

City of Bel Nor, Missouri
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Meeting Minutes

Meeting Type: Regular Session

Meeting Date: August 18th, 2026

Starting Time: 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The regular meeting of the City of Bel Nor Board of Aldermen was called to order by Mayor Anna Vogel at approximately 7:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Roll Call

Name	Present	Absent
Aldersperson Capstick	x	
Aldersperson Brockschmitt	x	
Mayor Vogel	x	
Aldersperson Durand	x	
Aldersperson Days	x	

A quorum was present.

Also present were Stephanie Karr, City Attorney, and Paul Anderson, St. John Police Chief.

3. Approval of previous meeting minutes

The Board reviewed minutes from the June 17th Public Strategic Planning Session Zero, June 18th Regular Session, July 20th Regular Session, July 22nd Public Strategic Planning Session One, and August 4th Work Session.

During review of the June 18th Regular Session minutes, Aldersperson Capstick requested an amendment reflecting concerns he had raised regarding information contained in an applicant's resume. City Attorney Karr advised that discussion concerning the performance or merit of an identifiable City employee should be addressed in closed session pursuant to Section 610.021(13), RSMo.

Motion:	Amend the June 18 th minutes to state 'Alderson Capstick believes parts of the applicant's resume was false, and change a misspelling to 'Rabies,' and, approve the June 17 th , July 20 th , July 22 nd , and August 4 th minutes as presented.		
Moved By:	Alderson Capstick		
Seconded By:	Alderson Brockchmitt		
Voice Vote:	Yay	Nay	
Alderson Capstick	x		
Alderson Brockschmitt	x		
Alderson Durand	x		
Alderson Days	x		
Motion: Passed			

4. Presentations & Reports

Public Safety Report - Chief Paul Anderson

Chief Paul Anderson presented the St. John Police Department activity report covering approximately July 20 through August 17.

Chief Anderson reported:

- 51 calls for service;
- One arrest related to a robbery involving a pizza delivery driver;
- Warrants were issued in connection with the robbery investigation;
- Response to a missing adult report, with the individual subsequently confirmed safe;
- Response to a reported burglary that was determined to involve a realtor at the wrong residence;
- Response to a suspicious-person report that was determined to involve lawn work;
- Response to a property damage report; and
- One traffic accident.

Chief Anderson also discussed license plate reader and camera technology. St. John currently uses five license plate readers purchased through its Community Improvement District. He explained that the cameras are useful investigative tools but stated that he could not attribute a reduction in crime specifically to their use.

Chief Anderson reported that St. John's retention period had recently been reduced to seven days. He discussed issues including access controls, data retention, cybersecurity, public records requirements, camera placement, and privacy considerations. He encouraged the City to carefully evaluate its needs and available technologies before selecting a system.

Alderson Capstick

Alderson Capstick reported on his research into public safety camera and license plate reader systems, including discussions with Flock Safety and other vendors.

He stated that preliminary information indicated a six-camera Flock system could cost less than approximately \$20,000 annually, depending on configuration, while other systems reviewed were substantially more expensive. He discussed solar-powered equipment, data retention, case-number requirements for searches, access controls, and potential law enforcement uses.

Further discussion of public safety technology was anticipated at a future special meeting.

Alderson Brockschmitt

Alderson Brockschmitt thanked residents who participated in the recent election and encouraged residents to meet and communicate with neighbors as part of neighborhood safety efforts.

He reminded residents of the August 29 Street Dance and encouraged residents to report suspicious activity to St. John Police through 911 or the non-emergency line, as appropriate.

Alderson Durand

Alderson Durand reported that she was developing a list of individuals who may be available to assist residents, particularly older residents, with lawn and landscaping work.

She invited residents to provide names and contact information for individuals who may be interested in providing these services.

Alderson Days

Alderson Days discussed school transportation and pedestrian safety as students returned to school.

She encouraged residents who observe concerns involving school buses to document the bus number and approximate time so that the issue can be appropriately addressed.

City Administrator Report

The City Administrator's July administrative report was presented by Mayor Anna Vogel

City Hall Hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday | 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Code Enforcement and Property Maintenance

For July:

- 31 new cases were opened;
- 47 re-inspections were completed; and
- 8 cases were closed or reached voluntary compliance.
- Permits and Development

During the reporting period:

- 8 permit applications were received;
- 6 plan reviews were completed;
- 2 occupancy inspections were completed; and
- 12 additional inspections were assigned or scheduled.

The rental and occupancy program remains active.

The City's new Report a Concern form is available on the City website. Residents may use the form to report issues including streetlights, grass, vehicles, and other concerns. Reports may be submitted anonymously.

Apartment Development Meeting Follow - Up

Staff continued follow-up from the July 27th meeting regarding the proposed apartment development. Responses had been received to several questions, with additional responses still pending. A question-and-answer summary would be distributed once the remaining information was received.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Residents were reminded of the Street Dance scheduled for August 29th.

Upcoming meetings discussed included:

- A Board work session during the first week of September regarding strategic planning and budget development;
- A special meeting regarding a prospective tenant for the City-owned restaurant property;
- A special meeting regarding public safety options, including cameras and other approaches; and
- The next Public Strategic Planning Session on September 16th at 6:00 p.m.

Municipal Court Update

City Attorney Karr provided an update regarding municipal court operations and consolidation options. The City of Jennings option had not progressed as anticipated and may no longer be viable.

City Attorney Karr and the Municipal Judge were continuing work to address outstanding legacy cases, warrants, and driver's license suspension issues.

Potential court consolidation options discussed included St. Louis County Municipal Court. St. Louis County would receive a portion of fines collected rather than requiring a separate monthly operating payment. Attorney Karr advised that administrative issues within County government could delay the process.

Transfer to the Associate Circuit Court remained legally available but was expected to require approximately six months. The Presiding Judge had previously indicated a preference not to assume additional municipal courts.

Other municipalities had also been contacted. St. Ann was at capacity, while several other municipalities either did not operate consolidated courts or were not interested in accepting an additional municipal court.

Approximately 45 older cases remained in the City's legacy REJIS system and could potentially need to be dismissed if St. Louis County were selected. Additional existing cases would also need to be reviewed for prosecutability.

New municipal citations were not currently being filed while the City's court structure remained unresolved. The Municipal Judge and temporary court administrative assistance were concentrating on existing cases and legacy matters.

The Board discussed scheduling additional consideration of municipal court options at a future special meeting.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was presented by Mayor Anna Vogel.

Discussion included a request for future financial reports to provide greater detail concerning disbursements and expenditures.

The General Fund bank balance was reported to be more than \$1 million as of the prior day. Mayor Vogel advised that the City was considering options to move a portion of available cash into an appropriate interest-bearing or investment account.

The Board also discussed improving availability of current budget and financial information on the City's website.

5. Business

a. Old Business – Second Reading

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE INMATE HOUSING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND ST. LOUIS COUNTY DUE TO AN INCREASE IN THE COST FOR HOUSING PER TWENTY-FOUR HOUR PERIOD.

City Attorney Karr presented the second reading of an ordinance approving an amendment to the City's inmate housing agreement with St. Louis County.

The amendment increases the charge for housing an inmate at the St. Louis County Justice Center from \$50 to \$75 per 24-hour period.

Motion:	Approve the ordinance as presented		
Moved By:	Aldersperson Capstick		
Seconded By:	Aldersperson Durand		
Roll Call Vote:	Aye	Nay	
Aldersperson Capstick	x		
Aldersperson Brockschmitt	x		
Aldersperson Durand	x		
Aldersperson Days	x		
Motion: Passed			

b. New Business

Motion: to Schedule a Special Session Regarding Prospective Lease of City-Owned Restaurant Property

The Board received preliminary information regarding a proposal from Creole with a Splash of Soul, Inc. to lease the City-owned restaurant property.

The proposal described a smaller-format neighborhood restaurant featuring Creole and Southern comfort food. Supporting materials, including information regarding the concept, proposed menu, previous restaurant experience, business documentation, licensing information, and financial information, were included with the meeting agenda materials.

Because the proposal had only recently been received, the Board agreed that additional discussion and an opportunity to hear directly from the prospective tenant were needed.

Staff will schedule and notice the special meeting and invite the prospective tenant to attend.

Motion:	Approve the motion as presented		
Moved By:	Aldersperson Durand		
Seconded By:	Aldersperson Brockschmitt		
Voice Vote:	Yay	Nay	
Aldersperson Capstick	x		
Aldersperson Brockschmitt	x		
Aldersperson Durand	x		
Aldersperson Days	x		
Motion: Passed			

Resolution – Reading and Adoption: R26-008 Accepting Donations for the City of Bel Nor Tree Board and Amending the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget.

The Board considered a resolution accepting donations totaling \$1,500 designated for the Bel Nor Tree Board and amending the Fiscal Year 2026 budget accordingly.

The Board discussed how the funds would be tracked and confirmed that the donation would remain designated for Tree Board and urban forestry purposes. Any expenditures would remain subject to the City's normal budgeting and purchasing procedures.

Motion:	Approve the resolution as presented		
Moved By:	Aldersperson Capstick		
Seconded By:	Aldersperson Brockschmitt		
Roll Call Vote:	Aye	Nay	
Aldersperson Capstick	x		
Aldersperson Brockschmitt	x		
Aldersperson Durand	x		
Aldersperson Days	x		
Motion: Passed			

Resolution- Reading and Adoption: R26-009 Authorizing the City of Bel Nor to Enter into a Community Forestry Cost-Share Agreement with the Missouri Department of Conservation

The Board considered a resolution authorizing the City of Bel Nor to enter into a Community Conservation Cost Share Agreement with the Missouri Department of Conservation and authorizing City Administration to execute the agreement.

The program provides up to approximately \$25,000 for eligible urban forestry activities, including tree trimming, removals, and other approved forestry work and equipment, subject to the City's required cost share.

Motion:	Approve the resolution as presented		
Moved By:	Alderson Durand		
Seconded By:	Alderson Brockschmitt		
Roll Call Vote:	Aye	Nay	
Alderson Capstick	X		
Alderson Brockschmitt	X		
Alderson Durand	X		
Alderson Days	X		
Motion: Passed			

6. Public Comment

Alderson Capstick raised concerns regarding guidance recently distributed concerning the process for Board members to bring proposals forward for consideration.

Discussion followed regarding the respective roles of elected officials and City Administration.

City Attorney Karr clarified that the document being discussed was guidance rather than a binding policy adopted by the Board. The Board retains authority to establish policy direction and determine whether an idea should move forward.

The discussion generally described a process in which:

- A Board member may bring forward an idea or preliminary proposal;
- The Board may discuss the concept and determine whether it wishes to pursue it;
- Staff may then be directed to conduct additional research, obtain bids or proposals, review legal or operational requirements, and return information to the Board; and
- The Board makes any final policy, expenditure, or contract decisions requiring Board approval.

The Board also discussed Sunshine Law requirements applicable when a quorum of the Board gathers to discuss City business. City Attorney Karr explained that discussions involving a quorum generally constitute a public meeting, including meetings conducted electronically. The Board may instead designate fewer than a quorum of members to conduct preliminary research and report findings back to the full Board.

Public safety camera proposals were used as an example. The Board discussed gathering preliminary information on multiple public safety approaches and reviewing those alternatives together at a future public meeting before directing staff to obtain formal bids or take further action.

Public comments and discussion addressed several topics, including:

- Public safety cameras and license plate reader technology;
- Privacy, data access, data retention, and potential liability associated with surveillance technology;
- Streetlight outages and tree growth obstructing streetlights;
- Neighborhood and pedestrian safety;
- The respective roles of the Board and City Administrator;
- Expectations regarding elected officials' workloads and responsibilities;
- Strategic planning and long-term City priorities;
- Compensation for elected officials;
- Availability and detail of City financial and budget information;
- Property maintenance and neighborhood conditions; and
- The status of the storm-damaged Woodview property.

Regarding the Woodview property, it was reported that reconstruction rather than demolition was anticipated following engineering review and that work was expected to continue.

7. Adjournment

Motion:	Adjourn the meeting		
Moved By:	Aldersperson Durand		
Seconded By:	Aldersperson Brockschmitt		
Voice Vote:	Yay	Nay	
Aldersperson Capstick	x		
Aldersperson Brockschmitt	x		
Aldersperson Durand	x		
Aldersperson Days	x		

Motion: Passed

The meeting concluded at approximately 9:33 PM

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 21 DAY OF September, 2026.

Anna Vogel

Anna Vogel, Mayor

ATTEST:
Savannah Jones

Savannah Jones, City Clerk

