



The City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri, met on Monday, June 8, 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 Richards called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present:

Councilman Boyer
Councilman Weekley
Councilman McCarthy
Councilman Dennis
Councilman Moore
Councilman Cook
Councilman Belleville
Mayor Richards

Absent: None

Also in attendance:

Public Works Director and Interim City Administrator Michael Christopher, City Clerk Leah Smith, Finance Director Michelle Vaughn, Building and Planning Director Jim Walker, Police Chief Doug Wendel, Fire Chief Jeff Broombaugh, Recreation and Tourism Director Barb Lowry, and City Attorney Brian Malone.

Pledge of Allegiance

Recited

II. Approval of Consent Agenda

a. Approval of the Minutes

1. April 27, 2026 – Work Session & Regular Meeting Minutes

b. Approval of Bills

Mayor Richards asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mayor Richards announced the bills were in the amount of \$788,053.65. Councilman Belleville asked to pull out and discuss legal fees for recall. Mayor Richards stated he could discuss the legal bill in reports from City Council.

c. Correspondence



Mayor Richards announced that City Clerk Leah Smith was nominated for the Municipal Clerks Honor Roll and recognized by the Missouri City Clerks and Finance Officers Association for her dedication and outstanding service to the City of Festus.

Motion to approve the consent agenda, the bills, and minutes was made by Councilman Belleville, seconded by Councilman Dennis.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Aye
Councilman Weekley:	Aye
Councilman McCarthy:	Aye
Councilman Dennis:	Aye
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Aye
Councilman Belleville:	Aye

Motion carried.

III. Remarks of Visitors

- a. Sharon Valish, 4 Glenkee Court - Status of Data Center
- b. Dana DeRousse, 9239 Cherry Ln - Batting cage at Sunset Park
- c. Gabriel Cotton, 11764 Kingston Dr. - General topic
- d. Mary Youmans, 921 N 4th St - General topic
- e. Erica Carter, 14 Ashford Pl - General topic
- f. Matt Stout, 1308 N 3rd - Ward 2
- g. Sherman Doyle, 6 Glenkee Ct - General topic
- h. Judy Ivery, 1962 Anchorage Dr - General topic
- i. Andrew Shelley, 730 Vine St - General topic
- j. Lori Merriman, 11530 Ten Point Ln - Recall
- k. Vaughn Hogan, 1000 Savanna Pl – Transparency

IV. Bids

- a. **2026 Street Improvements Project – Concrete Pad Replacement & Asphalt Overlay**
Mr. Christopher reported that there could be an open motion from the May 26, 2026 Regular City Council Meeting from Councilman Dennis to approve the bid from Spencer Contracting. Councilman Dennis withdrew his motion.

Mr. Christopher presented a staff report explaining the 2026 street improvement project includes mill and overlay work, concrete panel replacements, and paving improvements at Turtle Cove, and staff recommends awarding the contract to



Spencer Contracting Company rather than Jokerst Contracting due to concerns regarding timeliness, communication, and required paperwork.

Mayor Richards asked for a motion to approve the 2026 Street Improvements Project – Concrete Pad Replacement and Asphalt Overlay bid with Spencer Contracting for \$1,434,676.37. No motion was made.

City Council discussed implementing safeguards with Jokerst Contracting, including establishing mobilization dates and requiring 60- and 90-day progress updates to ensure accountability and timely completion of the project.

Motion to approve the 2026 Street Improvements Project – Concrete Pad Replacement and Asphalt Overlay bid with Jokerst Paving and Contracting for \$1,361,052.97 was made by Councilman Dennis, seconded by Councilman Moore.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Aye
Councilman Weekley:	Nay
Councilman McCarthy:	Aye
Councilman Dennis:	Aye
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Aye
Councilman Belleville:	Aye

Motion carried.

V. Ordinances and Resolutions

Clerk Smith read the following:

Bill No. 4882 – An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Festus, Missouri; authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract with Burns & McDonnell for the 2026 Watermain Improvements; incorporating said contract and documents as part of this ordinance; and establishing an effective date.

Mr. Christopher reported that this ordinance is a continuation of the bid discussion and approval from May 26, 2026.

Motion to suspend rules to read Bill No. 4882 a second time was made by Councilman Boyer and seconded by Councilman Dennis.

Vote:



Councilman Boyer:	Aye
Councilman Weekley:	Aye
Councilman McCarthy:	Aye
Councilman Dennis:	Aye
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Aye
Councilman Belleville:	Aye

Motion carried. Clerk Smith read Bill No. 4882 a second time.

Mayor Richards called for a vote to finally approve Bill No. 4882.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Aye
Councilman Weekley:	Aye
Councilman McCarthy:	Aye
Councilman Dennis:	Aye
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Aye
Councilman Belleville:	Aye

Bill 4882 finally passed.

Clerk Smith read the following:

Bill No. 4883 – An ordinance of the City Council of the City of the Festus, Missouri; authorizing the Mayor to execute a contract with Spencer Contracting for the 2026 Street Improvements Project; incorporating said contract and documents as part of this ordinance; and establishing an effective date.

Councilman Dennis made a motion to amend Bill No. 4883 to award the contract to Jokerst Contract and Paving for \$1,361,052.97, seconded by Councilman Boyer.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Aye
Councilman Weekley:	Aye
Councilman McCarthy:	Aye
Councilman Dennis:	Aye
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Aye
Councilman Belleville:	Aye



Motion carried.

Clerk Smith read the following:

Resolution No. 4880.5 - A Resolution of the Council of the City of Festus, Missouri, ordering the submission to the qualified voters of the City of Festus, Missouri the question of recall of David Boyer from the Office of the Council Member - Ward 1.

Councilman Belleville made a motion to make public the City Attorney Brian Malone's Confidential Memorandum regarding the Recall Petition, seconded by Councilman Cook.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Aye
Councilman Weekley:	Aye
Councilman McCarthy:	Aye
Councilman Dennis:	Aye
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Aye
Councilman Belleville:	Aye

Motion carried.

Brian Malone provided a staff report summarizing his legal opinion of the recall petition. Councilman Belleville stated that this petition was a way for voters to hold the elected officials accountable and the City Council should vote 7-0 to approve the resolutions and recall all four city officials.

Councilman Moore made a motion to approve Resolution No. 4880.5, seconded by Councilman Weekley.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Nay
Councilman Weekley:	Aye
Councilman McCarthy:	Nay
Councilman Dennis:	Nay
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Nay
Councilman Belleville:	Aye



Resolution No. 4880.5 has failed.

Clerk Smith read the following:

Resolution No. 4881.5 - A Resolution of the Council of the City of Festus, Missouri, ordering the submission to the qualified voters of the City of Festus, Missouri the question of recall of Kevin Dennis from the Office of the Council Member - Ward 3.

Councilman Moore made a motion to approve Resolution No. 4881.5, seconded by Councilman Weekley.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Nay
Councilman Weekley:	Aye
Councilman McCarthy:	Nay
Councilman Dennis:	Nay
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Nay
Councilman Belleville:	Aye

Resolution No. 4881.5 has failed.

Resolution No. 4882.5 - A Resolution of the Council of the City of Festus, Missouri, ordering the submission to the qualified voters of the City of Festus, Missouri the question of recall of Michael Cook from the Office of the Council Member - Ward 4.

Councilman Belleville made a motion to approve Resolution No. 4882.5, seconded by Councilman Weekley.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Nay
Councilman Weekley:	Aye
Councilman McCarthy:	Nay
Councilman Dennis:	Nay
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Abstain
Councilman Belleville:	Aye

3 Aye, 3 Nay, 1 Abstain - Tiebreaker:

Mayor Richards:	Nay
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3 Aye, 4 Nay, 1 Abstain – Resolution No. 4882.5 has failed.



Resolution No. 4883.5 - A Resolution of the Council of the City of Festus, Missouri, ordering the submission to the qualified voters of the City of Festus, Missouri the question of recall of Samuel Richards from the Office of the Mayor.

Councilman Moore made a motion to approve Resolution No. 4883.5, seconded by Councilman Weekley.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Nay
Councilman Weekley:	Aye
Councilman McCarthy:	Nay
Councilman Dennis:	Nay
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Nay
Councilman Belleville:	Aye

Resolution No. 4883.5 has failed.

VI. New Business

None

VII. Old Business

a. Treasurer Appointment – Lori Eisenbeis

Mayor Richards stated he is nominating Lori Eisenbeis for appointment as City Treasurer. City Attorney Brian Malone clarified that the appointment would be until the next General Municipal Election in April of 2027.

Motion to appoint Lori Eisenbeis as City Treasurer until the next General Municipal Election in April 2027, was made by Councilman Moore and seconded by Councilman Weekley.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Aye
Councilman Weekley:	Aye
Councilman McCarthy:	Aye
Councilman Dennis:	Aye
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Aye
Councilman Belleville:	Aye



Motion carried.

b. Planning & Zoning Commission – Council Representative Appointment

Mayor Richards stated he is nominating City Councilman Allen McCarthy to serve as Council Representative on the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Motion to appoint Allen McCarthy as Council Representative on the Planning and Zoning Commission, was made by Councilman Cook and seconded by Councilman Dennis.

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Aye
Councilman Weekley:	Aye
Councilman McCarthy:	Aye
Councilman Dennis:	Aye
Councilman Moore:	Nay
Councilman Cook:	Aye
Councilman Belleville:	Nay

Motion carried.

VIII. Mayor and City Council Reports

Councilman Belleville asked to bring attention to the bill for legal advice was \$1,661.40.

Councilman Moore nothing to report.

Councilman Weekley shared that being on the dais is a tough spot to sit, but places blame equally, including those who have not been participating in government for a long time. There is more to the story.

Councilman Boyer nothing to report.

Councilman McCarthy shared that his vote on recall was based on opinion.

Councilman Dennis asked if Crites has worked on the bugs on the splash pad.

Councilman Cook asked to include the batting cage and bathrooms in the Parks budget. He also asked that the Council consider hosting a barbeque for employees for a chance for everyone to meet each other.



Mayor Richards nothing to report.

IX. Adjournment

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

Vote:

Councilman Boyer:	Aye
Councilman Weekley:	Aye
Councilman McCarthy:	Aye
Councilman Dennis:	Aye
Councilman Moore:	Aye
Councilman Cook:	Aye
Councilman Belleville:	Aye

Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

7/13/2026

Date - Approved by Council


Leah Smith
City Clerk
City of Festus, Missouri