

Trenton, Missouri
August 24, 2026

The Mayor and City Council met in open session, Monday, August 24, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at city hall. The following officers and members were present: Mayor Jackie Soptic; Council members Anna Ferguson, Glen Briggs, Lindsay Stevens, Angela Brill-Ely, David Mlika, Edna Foster and Bart Thomas; City Attorney Kenton Kinney (via zoom); City Administrator Matt Harline; Police Chief Rex Ross; and City Clerk Anita Ewing. Absent: Council member Marvin Humphreys.

MINUTES

Motion by Councilmember Briggs second by Councilmember Mlika that the minutes of August 10, 2026 be approved. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A public hearing was held for setting of the tax levy. City Clerk Ewing mentioned that the levy had gone up a bit due to a slight increase in assessed property value. There were no public comments made.

BILLS

Motion by Councilmember Briggs second by Councilmember Mlika to receive and file the bills of the City of Trenton. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Mayor Soptic mentioned a need for approximately 14 volunteers to help with the collection event to be held at the Street Department on September 12 from 9 am to noon. Anyone wishing to volunteer should contact City Administrator Harline.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion was held concerning bids for a sole source purchase of a heat exchanger for EMD unit 2 at the electric production plant. Councilmember Thomas brought up concerns he had with this approach of fixing the unit. Discussion was held. Motion by Councilmember Ferguson second by Councilmember Briggs to approve the purchase of a Mueller Accu-Therm Plate Heat Exchanger from TriCor Equipment Company at a cost of \$21,420. Motion carried, with Councilmembers Thomas and Mlika voting no.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance Setting the 2026 Tax Levy for the City of Trenton.

BILL NO. 23

Motion by Councilmember Briggs second by Councilmember Mlika that Bill No. 23 be introduced, AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE RATE OF THE LEVY UPON ALL THE REAL ESTATE AND PERSONAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF TRENTON, MISSOURI FOR THE YEAR 2026 UPON ALL THE PROPERTY TAXABLE WITHIN SAID CITY, which was read. Motion by Councilmember Briggs second by Councilmember Mlika that Bill No. 23 be passed to the second reading placed upon final passage and voted on. Motion carried. A copy of Bill No. 23 was made available for public inspection by being posted at City Hall on August 20, 2026. The following vote was taken. Ayes: Ferguson, Stevens, Brill-Ely, Mlika, Foster and Thomas. Nays: Briggs. Absent: Humphreys. Said bill was declared duly passed, numbered Ordinance No. 2026-23, signed and approved by the Mayor and attested by the city clerk.

Discussion was held concerning bids for two lawn mowers – one for the electric production department and one for the airport. Administrator Harline pointed out the difference in types of mowers from the two bids received, along with the difference in warranty offered by each bidder. Discussion was held. Motion by Councilmember Mlika second by Councilmember Stevens to reject all bids and rebid the lawn mowers with more specific details of what is needed. Motion carried, with Councilmember Briggs voting no.

Discussion was held concerning bids for peristaltic hypochlorite metering pumps for the water treatment plant. Interim Water Plant Supervisor Gunner Golden said one bid was received from Hawkins for the purchase of three pumps at a cost of \$40,242.82. Motion by Councilmember Mlika second by Councilmember Briggs to accept the bid from Hawkins of \$40,242.82 for the purchase of three peristaltic hypochlorite metering pumps. Motion carried.

Discussion was held concerning bids for polarization index, breaker, and relay testing on the EMD engines at the north substation. Electric Production Supervisor Kyle Sharp mentioned that VIPower submitted a bid to do all of the testing for \$17,300. Motion by Councilmember Ferguson second by Councilmember Mlika to accept the bid from VIPower at a cost of \$17,300 for polarization index, breaker and relay testing. Motion carried.

Administrator Harline presented a job description for a new code enforcement position. The person would be full-time and handle nuisance violations, as well as learning building code to help with inspections and other code-related functions and help manage the airport. Discussion was held. Motion by Councilmember Briggs second by Councilmember Ferguson to accept the job description of the new code enforcement officer position. Motion carried.

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Administrator Harline requested that Wes Barone's title be changed from Code Enforcement Officer/Airport Manager to Community Development Director. He feels this would be a title that more encompasses the duties Mr. Barone tends to. Motion by Councilmember Stevens second by Councilmember Briggs to change Wes Barone's title to Community Development Director. Motion carried.

Administrator Harline made a request of \$1,000 from the community development budget to fund the first "Twilight in Trenton". He said he had spoken to Main Street Trenton Director Megan Taul and they will be helping with planning and funding as well. Motion by Councilmember Briggs second by Councilmember Ferguson to approve funds not to exceed \$1,500 for the Twilight in Trenton event. Motion carried

Councilmember Stevens addressed the council, requesting an earlier time for council meetings. Discussion was held. Motion by Councilmember Briggs second by Councilmember Stevens to draft an ordinance to change the time of council meetings to 6:30 pm. Motion carried.

Discussion was held concerning the September 14 council meeting. Administrator Harline and Mayor Soptic will both be gone to a conference, so the question of whether or not to have a meeting was considered. Consensus was to go forward with planning the meeting.

Administrator Harline mentioned the need to schedule an Administrative committee meeting in September. MoDOT is requiring two public hearings to be held concerning the 16th Street Sidewalk TAP Grant. One could be held at an administrative committee meeting and the other at a council meeting. Mr. Harline also said changing the purview of the administrative committee would be discussed.

Motion by Councilmember Stevens second by Councilmember Briggs meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Soptic
Mayor

Anita Ewing
City Clerk