

The Dallas City City Council held its regular meeting on October 5, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. Mayor Kevin Six called the meeting to order with the following commissioners present: Carole McDowell, Peggy Newberry, Harold Northup Jr., and Greg Olson.

Others attending the meeting were Jim French, Anne Thompson, Judy Melton, Victoria Livingston, Laurey Wibbell, Beth Greenig, Chari Purchatzke, Brad Jackson, Connie Cowan, Cathie Smith, and Alicyn Gerhardt.

A motion was made by Newberry, and 2nd by Olson to accept the minutes of the September 21, 2026, meeting. McDowell, Newberry, Northup, Olson, and Six AYE.

A motion was made by Olson, and 2nd by McDowell to pay bills. McDowell, Newberry, Northup, Olson, and Six AYE.

Jim French asked some questions regarding the Land Bank. He asked who decides which properties get taken down. Mrs. Victoria Livingston, Executive Director of Prairie Hills Resources Conservation and Development, explained that it depends on the ability of the Land Bank to purchase the property. She also reported that she is still waiting for BNSF Railroad to get back to her regarding the property on Oak Street, next to the railroad tracks, that the Land Bank has purchased.

Laurey Wibbell asked about the police situation in town. Commissioner Northup informed her that it appears that we might be getting closer to possibly getting a police officer.

Anne Thompson asked about the permits for UTV's and how someone can get one since we currently do not have a police officer. Mayor Six reported that he has issued one sticker, but only after he had collected all of the required information.

The city's current garbage collection contract with B & K Waste Solutions expires at the end of 2026. Brad Jackson, owner of B & K Waste Solutions, presented the council with a new proposal. It would be a 5 year contract from January 1, 2027, to December 31, 2031, with the monthly fee being \$16.75 per unit in 2027 and 2028 and \$17.00 in 2029, 2030, and 2031. A motion was made by Northup, and 2nd by Olson to sign a 5 year contract with B & K Waste Solutions for trash service for Dallas City residential properties from January 1, 2027, to December 31, 2031, at the cost of \$16.75 per unit in 2027 and 2028 and \$17.00 in 2029, 2030, and 2031. Newberry, McDowell, Northup, Olson, and Six AYE.

Commissioner Olson asked the city attorney about East Fifth Street east of Maple Street. She is working on it.

Commissioner McDowell reported that she is planning on taking pictures of the property at 386 Oak Street and having the city attorney send them to the property owner to see if they realize what they purchased. The city attorney will also inquire to see if the property owner would be willing to deed the property over to the Land Bank or sell the property.

Discussed a property that has been getting water in the basement since some work was done on the street. It appears that a culvert might be plugged and need to be replaced.

Discussed putting lights around the walking path. Discussed possibly putting solar powered lights around it. Commissioner Northup will look into getting some prices.

Cathie Smith made the council aware that there is a section of the walking path that is covered with mud.

Discussed the bids that the city has received for a generator for the Community Building. The city clerk will get the mayor and commissioners a copy of the estimate for them to look over before the next meeting so that a decision can be made then.

Connie Cowan appeared on behalf of Trees Forever. Trees Forever is an organization that provides communities grant funding through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources for tree projects. Trees Forever offers 3 types of grants: (1) Community tree planting grants that help communities diversify their community forests and recover from natural or man-made disasters like emerald ash borer. (2) Inventory and management plan funding that provides funding for the inventory and management plan by a certified professional that will give insight into species composition and the health of trees currently growing on public property. (3) Tree removal grant funding for communities that achieve Tree City USA designation through the Arbor Day Foundation for the removal of public trees. This will be discussed more at the next meeting.

Mayor Six reported that he has spoken to Bill Spiekermeier regarding his property at 755 West Second Street. He has indicated to Mayor Six that he would be willing to sell a piece of the ground behind the building to the city so that the city can use it for a sewer lift station. Mayor Six will speak to Mr. Spiekermeier regarding a price. This will be discussed more at the next meeting.

Discussed making building codes for the maintenance of properties.

Jim French discussed motorized scooters being operated by children under the age of 16. The council informed Mr. French that a state law goes into effect January 1, 2027, that will make this illegal.

A motion was made by Northup, and 2nd by Olson to adjourn the meeting. McDowell, Newberry, Northup, Olson, and Six AYE.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Steven K Vorhies, City Clerk