timelines. Mr. Leezer noted that if the general obligation bond is placed on the ballot and does not pass, the City will not be responsible for the full project cost but will be required to reimburse Navigate and JEMA for certain initial expenses.

JEMA Public Safety Specialist John Mueller and Navigate Building Solutions Construction Manager Ryan Wilson were present to answer questions.

Mr. Hoops moved, seconded by Mr. Aubuchon, to concur with the staff recommendation to authorize a contract with JEMA, LLC for engineering, design, bidding, environmental reviews, and final construction, at a cost not to exceed $13,405,000, 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.d.

CITY MANAGER'S STATUS REPORT — Mr. Leezer gave the Council updates on past and upcoming events.

Mr. Leezer stated that Christmas trees will be collected in January for all residents regardless of enrollment in the optional yard waste program. Each household may place up to two trees for collection. Trees must be free of decorations and lights and any tree taller than six feet must be cut in half.

He stated that due to recent winter weather Public Works is still catching up on leaf collection and staff expects all remaining work to be completed before Christmas.

Mr. Leezer encouraged everyone to visit the lobby to view the City's Christmas tree. Several departments participated in the first Tree Topper Contest with submissions displayed at the base of the tree. The winning tree topper was created by employees from the Human Resources and City Manager's Office.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

WARD 3 SPECIAL ELECTION — Mr. O'Keefe stated Ward 3 was elected in April 2025 and the seat was vacated in July 2025, and the City Council appointed a successor under the City's vacancy provisions to serve until the next regular municipal election.

Under the City Charter and state law, the remaining two years of the original term must be filled by voters. Because this situation is uncommon, Ward 3 was not initially included in the April 2026 election notices. After review it was determined that a special election must be called to place the Ward 3 seat on the April 2026 ballot. The Council was provided legislation which authorizes that special election and establishes a separate candidate filing period. Staff is asking for emergency passage of the bill, and a clause for emergency passage is included in the text of the bill.

Ms. Wadlow moved, seconded by Mr. Hoops, to concur with the staff recommendation to authorize a special election to fill a vacancy in the office of Councilmember for Ward 3 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.e.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT - None

COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS Ms. Matlock moved, seconded by Mr. Taylor, to receive and file the minutes of the August 14 and September 11 City Plan Commission, September 29 and October 14 Community Enrichment Commission, and the September 29 and November 24 Historic Preservation Commission meetings. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS - None

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF BILLS

AMEND CHAPTER 215 RE: CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES — Mayor Robinson called for the first reading of a bill to amend *Chapter 215: Offenses* regarding controlled substances and drug paraphernalia.

There were no objections and Bill 5202 was read by title only:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS IN ARTICLE VIII OF CHAPTER 215 REGARDING CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AND DRUG PARAPHERNALIA TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY WITH STATE LAW.

Bill 5202 will be on the agenda for second reading on January 7.

AMEND CHAPTER 215 RE: HEMP-DERIVED & KRATOM PRODUCTS — Mayor Robinson called for the first reading of a bill to amend *Chapter 215: Offenses* regulating hemp-derived and kratom products.

There were no objections and Bill 5203 was read by title only:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE VIII OF CHAPTER 215 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE BY THE ADDITION OF TWO NEW SECTIONS REGULATING CERTAIN HEMP-DERIVED PRODUCTS, KRATOM PRODUCTS AND SIMILAR SUBSTANCES.

Bill 5203 will be on the agenda for second reading on January 7.

LOAN AGREEMENT ICON DESIGN LLC	Mayor Robinson called for the first reading of a bill to authorize an economic development loan agreement with ICON Design, LLC.

There were no objections and Bill 5204 was read by title only:

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOAN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF HAZELWOOD AND ICON DESIGN, LLC.

Bill 5204 will be on the agenda for second reading on January 7.

CONTRACT DESIGN SERVICES	Mayor Robinson called for the first reading of a bill to authorize a contract with JEMA for architectural and design services for the proposed new fire station.

There were no objections and Bill 5205 was read by title only:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH JEMA, LLC FOR ARCHITECTURAL, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR A NEW FIRE STATION AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED THIRTEEN MILLION FOUR HUNDRED FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS ($13,405,000).

Bill 5205 will be on the agenda for second reading on January 7.

SPECIAL ELECTION WARD 3	Mayor Robinson called for the first reading of a bill to call for a special election to fill a vacancy in the office of Councilmember for Ward 3.

There were no objections and Bill 5206 was read by title only:

AN ORDINANCE CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER FOR WARD 3 IN THE CITY OF HAZELWOOD, MISSOURI, AND DECLARING THAT AN EMERGENCY EXISTS TO WARRANT PASSAGE OF THIS ORDINANCE ON THE DAY OF INTRODUCTION.

Mr. O’Keefe stated the bill includes a clause for emergency passage in accordance with the provisions of the City Charter.

Mr. Aubuchon moved, seconded by Ms. Wadlow, to find and declare an emergency exists with respect to the adoption of Bill 5206, in accordance with Section 8 of Article II of the

City Charter, and to give it a second reading and consideration for adoption this evening. The motion passed unanimously.

Bill 5206 was then read for a second time by title only:

AN ORDINANCE CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER FOR WARD 3 IN THE CITY OF HAZELWOOD, MISSOURI, AND DECLARING THAT AN EMERGENCY EXISTS TO WARRANT PASSAGE OF THIS ORDINANCE ON THE DAY OF INTRODUCTION.

Mr. Aubuchon moved, seconded by Ms. Wadlow, the adoption of Bill 5206 as an ordinance. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

AYE - 9	NAY - 0
Mr. Hoops	
Mr. Aubuchon	
Ms. Henderson	
Ms. Wadlow	
Mayor Robinson	
Ms. Matlock	
Mr. Taylor	
Mr. Smith	
Ms. Hatton	

Bill 5206 was unanimously adopted as Ordinance 5079-25.

SECOND READING OF BILLS AND ACTION ON BILLS

BILL 5197 SLUP 7234 N. LINDBERGH	Mayor Robinson called for the second reading of Bill 5197 to grant a Special Land Use Permit for a social assistance establishment at 7234 North Lindbergh Boulevard.

Mr. O'Keefe stated that the Council had been provided with a revised bill, identified as Bill 5197.1, which removes a condition included in the previous version of Bill 5197.

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mr. Hoops, to amend Bill 5197 by the text of Bill 5197.1. The motion passed unanimously.

There were no objections and Bill 5197, as amended, was read by title only:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND GRANTING A PERMANENT SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT TO CORNERSTONE RESOURCE & COMMUNITY CENTER FOR A SOCIAL ASSISTANCE ESTABLISHMENT AT 7234 NORTH LINDBERGH BOULEVARD AND PROVIDING THE CONDITIONS OF SUCH USAGE.

Mr. Aubuchon moved, seconded by Mr. Hoops, the adoption of Bill 5197, as amended, as an ordinance. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

AYE - 9	NAY - 0
Mr. Hoops	
Mr. Aubuchon	
Ms. Henderson	
Ms. Wadlow	
Mayor Robinson	
Ms. Matlock	
Mr. Taylor	
Mr. Smith	
Ms. Hatton	

Bill 5197, as amended, was unanimously adopted as Ordinance 5080-25.

BILL 5198
SUBDIVISION

The second reading of Bill 5198, to approve the subdivision of 8827 Nyflot Avenue, was postponed.

BILL 5199
AMEND TRAFFICE CODE

Mayor Robinson called for the second reading of Bill 5199 to amend *Title III. Traffic Code.*

There were no objections and Bill 5199 was read by title only:

AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT PARKING ALONG A PORTION OF LAMBERT POINTE DRIVE IN THE CITY OF HAZELWOOD.

Ms. Matlock moved, seconded by Mr. Hoops, the adoption of Bill 5199 as an ordinance. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

AYE - 9	NAY - 0
Mr. Hoops	
Mr. Aubuchon	
Ms. Henderson	
Ms. Wadlow	
Mayor Robinson	
Ms. Matlock	
Mr. Taylor	
Mr. Smith	
Ms. Hatton	

Bill 5199 was unanimously adopted as Ordinance 5081-25.

BILL 5200
AMEND CH. 100
BOND DOCUMENTS

Mayor Robinson called for the second reading of Bill 5200 to authorize amending bond documents in connection with an industrial development project for JSM, LLC.

There were no objections and Bill 5200 was read by title only:

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO BOND DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH AN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FOR 600 JSM, LLC.

Mr. Aubuchon moved, seconded by Mr. Hoops, the adoption of Bill 5200 as an ordinance. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

AYE - 9	NAY - 0
Mr. Hoops	
Mr. Aubuchon	
Ms. Henderson	
Ms. Wadlow	
Mayor Robinson	
Ms. Matlock	
Mr. Taylor	
Mr. Smith	
Ms. Hatton	

Bill 5200 was unanimously adopted as Ordinance 5082-25.

BILL 5201
ELECTION FOR NEW FIREHOUSE

Mayor Robinson called for the second reading of Bill 5201 calling for an election to seek voter approval for a new fire station initiative.

There were no objections and Bill 5201 was read by title only:

AN ORDINANCE CALLING AN ELECTION IN THE CITY OF HAZELWOOD, MISSOURI, ON THE QUESTION OF ISSUING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS.

Ms. Matlock moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, the adoption of Bill 5201 as an ordinance. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

AYE - 8	NAY - 1
Mr. Hoops	Ms. Wadlow
Mr. Aubuchon	
Ms. Henderson	
Mayor Robinson	
Ms. Matlock	
Mr. Taylor	
Mr. Smith	
Ms. Hatton	

Bill 5201 was adopted as Ordinance 5083-25 by a vote of eight in favor and one opposed with Ms. Wadlow casting the dissenting vote.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CITY HALL CLOSED — Mayor Robinson announced City Hall would be closed Christmas Eve, December 24, at noon, Christmas Day, December 25, December 26, and New Year's Day, January 1 and January 2, 2026.

COUNCIL MEETING — Mayor Robinson announced the next regular Council meeting would be held Wednesday, January 7, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT — There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

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Matthew G. Robinson - Mayor
City of Hazelwood, Missouri

ATTEST:

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