

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

JULY 20, 2026

Mayor Fretwell called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Attending the meeting were Aldermen McKenzie, Janney, McDermott, Crenshaw and Phillips. Martin was absent. Also, in attendance were: City Attorney Smith, City Clerk Christina Seangmany, PW Director Kell, Police Clerk Joy Brewer; See sign in sheet.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by McKenzie and seconded by McDermott to approve the items on the Consent Agenda: Approval of minutes from the June 15, 2026 Regular Board Meeting, June Collector's and Treasurer's reports and appropriations. Motion carried.

LAUREN GRAESSLE-DNR GRANTS

Lauren presented financial assistance information to the Board of Aldermen regarding what grants and low interest loans are available to the City. Currently the City has been awarded \$2 million dollars for a connection grant to assist the city in adapting its system to receive water from Clark County Water District (CCWD). The city also qualifies for a 1.5% interest rate on a loan program that can provide a maximum of \$10 million in funding as a "Disadvantaged Community" with a percentage of that money having to be a match from the city. Lauren also explained that the city, if it chose to not go with CCWD, would go to the back of the line for \$10 million in grant funding that has initially been awarded to CCWD under the 2027 DWSRF Draft Intended Use Plan.

CHIEF MIKE BAKER PROPOSAL

Palmyra Police Chief Mike Baker was present to answer any questions about the proposal he submitted at the request of Mayor Fretwell. It will allow for the continuation of mentoring and guiding our officers as an independent contractor. Chief Baker will provide up to 12 hours per month at a rate not to exceed \$2,000 per month until a permanent police chief can be hired. Consultations may be done by phone, email, or in person if necessary. Motion was made by Crenshaw and seconded by McKenzie, motion carried.

ONE WAY ALLEY-LEWIS TO CLARK

Mayor Fretwell presented the Board with a proposal to make the alley between 4th and 5th Streets a one-way alley going South to North. This is being proposed so that damage can be prevented to buildings at both ends of the alley. Tight turning space has caused damage to both the Horner building and a building owned by Alderman Phillips. Alderman McDermott asked about vacating the portion of the alley between Phillips' building and the Long building (Bozarth Law location). After much discussion the plan presented, and the alternative plan did not receive a motion. Therefore, the proposal died for lack of a motion.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JULY 20, 2026

BARTLETT AND WEST PRESENTATION

Valerie Holland presented the Board with various options that might possibly work for the city rather than continue with CCWD Regionalization. The city could drill new wells that were PFAS free and pump them to the existing water plant, or the city could install a carbon filtration system that would filter out the PFAS. Valerie presented a spreadsheet indicating these options may be covered by grant funds from Missouri DNR. Some Board members expressed that they didn't feel the additional costs Bartlett and West have shown to make our water system compatible with CCWD will truly be that costly. After much discussion the Board voted to remain with the regionalization option with CCWD.

CCWD UPDATE

Kyle Pociask with Four Points Engineering was present to advise the Board of the progress with the regionalization project. Alderman Phillips requested the City look into a "Joint Powers Authority agreement" that would allow the City representation when it came to this regionalization project. The mayor said we will look into the idea. Land appraisals are being done for the new site, and a draft water purchase agreement has been submitted for the City's review. The city voted to hire Attorney Allen Garner recommended by the Missouri Municipal League to advise them on the water purchase agreement submitted by CCWD. Monthly progress meetings will continue between the City and CCWD representatives.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Dr. Lauren Schellenberger was present to ask the Board if they would at least look into a Joint Powers Authority agreement with Clark County Water so the City would have representation during decision making for this project.

Wes Lay asked the mayor about the dissolution of the mutual assistance agreement between the City of Canton and the City of La Grange. The mayor explained this was due to him asking a La Grange police officer if he would like a job in Canton, and also that the City did not ask La Grange to assist in training the new Canton officers. Mayor Fretwell will be reaching out to La Grange to see about re-establishing the agreement at a later date. It was noted that La Grange Police are still assisting with responding when emergencies arise.

OTHER BUSINESS

Motion was made by McKenzie to authorize Attorney Allen Garner to draft an agreement for legal services for the City of Canton to purchase water from Clark County Water District. Attorney Garner will be researching the contract before it is signed. McDemott seconded, motion carried.

Robert Hogan from Mecor Engineering provided the board with an update on the TAP Grant (sidewalk project). He has been working with MODOT to complete review. After the review is complete, they will be moving to the bid phase.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JULY 20, 2026

Motion was made by Crenshaw to approve \$3,500.00 to Canton Main Street for advertising for upcoming events and \$1,200.00 for a social media coordinator. This will be paid out of Tourism Fund. McKenzie seconded, motion carried.

Motion was made by McKenzie to continue in the direction the city is going with purchasing water from Clark County Water District versus looking at different options. McDermott seconded, motion carried.

Motion was made by Phillips to advertise for selection for engineering for the five year plan. McDermott seconded, motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS

None

POLICE COMMITTEE

None

FINANCE COMMITTEE

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Janney motioned to adjourn and McDermott seconded and the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Christina Seangmany, City Clerk

Terry Fretwell, Mayor