

CITY OF DONIPHAN
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
July 7th, 2026
6:00 P.M.

The City Council met in regular session at 110 N. Grand Avenue, at the above-mentioned time and date with the following members of the council present: Mayor Dennis Cox. City Attorney Chris Miller & City Clerk Marti Porter. Council members present: Teresa Timms, Steve Collins, Leslie Netherland & Denver Jackson

Others present were: Police Chief Mark Rodgers, Utilities Director Jarret Ficke & Treasurer Chasity Mathis.

Visitors were: Debra Tune with Prospect News, Officer Vaillancourt with DPD, Stephen Murphy & Lavonna Horton.

Mayor Cox called the meeting to order. The Council reviewed the minutes of the June 22nd meeting. A motion was made by Alderwoman Netherland to approve minute. Motion was seconded by Alderwoman Timms. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Cox asked for a motion to approve the agenda. A motion was made by Alderman Collins to approve the agenda. Motion was seconded by Alderwoman Timms. All in favor- motion carried.

Old Business

First old business on the agenda was meal per diem. The current meal per diem is \$32/day. City Clerk Marti Porter makes a suggestion to raise the per diem. A motion was made by Alderman Collins to raise the meal per diem to \$15-15-25, not to exceed \$55/day. Motion was seconded by Alderman Jackson.

Next for old business was a discussion to purchase a new fire truck. City Treasurer Chasity Mathis states she spoke with both Southern Bank and Peoples Community Bank. The loan amount would be \$100,000. Southern Bank loan options were 3 yrs at 5.5%, 5 yrs at 5.75% or 7 yrs at 6.25%.

Peoples Community Bank gave one loan option of 5 yrs at 4.99%. A discussion followed. A motion was made by Alderman Jackson to approve the \$100,000 at Southern Bank with the 7 yr 6.25%. Motion was seconded by Alderman Collins. All in favor. Motion carried.

Lastly for old business was employee benefit discussion. A lengthy discussion followed. A motion was made by Alderman Jackson to table this discussion until the August meeting. Motion was seconded by Alderwoman Timms. All in favor- motion carried.

New Business

Attorney Miller 1st reading **ORDINANCE 2026-8_ : AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH THE DONIPHAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, INC.** A discussion followed. A motion to suspend the rules and place ordinance on its second reading was made by Alderman Collins and seconded by Alderwoman Netherland. All in favor. Motion carried. Ordinance was read a second and final time. The roll call vote was as follows: Netherland – yea; Collins – yea; Jackson – yea; Timms - yea. All in favor. Motion carried

City Treasurer Chasity Mathis, Utilities Director Jarret Ficke & Fire Chief/Code Enforcement and Animal Control Officer Greg Crain sworn in by Mayor Cox.

Next for new business was Paving Grant local match. Utilities Director Jarret Ficke states that if we can match 10-15%, it will make our application look much better. A motion was made by Alderman Collins to match 10% to paving grant. Motion was seconded by Alderwoman Netherland. All in favor- motion carried.

Next for new business was the resolution for paving grant. Resolution was read by Mayor Cox. Netherland – yea; Collins – yea; Jackson – yea; Timms - yea. All in favor. Motion carried

Next on the Agenda was bids submitted for upcoming Pine Street Paving Project.
Taylor Construction- \$32,500, 6-10 days for completion after receiving notice to proceed.
RL Parsons Construction- \$71,500, 30 days for completion after receiving notice to proceed.
Jones Concrete LLC- \$67,108.30, 90 days for completion after receiving notice to proceed.
All bids include Completing sidewalk, culverts and drainage.
A motion was made by Alderman Jackson to accept Taylor Construction bid. Motion was seconded by Alderman Collins. All in favor- motion carried.

Next for new business was a amendment to the budget, decreasing professional services (512-01) by \$1800.00 and increasing Public Welfare (510-01) by \$1800.00. A motion was made by Alderwoman Timms to approve the budget amendment. Motion was seconded by Alderman Jackson. All in favor- motion carried.

Visitors

Lavonna Horton was here voicing her concern about the construction on Borth and Jackson. Ms. Horton states that there is a broken sewage pipe leaching sewage into ground water. A discussion followed. Utilities Director Jarret Ficke states that the contractors and plumbers building the apartments stated they would be fixing it- he will go check to make sure it was fixed.

Visitor Bill McKinney is here from the VFW. He is here to give his thanks for all the cooperation for the recent Freedom Fest. Mr. McKinney said it was a great turnout and they had a great time getting out and being part of the community.

Departmental reports were next on the agenda.

- Public Works Monthly Report, Alderman Jackson made a motion to accept the report. Alderwoman Timms seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Police Dept May Monthly Report, Alderwoman Netherland made a motion to accept the report. Alderman Collins seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Attorney Miller

Attorney Miller 1st reading **ORDINANCE 2026-9_ : AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE ALEASE OF REAL ESTATE BETWEEN THE CITY OF DONIPHAN AND THE**

RIPLEY COUNTY FAIR BOARD, INC. RELATING TO REAL ESTATE OWNED BY THE CITY OF DONIPHAN, MISSOURI. A discussion followed. A motion to suspend the rules and place ordinance on its second reading was made by Alderman Collins and seconded by Alderwoman Netherland. All in favor. Motion carried. Ordinance was read a second and final time. The roll call vote was as follows: Netherland – yea; Collins – yea; Jackson – yea; Timms - yea. All in favor. Motion carried

Attorney Miller 1st reading **ORDINANCE 2026-10_ : AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE AMEND THE CODE OF ORGINANCES RELATING TO THE FEES FOR REDEMPTION OF IMPOUND ANIMALS.** A discussion followed. A motion to suspend the rules and place ordinance on its second reading was made by Alderman Collins and seconded by Alderwoman Netherland. All in favor. Motion carried. Ordinance was read a second and final time. The roll call vote was as follows: Netherland – yea; Collins – yea; Jackson – yea; Timms - yea. All in favor. Motion carried

Open discussion,
City Treasurer Chasity Mathis states there will be a \$1 increase on water and a \$1 increase on sewer for a minimum bill.

City Treasurer Chasity Mathis asks for approval to invest two separate 12-month certificates of deposit (CD), each in the amount of \$175,000.00 with Southern Bank, at an annual interest rate of 4.05%. A motion was made by Alderman Jackson to approve of this investment. Motion was seconded by Alderwoman Netherland. All in favor- motion carried.

Utilities Director Jarret Ficke would like permission to sell the Ford Tractor at the airport. Offers have been made for \$1500-2000. Permission granted to sell.

Alderman Jackson states that the giving one dispatcher a raise, and not everyone, doesn't feel okay. A motion was made by Alderman Jackson to amend budget and put that money back in. Motion was seconded by Alderman Collins. All in favor- motion carried.

City Treasurer Chasity Mathis states that a budget officer needs to be appointed. City Attorney Chris Miller will get an amended ordinance written by next meeting to appoint City Clerk & City Treasurer budget officer.

Alderwoman Timms made a motion to adjourn. Alderman Jackson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Time was 7:28 p.m.

THE FOREGOING MINUTES ARE PROVISIONAL ONLY AND ARE SUBJECT TO
CHANGE PRIOR TO APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN AT THEIR NEXT
MEETING