



The City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri, met on Monday, January 12, 2026, for a Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall located at 711 West Main Street, Festus, Missouri.

I. Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tem Boyer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present:

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

Absent:

Councilman Cook (arrived 7:12PM)

Also in attendance:

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Recited

II. Approval of Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the Minutes

2. Approval of Bills

Mayor Pro Tem Boyer asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Boyer announced the bills were in the amount of \$661,335.43.

Motion to approve the consent agenda, the bills, and minutes of the Regular Meeting Minutes from December 22, 2025, was made by Councilman Collier, seconded by Councilwoman Templeton.



Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Aye
Councilman Collier:	Aye
Councilwoman Templeton:	Aye
Councilman Wehner:	Aye
Councilman Dennis:	Aye
Councilman Venz:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Absent
Councilman Tinnin:	Aye

Motion carried.

3. Correspondence

III. Remarks of Visitors

- a. Jeremiah Essary, 1410 Moose Pass – Spoke of recent visits to four data centers.
- b. Jesse Cordova, 702 Huber Street – Spoke of resident involvement and advisory groups.
- c. Erica Carter, 14 Ashford Place – Spoke of citizen and city communication.
- d. Sherman Doyle, 6 Glenkee Court – Spoke of citizen interest in politics and city business.
- e. Hunter Rose, 825 Joachim Street – Spoke in opposition of a data center.
- f. John Youmans, 921 N 4th Street – Spoke of data centers and CRG.
- g. Bob DeGarmo, 150 N 10th Street - Distributed handout; discussed proposed ordinance.
- h. Travis Layton, 2916 High Ridge – Distributed handouts; discussed data center incentives.
- i. Matt Drinen, 1332 Melvin Drive – Spoke of transparency and advisory committees.
- j. Judy Ivery, 1952 Anchorage Drive – Spoke of transparency.
- k. Mary Fakes, 9 Cedarbrook Drive – Spoke of Rules of Decorum and transparency.
- l. Luke Adams, 1564 Westvale Drive – Spoke of the unhoused community and a call to action for assistance.

IV. Bids

a. Police Department – License Plate Reader

Chief Doug Wendel reported that the Police Department is seeking to purchase a new License Plate Reader (LPR) for installation in one of the traffic safety vehicles. The LPR will be funded through the Missouri Blue Shield Grant. A quote was received from Motorola Solutions for \$22,769.40 for a Vigilant LPR system, which is consistent with the two existing systems currently installed in other department vehicles. Motorola Solutions is the sole provider of this system in the area.



Motion to approve the LPR bid for \$22,769.40 from Motorola Solutions was made by Councilwoman Templeton and seconded by Councilman Collier.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Aye
Councilman Collier:	Aye
Councilwoman Templeton:	Aye
Councilman Wehner:	Aye
Councilman Dennis:	Aye
Councilman Venz:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Absent
Councilman Tinnin:	Aye

Motion carried.

b. Police Department – Mobile Data Terminal

Chief Doug Wendel reported that the Police Department needs to update several Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) used in patrol vehicles. The original MDTs were purchased several years ago through a grant, and the department is beginning a planned rotation to replace outdated units. The goal is to purchase approximately five to seven MDTs annually to avoid the need for full replacement at one time. The seven MDTs will be funded through the Missouri Blue Shield Grant. A bid was received from Forward Slash in the amount of \$3,444.85 per computer, for a total cost of \$24,113.95.

Motion to approve the MDTs bid for \$24,113.95 from Forward Slash was made by Councilman Dennis and seconded by Councilwoman Templeton.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Aye
Councilman Collier:	Aye
Councilwoman Templeton:	Aye
Councilman Wehner:	Aye
Councilman Dennis:	Aye
Councilman Venz:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Absent
Councilman Tinnin:	Aye

Motion carried.



V. Ordinances and Resolutions

None

VI. New Business

a. Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. March on January 18, 2026 (Giving Something Back to the Community)

Mayor Pro Tem Boyer discussed the 31st anniversary of the march; reporting the march will begin at 2:00 PM at Mt. Olive MB Church on Lincoln Avenue in Crystal City and end at Buren Chapel in Festus, with a short program immediately following.

Motion to acknowledge and approve the Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. March on January 18, 2026, was made by Councilwoman Templeton, seconded by Councilman Dennis.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Aye
Councilman Collier:	Aye
Councilwoman Templeton:	Aye
Councilman Wehner:	Aye
Councilman Dennis:	Aye
Councilman Venz:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Absent
Councilman Tinnin:	Aye

Motion carried.

b. Festival Request – Relaxin' in the Park Parade, May 15, 2026

James Barbaglia of Relaxin' in the Park would like to propose a parade on Main Street that coincides with their event that promotes the free event for spectators. Mayor Pro Tem Boyer suggested the Council table the request so the logistics could be worked out.

c. CDL Training Budget Amendment

Parks Director Josh Whaley requested a \$6,000.00 budget amendment to allow four new employees to attend training to obtain their Commercial Driver's Licenses (CDLs). Councilman Dennis asked whether the passing rate remained at 100 percent, which Director Whaley confirmed.



Motion to approve the budget amendment from travel, training and lodging line for \$6,000.00 to cover four staff members to receive CDL training was made by Councilwoman Templeton and seconded by Councilman Collier.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Aye
Councilman Collier:	Aye
Councilwoman Templeton:	Aye
Councilman Wehner:	Aye
Councilman Dennis:	Aye
Councilman Venz:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Absent
Councilman Tinnin:	Aye

Motion carried.

VII. Old Business

None

VIII. Closed Session

Mayor Pro Tem Boyer asked for a motion to enter Closed Session pursuant to Missouri Law for the purpose of dealing with matters relating to RSMo. 610.021 (1) legal actions, causes of action, or privileged communications between Council and legal counsel.

Motion to enter Closed Session, was made by Councilman Venz, seconded by Councilman Collier.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Aye
Councilman Collier:	Aye
Councilwoman Templeton:	Aye
Councilman Wehner:	Aye
Councilman Dennis:	Aye
Councilman Venz:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Absent
Councilman Tinnin:	Aye

Motion carried.

Council entered Closed Session at 7:12 p.m.



Councilman Cook arrived at 7:12 p.m.

Council returned from Closed Session at 7:47 p.m.

Councilman Wehner left the meeting.

IX. Mayor and City Council Reports

Councilman Collier thanked the library staff for allowing use of a room for training and noted that volunteers are assisting with tax return preparation through a tax aid program for elderly and low-income residents. He inquired about the status of 406 Main Street, noting it is close to completion, and asked whether the empty lot on Main Street is still for sale. He was informed that the lot has been purchased, though future plans are unknown. Councilman Collier also provided an update on Pedal 'n Pi, stating the project is awaiting one remaining item from the state.

Councilwoman Templeton commented that the new street lights look great and look even better when turned on. Councilwoman Templeton reported a citizen request for two new stop signs at 3rd Street and Cromwell going both ways. Chief Wendel that a traffic study would need to be done prior.

Councilman Venz shared that Pedal'n Pi looks great.

Councilman Tinnin reported receiving calls regarding the tennis courts, noting that the electricity is out and the lights are not working. He also stated that individuals are using the basketball court in a manner that is damaging the courts and that a light has been twisted. He advised it may take a couple of days to address the issues and suggested increased police patrol in the area.

Councilman Dennis reported that traffic counts are up and noted new equipment on police vehicles. He thanked Zac from the Water Department for assistance with a church shutoff valve. An update was provided from City Administrator Camp on street lights, noting North Mill installations are complete, South 2nd Street is pending, and Ameren will remove old lights. Councilman Dennis inquired about if the city remains on track for the splash pad, to which Director Whaley answered they were, and requested cost information for installing pavers after a light show damaged a field.

Councilman Cook commented that the grass pavers are called permeable pavement. Inquired about publishing the agenda packet online? Mr. Camp answered yes, the



current packet (for this meeting) and moving forward and will work on Rules of Decorum in coming weeks.

Mayor Pro Tem Boyer noted that he wants what is best for Festus and appreciates the people who came and spoke up. Many do not realize what the Council goes through.

X. Adjournment

Councilman Cook made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Collier.

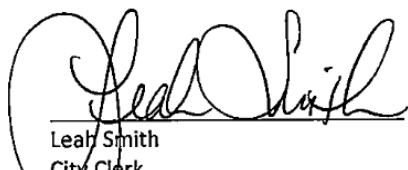
Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Aye
Councilman Collier:	Aye
Councilwoman Templeton:	Aye
Councilman Wehner:	Absent
Councilman Dennis:	Aye
Councilman Venz:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Aye
Councilman Tinnin:	Aye

Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

2/9/2026

Date - Approved by Council


Leah Smith
City Clerk
City of Festus, Missouri