



CITY OF SEDALIA, MISSOURI
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 2, 2026

The City has an on-line broadcast of Council Meetings available both live and recorded by going to "Microsoft Teams".

The Council of the City of Sedalia, Missouri duly met on February 2, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building in the Council Chambers with Mayor Andrew L. Dawson presiding. Mayor Dawson called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of legislative prayer led by Chaplain Byron Matson followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Table with 4 columns: Name, Status, Name, Status. Rows include Jack Robinson, Cheryl Ames, Lee Scribner, Tina Boggess, Bob Hiller, Bob Cross, Rhiannon Foster, Michelle Franklin.

SERVICE AWARDS

Table with 4 columns: Award, Name, Title, Department. Rows include 20 Year Pin/Certificate (Joseph McCullough, Sergeant, Police), 15 Year Pin/ Certificate (Matthew Harris, Project Manager, Park), 10 Year Pin/Certificate (Travis Roberts, Building Maintenance Sup., Building Maintenance).

Parks Director Amy Epple stated that Matthew Harris has worked 15 years for the City, first in 2011 in the Public Works Department transitioning to the Parks Department as Park Superintendent. He later moved to Project Manager. Matthew has successfully overseen a variety of projects; new playground at Clover Dell; Splash pad and new playground at Hubbard Park; New shelters; start of Light up Liberty; Katy Park Playground; new dug outs at Vansell and Housel; new playground at Housel; resurfacing of all basketball courts; new Pickleball courts; Liberty Lagoon; Liberty Stadium; repainting of all Park bathrooms; Construction of Heckart Community Center and Memory Lanes Bowling Alley. The Parks Department looks forward to the future achievements that lie ahead of him.

City Administrator Matthew Wirt stated that if you are around Travis Roberts, you hear his phone ring and ring and ring. Everyone is trying to get ahold of him because he is an integral part of the City Maintenance crew that takes care of all the buildings and facilities. The amount of rings is a testament to how important and what a large roll he plays as Building Maintenance Supervisor.

SPECIAL AWARDS:

Fire Badge Pinnings:

Fire Chief Matthew Irwin presented Andrew Piliero, Jonzel Washington, Logan Warren and Kelan Ernst with their Firefighter Badges. Chief Irwin stated that it is hard to earn the badge for the City of Sedalia. They must complete Fire I and II programs as well as the EMT program in the span of 12-16 weeks. They have a lot of information put in front of them. They have excelled in every aspect of the job. It is not just about the four Firefighters and the career they are about to embark on. It is also about the families that are impacted by the eight hour days and long hours of studying.

RETIREMENT AWARDS: None

MINUTES: The Council Meeting minutes of January 20, 2026 were approved on motion by Boggess, seconded by Foster. All in Favor.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES: None.

ROLL CALL OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

FINANCE / ADMINISTRATION – Chairwoman Tina Boggess; Vice Chairwoman Rhiannon M. Foster

Presentation – Scott Joplin International Ragtime Foundation: Annual Report

Scott Joplin Ragtime Foundation Board President, John Simmons presented the Annual Report for the Foundation. The Board’s mission is “to preserve and promote an understanding and appreciation of Ragtime music and its history worldwide, and further to promote Scott Joplin’s contribution to Ragtime music and the importance of Sedalia, Missouri to Ragtime history.”

For more than 67 years, concerts and festivals have celebrated Scott Joplin and his music in Sedalia and the core production of the Foundation is the annual Ragtime Festival. The Annual 4-day festival hosts 33 musicians, 2 free performances, a dinner concert at The Venue, Katy Depot free venue, 7 Liberty Center concerts, 9 symposiums, interaction with musicians and Ragtime reunion.

There were 1,404 Concert tickets sold in 2025 compared to 1,243 in 2024. There were visitors from 37 states and 3 foreign countries. Overnight visitors, daytime tourism expenditures, and event revenue had a total direct economic impact of \$434,812.

2026 is a banner year for ragtime. Nationally known comic cartoonist Chris Ware is currently working on his fourth edition of *The Ragtime Ephemeralist*; Morgan Library and Museum in NYC planning major ragtime exhibit focused on copy of original “Maple Leaf Rag” contract as well as a copy of Joplin’s “Treemonisha”; Critical Edition of Scott Joplin’s piano music to be published by foremost publisher of classical music in the world, G. Henle, firmly placing Joplin among the great Western classical composers of all time; Ragtime The Musical currently on stage on Broadway; Washington National Opera to present Scott Joplin’s opera *Treemonisha* at the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in March 2026.

The 2026 Festival has 38 performers scheduled; a vintage parade on Saturday; expanded trolley tours; Jeanette Watts, a historical fiction author, vintage dance teacher is bringing back enthusiasm for dance activities; Joshua Rifkin, instrumental in building momentum for the Ragtime Festival in the 1970’s is returning again; Xylophones; and plans in place for expansion of social media and target advertising.

Last year, the foundation requested \$12,000.00 to increase the number of attendees which worked. City Staff also assists with venue construction and décor, street cleaning, trash removal and the festival is posted on the City’s website. Local businesses contribute over \$12,000.00 in products, services and sponsorships, Missouri Arts Council provides an annual grant of \$22,532.00, the Foundation receives a Tourism Marketing grant for \$43,000.00 and local clubs and organizations help support the event. Foundation Director Simmons is seeking City support of \$12,000.00 for 2027.

Kathleen Boswell introduced Ethan Leinwand, incoming Artistic Director and Artist in Residence. It has been over 25 years that the foundation has brought an artist in to the schools to educate students on the importance of the Festival and Sedalia in the music world and that Sedalia is the cradle of ragtime.

Vision for the Future:

- Continue to build attendee numbers surpassing historic levels with increased year-round visitors to Sedalia seeking ragtime culture as the market re-emerges.
- Continue adjusting festival to meet needs of patrons to attract more.
- Youtube presence.
- Educating younger generations to the importance of ragtime’s contribution to modern American music.
- Increased awareness of Sedalia’s location and importance to American music.

PUBLIC WORKS – Chairwoman Michelle Franklin; Vice Chairwoman Tina Boggess

- Ordinance No. 12120 was approved by City Council on August 19, 2024, authorizing professional engineering services from Broadfoot Engineering, LLC related to a utility extension serving the proposed Peterbilt facility along Highway 65 and Highway HH. During routine review of FY 2027 projects and budgets, staff identified a clerical error in the ordinance language, which incorrectly referenced a sanitary sewer main extension instead of the intended water main extension. This revised ordinance corrects that description and does not change the approved scope of work, project intent, or financial impact.

BILL NO. 2026-15, ORDINANCE NO. 12404 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 12120 RELATING TO AN AMENDED SCOPE OF WORK FOR PROFESSIONAL SURVEYING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING DESIGN, PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR A WATER MAIN EXTENSION ALONG HIGHWAY 65 AND HIGHWAY HH was read once by title.

2nd Reading – Motion by Foster, 2nd by Scribner. All in Favor.

Final Passage – Motion by Foster, 2nd by Scribner. All in Favor.

Roll Call Vote: Voting “Yes” were Robinson, Ames, Scribner, Boggess, Hiller, Cross, Foster and Franklin.

No one voted “No”.

- Baykal Properties LLC, has requested connection to the City of Sedalia’s water system to support development of property located at 27685 State Highway U. The City may allow water service outside city limits subject to execution of an agreement that includes annexation provisions when the property becomes contiguous to the city limits. The agreement grants the City a right to petition for annexation at such time and outlines construction, inspection, and service requirements.

BILL NO. 2026-16, ORDINANCE NO. 12405 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN ANNEXATION AND UTILITY SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR CONNECTION OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 27685 STATE HIGHWAY U TO THE CITY OF SEDALIA’S WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM was read once by title.

2nd Reading – Motion by Foster, 2nd by Scribner. All in Favor.

Final Passage – Motion by Scribner, 2nd by Boggess. All in Favor.

Roll Call Vote: Voting “Yes” were Robinson, Ames, Scribner, Boggess, Hiller, Cross, Foster and Franklin.

No one voted “No”.

- Baykal Properties LLC has requested connection to the City of Sedalia’s water system to support development of property located at 440 Covered Bridge Road. City policy allows water service outside the city limits subject to execution of an agreement that protects the City’s long-term interests. The proposed Annexation and Utility Service Agreement authorizes the water connection and grants the City a right to petition for annexation if the property becomes contiguous to the city limits in the future.

BILL NO. 2026-17, ORDINANCE NO. 12406 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN ANNEXATION AND UTILITY SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR CONNECTION OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 440 COVERED BRIDGE ROAD TO THE CITY OF SEDALIA’S WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM was read once by title.

2nd Reading – Motion by Foster, 2nd by Scribner. All in Favor.

Final Passage – Motion by Foster, 2nd by Scribner. All in Favor.

Roll Call Vote: Voting “Yes” were Robinson, Ames, Scribner, Boggess, Hiller, Cross, Foster and Franklin. No one voted “No”.

PUBLIC SAFETY – Chairman Lee Scribner; Vice Chairman Jack Robinson - No Report.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – Chairwoman Rhiannon M. Foster; Vice Chairwoman Cheryl Ames - No Report.

APPOINTMENTS: None.

BIDS: None.

LIQUOR LICENSES:

The following renewal Liquor Licenses were read and approved on motion by Foster, seconded by Hiller. All in Favor.

*Gloria Ayala dba El Espolon, 2400 South Limit, Liquor by the Drink & Sunday Sales

*Gloria Ayala dba Don Jose, 111 South Grand, Liquor by the Drink & Sunday Sales

*Gloria Ayala dba Tacos Degollado, 813 Thompson, Liquor by the Drink & Sunday Sales

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS FROM MAYOR/COUNCIL/ADMINISTRATOR:

Motion by Foster, seconded by Hiller to move the February 17, 2026 Council Meeting to February 23, 2026. All in favor.

Councilman Hiller thanked Public Works for getting the roads taken care of.

GOOD & WELFARE:

Rene Vance, 19813 Tanglenook, stated Governor Kehoe’s 2027 proposed budget incorporates a 20% cut to the Senior Services Growth and Development Program Fund. The Missouri Aging Association has rejected this proposal because it violates the explicit statutory commitment; it fails to adhere to the legislative intent and harms growing senior population. These funds do not come from personal taxes or general revenue but a tax from insurance policy premiums that are sold and paid to the Treasury of the State of Missouri. It also requires that this fund be dedicated and the moneys solely used by Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services for enhancing senior services provided by area agencies on aging in this state. The proposed income tax reduction would devastate the 1.2 million seniors because their Social Security is not taxed, but it will be. Much more funds would be incorporated with sales taxes on services and products. Ms. Vance stated that she wants to know the City’s ICE policy. She would like it if Homeland security was not allowed to wear masks since it is associated with crime. The seniors want them to follow the law with signed warrants. They also request local officers escort all ICE personnel within the City limits to ensure safety for residents.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m. on motion by Foster, seconded by Boggess to a closed-door meeting in the upstairs conference room pursuant to subsections 1 (Legal Advice), 2 (Real Estate), 3 (Personnel) and 12 (Negotiated Contracts) of Section 610.021 RSMo. Roll Call Vote: Voting “Yes” were Robinson, Ames, Scribner, Boggess, Hiller, Cross, Foster and Franklin. No one voted “No”.

The regular meeting reopened at 8:46 p.m. on motion by Foster, seconded by Cross.

ROLL CALL:

Jack Robinson	Present	Bob Hiller	Present
Cheryl Ames	Present	Bob Cross	Present
Lee Scribner	Present	Rhiannon Foster	Present
Tina Boggess	Present	Michelle Franklin	Present

BUSINESS RELATED TO CLOSED DOOR MEETING:

BILL NO. 2026-18, ORDINANCE NO. 12407 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A QUIT CLAIM DEED FOR THE SALE OF PROPERTY COMMONLY KNOWN AS 508 WEST MORGAN FROM THE CITY OF SEDALIA, MISSOURI TO BOOZE & BYRD PROPERTIES/LAND LLC was read once by title.

2nd Reading – Motion by Foster, 2nd by Scribner. All in Favor.

Final Passage – Motion by Foster, 2nd by Scribner. All in Favor.

Roll Call Vote: Voting “Yes” were Robinson, Ames, Scribner, Hiller, Cross, Foster and Franklin. No one voted “No”. Boggess abstained due to being prior owner of the property.

BILL NO. 2026-19, ORDINANCE NO. 12408 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING SPECIAL WARRANTY DEEDS FOR THE SALE OF PROPERTIES COMMONLY KNOWN AS 414 EAST CHESTNUT AND 416 EAST CHESTNUT FROM THE CITY OF SEDALIA, MISSOURI TO BOOZE & BYRD PROPERTIES/LAND LLC was read once by title.

2nd Reading – Motion by Foster, 2nd by Scribner. All in Favor.

Final Passage – Motion by Scribner, 2nd by Boggess. All in Favor.

Roll Call Vote: Voting “Yes” were Robinson, Ames, Scribner, Boggess, Hiller, Cross, Foster and Franklin. No one voted “No”.

BILL NO. 2026-20, ORDINANCE NO. 12409 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A QUIT CLAIM DEED FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY COMMONLY KNOWN AS MAPLE LEAF PARK, 105 NORTH LAMINE AVENUE, FROM THE CITY OF SEDALIA, MISSOURI TO SCOTT JOPLIN INTERNATIONAL RAGTIME FOUNDATION OF SEDALIA, INC was read once by title.

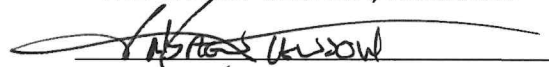
2nd Reading – Motion by Scribner, 2nd by Foster. All in Favor.

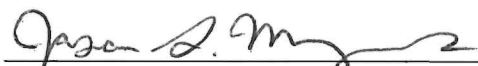
Final Passage – Motion by Foster, 2nd by Scribner. All in Favor.

Roll Call Vote: Voting “Yes” were Robinson, Ames, Scribner, Boggess, Hiller, Cross, Foster and Franklin. No one voted “No”.

Regular meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. on motion by Cross, seconded by Foster. All in Favor.

THE CITY OF SEDALIA, MISSOURI


Andrew L Dawson, Mayor


Jason S. Myers, City Clerk