

**CITY OF HAZELWOOD
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2026**

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, January 7, 2026, 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
Lesli M. Henderson
Matthew G. Robinson
Lisa M. Matlock
Warren H. Taylor
Robert C. Smith
Jen Hatton
William C. Hoops, Jr.

Council Member Kelly M. Wadlow was not present. City Clerk Julie Lowery declared a quorum was present. Also present were City Manager David Leezer and City Attorney Kevin O'Keefe.

AMEND AGENDA

Mr. Taylor moved, seconded by Mrs. Henderson, to amend the agenda by adding a discussion to Mayor and Council Reports regarding the Firehouse Bond Issue. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Taylor motioned, seconded by Mr. Aubuchon, to adopt the agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

AYE - 8

NAY - 0

Mr. Aubuchon
Ms. Henderson
Mayor Robinson
Ms. Matlock
Mr. Taylor

Mr. Smith
Ms. Hatton
Mr. Hoops

The motion passed unanimously and the consent agenda was adopted.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Ms. Matlock moved, seconded by Mr. Hoops, to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2025, regular and closed Council meetings as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

**EMPLOYEE
SERVICE AWARD**

As her biography was read, Telecommunicator Jeanne Rubin received her five-year service award.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT
RECOGNITION**

Ms. Lowery stated the City is recognizing the Fire Department's C shift crew for their teamwork and dedication during a recent response.

Ms. Lowery stated that a patient was experiencing chest pain, and the responding crew identified a serious cardiac emergency based on the patient's EKG. The crew provided critical on-scene care, notified the receiving hospital, and safely transported the patient for further treatment. With the patient's permission, the City will publicly recognize the responders for their rapid assessment, sound decision-making, and exceptional care. The patient expressed deep appreciation for the crew, crediting them with saving their life.

**MSD C.A.P.
PRESENTATION**

St. Louis Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) Community Engagement Specialist Jacqueline Buck-Horton gave a presentation on the MSD Customer Assistance Program.

Ms. Buck-Horton stated eligibility requires household income below 200% of the federal HHS poverty guidelines (250% for seniors age 62+ or disabled individuals) and liquid assets under \$10,000, excluding a primary residence and vehicles. Applicants must submit a completed application, proof of household income, asset documentation, and applicable verification (age, disability, or rental/lease agreement). Acceptance into other assistance programs may satisfy certain documentation requirements. Upon approval, a 50% rate reduction on MSD charges begins the first full month following approval and remains in effect for two years. Renewal applications are automatically sent 60 days prior to expiration.

Mrs. Henderson asked how renters in the City of Hazelwood could participate in the program if utility charges are paid by the landlord.

Ms. Terry Taylor of the MSD Finance Department stated that renters are eligible to participate, provided the lease designates them as the responsible party for the bill and they meet program eligibility requirements.

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.

MSD QUESTIONS Joanie Hoshier of 535 Holiday asked who manages access to the CAP funds.

Ms. Buck-Horton replied that the funds are directly through MSD.

HAZELNUTS Clara Faatz of 8 Bon Vue Drive stated that the Hazelnuts will turn 50 this July and they have plans to celebrate and recognize its senior population throughout the year.

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

Mr. Leezer announced the Hazelwood Community Enrichment Commission will sponsor its 24th Annual Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Sunday, January 18 at 6:00 p.m. at Civic Center East. The event is free and open to the public.

Mr. Leezer stated that Monday, January 26 has been designated as the City's annual Shred Day. City offices will be closed to the public to allow staff to clean out work areas and dispose of excess paper and materials. The Community Center and Civic Center East will remain open to the public.

Mr. Leezer stated Communications Coordinator Susan Funderburg launched a new Employee Highlight program, which introduces various City staff members through social media.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

SLUP EXPANSION Mayor Robinson called to order the public hearing to consider
6041 N. LINDBERGH the petition by Barks Property Development, LLC d/b/a Complete Auto Body & Repair, Inc. for a Special Land Use Permit Expansion for vehicle painting at 6041 North Lindbergh Boulevard.

City Planner Cecile Denny stated Complete Auto Body & Repair requests an expansion of its existing Special Land Use Permit at 6041 North Lindbergh Boulevard to include

vehicle painting. She stated the site consists of three buildings on 4.21 acres, with painting to occur in the garage addition.

Owner Kurtis Barks was available for questions.

Mr. Smith asked if the petition is approved when the painting operation begins.

Mr. Barks responded that the painting operation has existed since 2006, and this request is a clarification on the Special Land Use Permit.

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

No one spoke in favor of or in opposition to the proposal and Mayor Robinson declared the hearing closed.

Mrs. Lowery read the City Plan Commission motion “to recommend approval to the City Council of the petition for a Special Land Use Permit Expansion for vehicle painting at 6041 North Lindbergh Boulevard, Ward 2, with the following condition, that all vehicle painting shall be performed indoors in an approved spray booth”. She stated the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Aubuchon moved, seconded by Ms. Matlock, to concur with the City Plan Commission recommendation to grant the expansion of the Special Land Use Permit for vehicle painting at 6041 North Lindbergh Boulevard 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.

COMMUNICATIONS

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

EWGCG BRIEFINGS	The December 18 issue of Briefings was received from the East-West Gateway Council of Governments.
--------------------	--

MLMSTL TIF COMMISSION	A ballot has been received for the City of Maryland Heights TIF Commission from the Municipal League of Metro St. Louis.
--------------------------	--

NO CONTACT LETTER	A formal demand for no contact has been received from Heather Jones.
-------------------	--

Mayor Robinson stated the City Attorney would be drafting a response to Ms. Jones' letter.

Ms. Matlock 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 ITEM	Mayor Robinson stated that while construction of a new firehouse is necessary, there is insufficient information at this time to proceed, and he requested that the January 14 Work Session be used to discuss next steps.
-----------------------------	--

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Mrs. Henderson, to add discussion of the firehouse bond issue to the January 14 work session meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

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.
-------------------------------------	--

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR A NEW FIREHOUSE	Mayor Robinson stated he does not believe the City is adequately prepared or that residents have been sufficiently informed to place this measure on the ballot.
--	--

Ms. Hatton asked for clarification as to whether the Council should remove the measure from the upcoming ballot and, if removed, what the "Plan B" would be. She stated she does not understand the vote previously taken to place this issue on the ballot if it is now under consideration for removal.

Ms. Matlock stated the Council needs to have further discussion regarding this issue and that she is hearing from the public that the Council is not being up front. She stated that citizen support for the firehouse will require additional discussion and resident engagement.

Mayor Robinson moved, seconded by Mr. Hoops, to reconsider approval of Bill 5201 calling for an election to seek voter approval for a new fire station. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

<u>AYE - 7</u> Mr. Aubuchon Ms. Henderson Mayor Robinson Ms. Matlock Mr. Taylor Mr. Smith Mr. Hoops	<u>NAY – 1</u> Ms. Hatton
--	------------------------------

The motion passed by a vote of seven in favor and one opposed, with Ms. Hatton casting the dissenting vote.

Mr. Smith motioned, seconded by Ms. Hatton, to table Bill 5201 until the next regular Council meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

PD THANK YOU Mr. Smith commended the Police Department for its professionalism and effective handling of a First Amendment demonstration the previous week.

Mr. Smith expressed interest in the City hosting a workshop for community leaders related to First Amendment demonstrations.

Police Chief James Hudanick thanked Mr. Smith and stated he supports creating dialogue with institutions to assist in addressing these types of occurrences.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

MUTUAL AID Public Works Director David Stewart reported staff
AGREEMENT recommends authorizing an Intergovernmental Mutual Aid Agreement.

Mr. Stewart stated this agreement would be for a one-year term, to be renewed annually, and be reviewed every two years. In the agreement, the parties agree to assist one another during disasters such as tornadoes and floods. Assistance includes clearing of public roadways and debris removal. He stated the agreement recognizes each city's priority is to its residents and does not obligate any city to participate.

Mr. Smith asked how many cities participate.

Mr. Stewart stated that the previous agreement included approximately 14 cities and did not include Hazelwood. He anticipates participation from approximately 24 cities with the current agreement.

Mr. Smith moved, seconded by Ms. Matlock, to concur with the staff recommendation to authorize an Intergovernmental Mutual Aid Agreement for disasters 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.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT - None

CITY CLERK'S REPORT Ms. Lowery announced that candidate filing has closed, other than for Ward 3 filings.

COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS

Ms. Matlock moved, seconded by Mr. Hoops, to receive and file the minutes of the September 10 Pension Plan Board of Trustees meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS - None

INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF BILLS

SLUP EXPANSION 6041 N. LINDBERGH

Mayor Robinson called for the first reading of a bill to grant an expansion of the Special Land Use Permit for vehicle painting at 6041 North Lindbergh Boulevard.

There were no objections and Bill 5207 was read by title only:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 4185-11 BY GRANTING AN EXPANSION OF THE SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT ISSUED TO BARKS PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT, LLC, D/B/A COMPLETE AUTO BODY AND REPAIR, FOR VEHICLE/AUTO SALES, A VEHICLE SERVICE AND REPAIR FACILITY, A VEHICLE WASH FACILITY, AND AN ADDITIONAL GARAGE AT 6041 NORTH LINDBERGH BOULEVARD, TO INCLUDE VEHICLE PAINTING, AND PROVIDING FOR THE REGULATION OF SUCH USAGE.

Bill 5207 will be on the agenda for second reading on January 21.

MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT

Mayor Robinson called for the first reading of a bill to authorize an Intergovernmental Mutual Aid Agreement for disasters.

There were no objections and Bill 5208 was read by title only:

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL PUBLIC WORKS MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT.

Bill 5208 will be on the agenda for second reading on January 21.

SECOND READING OF BILLS AND ACTION ON BILLS

BILL 5198 SUBDIVISION

Mayor Robinson called for the second reading of Bill 5198 to approve the subdivision of 8827 Nyflot Avenue.

There were no objections and Bill 5198 was read by title only:

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE SUBDIVISION OF 8827 NYFLOT AVENUE FROM ONE LOT INTO TWO LOTS.

Ms. Matlock moved, seconded by Mr. Taylor, the adoption of Bill 5198 as an ordinance. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

AYE - 8

NAY - 0

Mr. Aubuchon
Ms. Henderson
Mayor Robinson
Ms. Matlock
Mr. Taylor
Mr. Smith
Ms. Hatton
Mr. Hoops

Bill 5198 was unanimously adopted as Ordinance 5084-25.

BILL 5202

AMEND CHAPTER 215

Mayor Robinson called for the second reading of Bill 5202 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.

Ms. Matlock moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, the adoption of Bill 5202 as an ordinance. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

AYE - 8

NAY - 0

Mr. Aubuchon
Ms. Henderson
Mayor Robinson
Ms. Matlock
Mr. Taylor
Mr. Smith
Ms. Hatton
Mr. Hoops

Bill 5202 was unanimously adopted as Ordinance 5085-25.

BILL 5203

AMEND CHAPTER 215
HEMP & KRATOM

Mayor Robinson called for the second reading of Bill 5203 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.

Mr. Aubuchon moved, seconded by Mr. Hoops, the adoption of Bill 5203 as an ordinance. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

<u>AYE - 8</u>	<u>NAY - 0</u>
Mr. Aubuchon	
Ms. Henderson	
Mayor Robinson	
Ms. Matlock	
Mr. Taylor	
Mr. Smith	
Ms. Hatton	
Mr. Hoops	

Bill 5203 was unanimously adopted as Ordinance 5086-25.

BILL 5204	Mayor Robinson called for the second reading of Bill 5204 to
LOAN AGREEMENT	authorize an economic development agreement with Icon
ICON DESIGN LLC	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.**

Mr. Aubuchon moved, seconded by Mrs. Henderson, the adoption of Bill 5204 as an ordinance. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

<u>AYE - 8</u>	<u>NAY - 0</u>
Mr. Aubuchon	
Ms. Henderson	
Mayor Robinson	
Ms. Matlock	
Mr. Taylor	
Mr. Smith	
Ms. Hatton	
Mr. Hoops	

Bill 5204 was unanimously adopted as Ordinance 5087-25.

BILL 5205	Mayor Robinson called for the second reading of Bill 5205 to
CONTRACT DESIGN	authorize a contract with JEMA for architectural and design
SERVICES	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).

Ms. Matlock moved, seconded by Mr. Taylor, the adoption of Bill 5205 as an ordinance. The following vote was recorded on the motion:

<u>AYE - 8</u>	<u>NAY - 0</u>
Mr. Aubuchon	
Ms. Henderson	
Mayor Robinson	
Ms. Matlock	
Mr. Taylor	
Mr. Smith	
Ms. Hatton	
Mr. Hoops	

Bill 5205 was unanimously adopted as Ordinance 5088-25.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CITY HALL CLOSED Mayor Robinson announced City Hall would be closed on January 19, for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

COUNCIL MEETING Mayor Robinson announced the next regular Council meeting would be held Wednesday, January 21, 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 7:32 p.m.

Matthew G. Robinson - Mayor
City of Hazelwood, Missouri

ATTEST:

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