

CITY OF DONIPHAN
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
March 3, 2026
6:00 P.M.

The City Council met in regular session at 110 N. Grand Avenue, at the above-mentioned time and date with the following members of the council present: Mayor Dennis Cox. City Attorney Chris Miller & City Clerk Marti Porter. Council members present: Riley March, Steve Collins, Denver Jackson & Leslie Netherland.

Others present were: Chief of Police Mark Rodgers & Utilities Director Jarret Ficke, Fire Chief Greg Crain, Treasurer Chasity Mathis, & Collector Kim Cannon.

Visitors were: Debra Tune, Heather Jones, Billy & Logan Jerls.

Mayor Cox called the meeting to order. The Council reviewed the minutes of the February 3rd meeting. A motion was made by Alderwoman Netherland to approve minute. Motion was seconded by Alderman Collins. All in favor. Motion carried.

New Business

Mayor Cox asked for a motion to rehire Ball Park Program Director Kara Ritchey. Alderman Jackson made a motion to rehire Kara Ritchey as Ball Park Director for 2026 Ball program. Alderman March seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Visitors

Logan Jerls asked the Council for permission to place 4-5 bat boxes around the City, for his Eagle rank with Eagle Scouts. There was a discussion of placements & materials. Once Logan has specifics of number or boxes he will be able to construct, he will return to Council for their approval of placements & City contribution.

Departmental reports were next on the agenda.

- MMDA Trial Balance, Alderman Jackson made a motion to accept the report. Alderwoman Netherland seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- February Routine Bills, Alderman Jackson made a motion to accept the report. Alderwoman Netherland seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- February Sales Tax, Alderwoman Netherland made a motion to accept the report. Alderman Jackson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- February 15th Payroll/Bills, Alderman Jackson made a motion to accept the report. Alderman Collins seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- February 30th Payroll/Bills, Alderman Jackson made a motion to accept the report. Alderman Collins seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Public Works February Monthly Report, Alderman Jackson made a motion to accept the report. Alderman Collins seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Code Enforcement/Zoning February Monthly Report, Alderman Jackson made a motion to accept the report. Alderman March seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Fire Dept February Monthly Report, Alderman Jackson made a motion to accept the report. Alderman March seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Police Dept February Monthly Report, Alderman Jackson made a motion to accept the report. Alderman March seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Attorney Miller

Attorney Miller is requesting 2 handicapped parking spots on Charles St for access to the Homestead. Discussion. Alderman Jackson made a motion to change the ordinance. Alderwoman Netherland seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Attorney Miller 1st reading **ORDINANCE 2026-1 : AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO NO PARKING ZONES ON CERTAIN STREETS WITHIN THE CITY.** A discussion followed. A motion to suspend the rules and place ordinance on its second reading was made by Alderman Collins and seconded by Alderman March. All in favor. Motion carried. Ordinance was read a second and final time. The roll call vote was as follows: March – yea; Collins – yea; Jackson – yea; Netherland – yea. All in favor. Motion carried

Open discussion, Alderwomen Netherland asked Code Enforcement Officer Greg Crain about a residence on Lafayette St. Code Enforcement Officer Crain relayed he has spoke with the owners, the husband is in Arizona in hospice, he is in touch with the son. He has also discussed the matter with Attorney Miller.

Alderwoman Netherland asked Utilities Director Ficke about cost estimates for the approach into the Sand shed. Ficke relayed that for asphalt it would be \$13,000 for a 25x60 & for concrete it would be \$12,670 for a 60x25. Discussion.

City Clerk Marti Porter asked permission for a Food Truck to park in the back lot for the Meet the Author & book sale event on March 28th. Discussion. Council was in agreeance.

City Treasurer Chasity Mathis reminded the room that there would be a special meeting March the 16th at 9 a.m. to open mowing & lawn maintenance bids.

Mayor Cox gave an update on the TAP project. Pre Construction meeting for the project revealed that project will begin 4/20/2026. Project is scheduled to be completed 8/18/2026, contractors set completion for 7/20/26.

Alderwoman Netherland stated she will not be available for the next meeting on April 7th.

At this time Mayor Cox stated that a closed session had been posted to discuss personnel pursuant to RSMo Section 610.021(1) & asked for a motion to end the open meeting & go into a closed meeting. Alderman Collins made a motion to end open & go into a closed session.

Alderman Jackson seconded the motion. Roll call vote to go into a closed meeting was; Alderman Collins – yea, Alderwoman Netherland – yea, Alderman Jackson – yea & Alderman March – yea,

Time was 6:23 p.m.

Alderman Jackson made a motion to go back into a regular session; Alderman Collins seconded the motion. Roll call vote for regular session was; Alderman Collins – yea, Alderman March – yea, Alderwoman Netherland – yea, Alderman Jackson – yes.

Attorney Miller 1st reading **ORDINANCE 2026-2 : AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF DONIPHAN RELATING TO THE COMPENSATION OF THE CITY ATTORNEY.** A motion to suspend the rules and place ordinance on its second reading was made by Alderman Collins and seconded by Alderman March. All in favor. Motion carried. Ordinance was read a second and final time. The roll call vote was as follows: March – yea; Collins – yea; Jackson – yea; Netherland – yea. All in favor. Motion carried

Alderman Collins made a motion to adjourn. Alderman March seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Time was 6:42 p.m.

THE FOREGOING MINUTES ARE PROVISIONAL ONLY AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE PRIOR TO APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN AT THEIR NEXT MEETING