

CITY OF TUSCOLA

COUNTY OF DOUGLAS
STATE OF ILLINOIS
TUSCOLA CITY HALL
March 23, 2026

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order with Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop, and Mayor Kleiss in attendance. Mayor Kleiss led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Kleiss went over the items on the consent agenda:

- Minutes of the March 9, 2026, meeting
- Financial Report for February 2026
- Payment of bills totaling \$148,827.61

Day moved to approve the items on the consent agenda. Shoemaker seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop. Morris moved to approve the consent agenda for March 23, 2026. Waldrop seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.

Mayor – No Report

City Clerk – No Report

City Treasurer

Treasurer Long reminded council of the budget meetings scheduled for March 24-26.

City Attorney- No Report

City Administrator

Administrator Hoel let council know we have finally received environmental clearance on the planned Washington Street improvements. Bids should be let soon.

Resolutions

Morris moved to approve resolution 2026-R-2, a resolution to join the Central Illinois Land Bank Authority and appoint Administrator Drew Hoel as our community representative. Shoemaker seconded. Administrator Hoel told council we have looked at the land bank opportunity with some other communities a few years ago. The Intergovernmental agreement under discussion tonight was started in Vermilion County; later joined by Champaign County and is now up to 21 cities. It operates pursuant to the authority of its' home rule members under an intergovernmental agreement with statutory authority for it. Hoel went on to say, everything is permissive so we are not obligated to do anything financial, give them any money or make any contributions. The board does have the authority to request money but the program was started with initial seed money or grant funds. The program works a little like the snowball effect, Hoel added. They clean up properties, foreclose on tax deeds on properties, get properties through the legal process and then turn around and sell them to developers. Each particular deal can be subject to a negotiation of some price or trade off for their efforts. Administrator Hoel stated he still believes the land bank would be a more efficient use of our resources; it is likely to cost less than what we are spending now. He also believes they are faster and better at it than we are. Hoel thinks it is worth a shot.

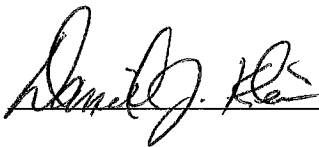
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Hoel added if we reach a point where we feel it is not helping; we can drop out. Mayor Kleiss agreed, adding this is a field the land bank plays in and it would be a real plus for us to have their assistance. After a question from Shoemaker about feedback, Administrator Hoel and Executive Director Moody stated Mattoon can't say enough good about the land bank. Moody added they have a lot of expertise and provide good feedback. Tim Hoey asked about the International Property Code and whether or not it would help us with property clean up and enforcement. Both Administrator Hoel and Building Inspector Salmon felt this code is not the solution we are looking for. It is more about general property maintenance not clean up of dilapidated properties. Roll was then taken on the motion to join the Central IL Land Bank Authority and appoint Drew Hoel as our community representative. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.

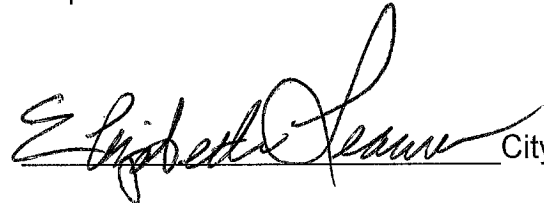
Contracts and Agreements

Day moved to approve the agreement with American Patriot Pyro, Inc., for the annual Sparks in the Parks display on July 4, 2026. The cost is \$30,414.49, with ½ paid with return of signed agreement. Rund seconded. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.

The motion to adjourn was made by Slaughter and seconded by Morris. VOTE YEA* Brace, Day, Hoey, Morris, Rund, Shoemaker, Slaughter, Waldrop.



Mayor



City Clerk