

**CITY OF EARLVILLE
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
REGULAR SESSION
February 11, 2026, 7:00 p.m.
City Hall Council Room
210 W. Railroad Street, Earlville, IL**

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

City Clerk Jane Bauer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Alderman Robin Austin, Alderman John Boltz, Alderman Michael Goodbred, Alderman Matthew Johnson, Alderman April Law, and Alderman Steven Osborne. Also present were Treasurer Dr. Bruce Bauer and Attorney Casandra Gottschalk (7:15).

Visitors at the meeting were Jessica Olson, Chief Jim Scheib, Bill Otterbach, Laura Wollenberg, Scott Muzzey, Amy May, and Josh May.

Mayor Mark Actis completed the necessary paperwork for remote participation and met criteria for remote participation. Alderman Goodbred made a motion, seconded by Alderman Osborne, to approve remote participation for Mayor Actis. ROLL CALL: Alderman Austin - aye, Alderman Boltz - aye, Alderman Goodbred - aye, Alderman Johnson - aye, Alderman Law - aye, and Alderman Osborne - aye. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Alderman Osborne made a motion, seconded by Alderman Boltz, to approve the agenda. Voice Vote: All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC VOICE

Bill Otterbach relayed a story and submitted an envelope for Attorney Gottschalk.

Laura Wallenberg stated she supported chickens saying they provide fresh eggs, reduce scrap, and she would appreciate having her chickens in her back yard.

TREASURERS REPORT

Dr. Bauer presented the Treasurer's report.

CONSENT AGENDA – OMNIBUS VOTE

Alderman Osborne made a motion, seconded by Alderman Law to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- A. Approval of January 14, 2026, regular city council session minutes
- B. Acceptance and placement to be on file of the monthly Treasurer's report
- C. Approval for payment of bills as presented

ROLL CALL: Alderman Goodbred – aye, Alderman Boltz – aye, Alderman Austin – aye, Alderman Law – aye, Alderman Osborne – aye, and Alderman Johnson – aye. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTION ITEMS

PUBLIC WORKS – none

FINANCE

Alderman Boltz made a motion, seconded by Alderman Osborne to approve in presented form, pending final approval of Attorney Gottschalk, ORDINANCE NO. 2026-02 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING THE ISSUE OF \$500,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2026, OF THE CITY OF EARLVILLE, LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, FOR WORKING CASH FUND PURPOSES, FOR THE LEVY OF A DIRECT ANNUAL TAX SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON SAID BONDS, AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SAID BONDS TO THE PURCHASER THEREOF. ROLL CALL: Alderman Austin – aye, Alderman Boltz – aye, Alderman Law – aye, Alderman Johnson - aye, Alderman Osborne – aye, and Alderman Goodbred - aye. MOTION CARRIED.

POLICE - none

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY - none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alderman Osborne made a motion, seconded by Alderman Law, to approve the Request for Proposal for Municipal solid waste and recycling. ROLL CALL: Alderman Johnson - aye, Alderman Law – aye, Alderman Osborne – aye, Alderman Boltz – aye, Alderman Goodbred - aye, and Alderman Austin – aye. MOTION CARRIED.

Alderman Johnson discussed approving chickens within city limits providing there are no roosters, a maximum of six (6) hens, hens must be kept in fully enclosed coup/run, and a one (1) time \$25 permit to verify that setup is to code as a possible proposal. He surveyed the Council on their opinions: Alderman Law stated many towns with chickens have animal control officers, she has had coyotes in her back yard, Blackthorn Subdivision has an ordinance against livestock; Alderman Osborne stated he grew up on a farm and he does not like chickens; Alderman Austin agreed with points made by Alderman Law; Alderman Boltz he has had foxes and coyotes in his back yard and chickens would mean more of that; Alderman Goodbred said he has a concern that the Zoning Board gave an opinion which has approved but he personally is not for or against chickens. Mayor Actis stated there are no chickens in Earlville and the Zoning Board made the recommendation, which was acted upon by Council. He asked the Council to bring it to a vote; have the attorney draft an ordinance and bring the issue to a vote. Alderman Austin made a motion to approve the attorney to draft an ordinance to allow residents of Earlville to keep chickens; the motion failed for the lack of a second.

Mayor Actis reported the property at 405 S. Grant Street has been sold to a man who flips houses as a business. Jessica Olson stated the closing date is Tuesday, February 17th. Alderman Boltz stated he felt the Council should hold off hiring the attorney to place liens on the property until we know for sure if the property is sold. Placing liens will be discussed once they are sold.

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Johnson discussed a proposed Nature Park on a tract of land outside of City limits, which is owned by Dolders. It was previously known as Harper's Junkyard. Alderman Johnson contacted the owner who would be willing to sell the tract of land for \$125,000. Alderman Law said the water floods right up to the bridge. Alderman Goodbred stated the land is subject to flooding and a neighbor on Route 34 fires weapons. Mayor Actis stated the City's priority should be a new water well and \$125,000 is a lot of money. Alderman Johnson stated he would talk to the Lions Club to describe his idea and he will investigate it.

Alderman Johnson stated he would talk to the Lions Club about improvements to Dodge Park. He reported that The Association for the Beautification of Earlville survey indicated creating a Pickle Ball Court. Alderman Johnson measured the area and stated there is room for a Pickle Ball Court. Alderman Goodbred said the Lions Club is considering that. Mayor Actis said the Lions Club has their own ideas including a splash pad. He said the city has submitted a proposal to improve Dodge Park with the replacement of playground equipment. Mayor Actis stated that clean water is a priority.

Mayor Actis asked Council Members to express opposition to ComEd's proposal to run a 138,000-volt line through the middle of Earlville to Mendota. The line would be run on large standing metal towers. Mayor Actis encouraged Council members to attend an upcoming meeting to express opposition to the ComEd plan. He stated running the towers north of town would be more practical.

Alderman Law made a motion, seconded by Alderman Osborne, to approve RESOLUTION NO. 2026-04, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DEPUTY CLERK TO EXECUTE DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE MAYOR. ROLL CALL: Alderman Austin – aye, Alderman Law – aye, Alderman Goodbred - aye, Alderman Osborne – aye, Alderman Boltz – aye, and Alderman Johnson – aye. MOTION CARRIED.

CLOSED SESSION

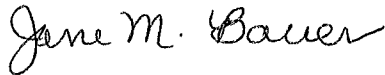
At 8:13 p.m., Alderman Boltz made a motion, seconded by Alderman Law to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing litigation "when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting." 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) AND Discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for

the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. (5ILCS 120/2(c)(1)).

At 9:06 p.m., Council returned to open session. The following were present upon roll call: Alderman Robin Austin, Alderman John Boltz, Alderman Michael Goodbred, Alderman Matthew Johnson, Alderman April Law, and Alderman Steven Osborne.

ADJOURN

At 9:06 p.m., Alderman Law made a motion, seconded by Alderman Osborne, to adjourn the meeting. Voice Vote: All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.



Jane M. Bauer, Ed.D.
City Clerk

The undersigned, **BRUCE A. BAUER**
Treasurer of the CITY OF EARLVILLE respectfully submits the following
Report, showing the state of the Treasury at the close of business on the
31st day of January 2026

RESOURCE BANK	\$ 141,478.37
NUMARK CREDIT UNION	\$ 49,218.29

GENERAL FUND	25,104.38
SOCIAL SECURITY FUND	799.29
INSURANCE FUND	1,010.40
AUDIT FUND	418.91
GARBAGE FUND	3,041.16
UNEMPLOYMENT FUND	130.52
WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION FUND	1,800.43
IMRF FUND	1,149.61
DRUG FUND	51,162.44
MOTOR FUEL TAX FUND	446.25
2017 GO BOND CAPITAL PROJECT FUND	814.51
2017 GO BOND REPAYMENT FUND	(6,570.36)
WATER FUND	2,291.94
WATER - UNEARNED CASH	3,227.77
WATER RESERVE FUND	24,129.47
SEWER FUND	76,333.86
SEWER RESERVE FUND	3,259.46
ILLINOIS TOTAL FUNDS	\$ 1,601,186.74
CHECKS NOT CASHED	\$ 3,471.21

TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS: \$ 1,786,265.57

Find the Warrants and Vouchers above mentioned.
All of which is respectfully re-submitted, this
11th day of February 2026

Treasurer