



The City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri met during a Work Session on Monday, August 25, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall located at 711 West Main Street, Festus, Missouri.

I. Call to Order

Mayor Richards called the Work Session to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present:

Councilman Collier
Councilwoman Templeton
Councilman Wehner via Zoom
Councilman Dennis
Councilman Venz
Councilman Cook
Councilman Tinnin

Absent:

Councilman Boyer

Also in attendance:

Mayor Samuel F. Richards, City Administrator Greg Camp, City Clerk Leah Smith, Finance Director Michelle Vaughn, Parks Director Josh Whaley, Recreation and Tourism Director Barb Lowry, Building and Planning Director Mark Harris, Police Chief Doug Wendel, Fire Chief Jeff Broombaugh, and City Attorney Brian Malone.

II. Mayor & City Council Discussion

City Administrator Greg Camp updated council on the budget, noting shoring equipment was missing from the first draft and that budget amendments to wrap up FY24-25 are included on the first three pages. He discussed the proposed police training facility, which would also serve as a workspace, estimating \$275,000 for architectural and engineering costs contingent on Prop P funding. Other police-related expenses include radio replacements, four cars, and Tahoe equipment funded by the opioid settlement, as well as a DWI vehicle replacement. Councilman Venz further inquired about regional facility the County is in talks with or the land behind JPAD, while Chief Wendel explained that large regional grant facilities don't meet Festus's needs and stressed the importance of maintaining local control if a training facility is built.



Council members weighed the pros and cons, with Councilman Dennis expressing concern about high costs and whether the city should focus on training versus enforcement. Camp clarified that Prop P funds would support training and equipment across departments and that savings could still go toward other priorities, such as fire equipment. Councilman Cook asked about construction management, and Camp recommended Navigate Building Solutions, citing their track record. Councilman Tinnin cautioned against limiting property size, while Chief Wendel noted the facility does not have to be within city limits but should remain close for accessibility and security. Council agreed an executive session would be needed to further discuss real estate.

Council reviewed tourism, water, and budget matters. The water department update included the need for a dump truck, tank maintenance, and a \$400,000 waterline replacement, with the water master plan ready to go. Payroll adjustments and transfers were also discussed. Councilman Cook asked about the library lease and confirmed \$310,000 is budgeted for next year. He also clarified \$40,000 in Chapter 100 costs tied to Gilmore Bell and the Sept. 8 ordinance. Twin City Days overtime was raised, with council members agreeing employees should have the option of overtime pay instead of only comp time. A breakdown of overtime costs per event is being prepared by Mr. Camp.

Councilwoman Templeton requested additional security cameras on Main Street and behind buildings, asking whether costs fall under police, Flock, or elsewhere. Chief Wendel noted a Flock camera runs about \$3,500 and cautioned about broader requests citywide, though the Main Street Association could pursue its own. She also asked about lighting, and Camp explained that reconstruction of 2nd Street parking will provide brighter lighting. Council confirmed a Sept. 8 work session at 5:30 p.m., with any leftover items to carry into new business.

III. Adjournment

Councilman Collier moved to close the Work Session and was seconded by Councilwoman Templeton.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Absent
Councilman Collier:	Aye
Councilwoman Templeton:	Aye
Councilman Wehner:	Aye
Councilman Dennis:	Aye

**CITY OF FESTUS
COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
AUGUST 25, 2025**



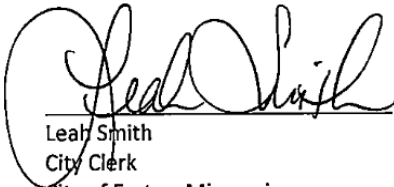
**CITY HALL
711 W MAIN STREET
FESTUS, MO 63028**

Councilman Venz: Aye
Councilman Cook: Aye
Councilman Tinnin: Aye

Motion carried and the work session adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

9/8/2025

Date - Approved by Council


Leah Smith
City Clerk
City of Festus, Missouri