

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Syracuse City Council, held on August 11, 2026, at 6:00 p.m., in a hybrid in-person/electronic format via Zoom, meeting ID 863 9198 3025, in-person in the City Council Chambers at 1979 W. 1900 S., and streamed on the Syracuse City YouTube Channel in accordance with House Bill 5002, Open and Public Meetings Act Amendments, signed into law on June 25, 2020.

Present: Councilmembers: Andrea Brown
Brett Cragun
Abraham Pollard
Julie Robertson
Paul Watson

Mayor Dave Maughan
Administrative Services Director/City Recorder Cassie Brown

City Employees Present:
Assistant City Manager Stephen Marshall
City Attorney Colin Winchester
Police Chief Alex Davis
Fire Chief Aaron Byington
Parks and Recreation Director Kresta Robinson
Public Works Director Robert Whiteley
Community and Economic Development Director Noah Steele
Deputy Fire Chief Jo Hamblin

1. Meeting Called to Order

Mayor Maughan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. as a regular meeting, with notice of time, place, and agenda provided 24 hours in advance to the newspaper and each Councilmember. Councilmember Watson provided an invocation. Councilmember Brown led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Maughan asked those in attendance to observe a moment of silence in honor of two young members of the community who were recently lost in a tragedy.

COUNCILMEMBER CRAGUN MOVED TO ADOPT THE AGENDA. COUNCILMEMBER ROBERTSON SECONDED THE MOTION, ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

2. Public comment

Administrative Services Director/City Recorder Brown read the into the record a written comment from Eric Willison, who expressed appreciation for Mayor Maughan's August newsletter on civic engagement and for the City's transparency efforts, including publicly available meeting packets and recorded meetings. Mr. Willison noted his attention to the agenda item regarding refinancing the 2023 Municipal Building Authority bonds, acknowledged the potential savings of \$50,000–\$75,000 in annual debt service, and encouraged the Council to weigh long-term financial flexibility alongside those potential savings.

A resident who did not provide his name raised concerns about the emergency response fee appearing on utility bills, stating that it is not a utility charge and should instead be absorbed within the police and fire department budgets. The resident also commented on the second fire station and questioned the cost allocation for secondary water metering. Mayor Maughan acknowledged the comments and noted that, as none of these items were on the evening's agenda, they would not be subject to discussion at this meeting.

3a. Recognition: Introduction of Miss Syracuse Royalty and administration of the Oath of Office.

Mayor Maughan introduced the newly crowned Miss Syracuse royalty — Miss Syracuse McKayla Redmond and Teen Miss Syracuse Presley Looock — who were present in the audience. Mayor Maughan administered the Oath of Office to both titleholders, during which they pledged to represent Syracuse City with pride, purpose, and heart, and to serve their community through leadership and service.

4. Approval of minutes.

The following minutes were reviewed by the City Council: July 14, 2026 Regular City Council Business Meeting, July 14, 2026 Special Redevelopment Agency Meeting, June 28, 2026 City Council Work Session, and June 28, 2026 Special City Council Business Meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER WATSON MADE A MOTION TO APPOROVE THE MINUTES LISTED ON THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COUNCILMEMBER BROWN SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

5a. Common consent: Proposed Resolution R26-32 authorizing the Syracuse City Fire Department to enter into a contract for the purchase of an ambulance and

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authorizing other such action as is necessary in connection therewith.

A staff memo from the Fire Department explained that due to the emergency nature and the need to have reliable emergency equipment, the Syracuse City fleet assessment has planned to replace fire department ambulances on a 10-year rotation. During a Syracuse ambulance's lifetime, it spends 5 years as a first-out response vehicle and 5 years as a backup vehicle. Syracuse Fire currently has a 2015 Ford ambulance that reached its 10-year birthday in 2025. This ambulance is currently in our fleet assessment plan for replacement in FY28. Due to factors beyond the City's control, current lead times for ambulance purchases are up to 18 months, requiring us to begin the ordering process now for delivery in the FY28 budget. The purchase price of the chassis and ambulance box will be locked in upon contract, and payment will not be required until delivery in FY28. The ambulance will be ordered following the Syracuse City Purchasing Policy. The purchase price of the ambulance and related equipment is \$460,000. Once the new ambulance is in service in FY28, with Council approval, we will surplus the 2015 Ford ambulance and return money to the general fund.

COUNCILMEMBER WATSON MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION R26-32 AUTHORIZING THE SYRACUSE CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN AMBULANCE AND AUTHORIZING OTHER SUCH ACTION AS IS NECESSARY IN CONNECTION THEREWITH. COUNCILMEMBER CRAGUN SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

6. Public hearing: Ordinance 2026-18 vacating a municipal utility easement in Section 8, Township 4 North, Range 2 West, SLBM.

A staff memo from the City Attorney explained Charles Dredge granted an easement to the North Davis County Sewer District (now the North Davis Sewer District) in March 1982 for the installation and maintenance of sanitary sewer and storm drain pipelines. In 2004, the easement pipelines were relocated to Doral Drive. The North Davis Sewer District quit-claimed its interest in the easement to the City in October 2004. The City does not currently, and has not for many years, needed or used the easement. The easement continues to encumber five agricultural parcels, several residential parcels, and two city-owned park parcels. In February 2026, Stanley Hamblin filed a request that the City vacate the easement. The City has, in recent months, twice mailed notice to affected property owners of its intent to vacate the easement. The Council discussed this proposal in its June 23 work meeting and advanced the proposal for resolution in a business meeting. The Council will hold a public hearing on August 11, where it is expected there will be no opposition to the proposed vacation of the easement.

Mayor Maughan opened the public hearing at 6:11 p.m. There were no persons appearing to be heard and the public hearing was closed.

City Attorney Winchester requested a correction to a typographical error in Section 2 of the ordinance, noting that a reference to "Exhibit B" should instead read "Exhibit C." He asked that the Council incorporate this correction into the motion.

COUNCILMEMBER WATSON MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 2026-18 VACATING A MUNICIPAL UTILITY EASEMENT IN SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 4 NORTH, RANGE 2 WEST, SLBM, WITH THE CORRECTION OF THE TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR HIGHLIGHTED BY CITY ATTORNEY WINCHESTER. COUNCILMEMBER ROBERTSON SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

7. Proposed Ordinance 2026-19 amending Syracuse Municipal Code (SMC) Section 8.30 and 10.20.140 pertaining to final plat approval.

A staff memo from the Community and Economic Development (CED) Department explained A developer recently brought it to the City's attention that our subdivision process does not comply with a recent amendment of state code 10-20-805 (9)(b) that went into effect November 6, 2026. The provision of the state code says:

9. A municipality shall review and approve or deny a final subdivision plat application in accordance with the provisions of this section and municipal ordinances, which:
 - (a) may permit concurrent processing of the final subdivision plat application with the preliminary subdivision plat application; and
 - (b) may not require Planning Commission or City Council approval.

The proposed amendment will remove the responsibilities of approving a final plat from Planning Commission and place them with the Development Review Committee (DRC). The DRC consists of the City Engineer, City Fire Marshal, and City Planner. The Planning Commission discussed the item and held a public hearing on July 21, 2026. They forwarded a recommendation for approval. The City Council reviewed their recommendation on July 28, 2026 and decided that this item should be placed on this meeting for a vote.

COUNCILMEMBER BROWN MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 2026-19 AMENDING SYRACUSE MUNICIPAL CODE (SMC) SECTION 8.30 AND 10.20.140 PERTAINING TO FINAL PLAT APPROVAL. COUNCILMEMBER WATSON SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

8. Proposed Ordinance 2026-20 amending Syracuse Municipal Code (SMC) Section 10.20.070 pertaining to zoning reversion.

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A staff memo from the Community and Economic Development (CED) Department explained the Mayor has requested that the city consider placing an expiration on rezones if a project has not begun construction within a specific time period. Once expired, the zoning would revert back to the previous zone before the change. Ordinance 10.20.070 details the procedures and approval standards required for a zone change. The Planning Commission discussed the item and held a public hearing on July 21, 2026. They are forwarding a recommendation for approval. The City Council discussed their recommendation on July 28, 2026. The City Council decided to place the item on this agenda for a vote.

CED Director Steele noted that a minor amendment had been made since the Council's review of this proposal in their work session — a revision to the second-to-last sentence of the ordinance to ensure the reversion timer would also apply to properties that had already received zoning changes. The intent, as Mayor Maughan summarized, is to ensure that property owners act on approved zoning changes in a timely manner rather than allowing them to sit unacted upon for extended periods.

COUNCILMEMBER POLLARD MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 2026-16 AMENDING SECTION 10.20.090 OF THE SYRACUSE MUNICIPAL CODE PERTAINING TO SITE PLAN REVIEW. COUNCILMEMBER BROWN SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

9. Proposed Ordinance 2026-21 adopting Syracuse Municipal Code (SMC) Section 11.15.040 requiring protective headgear when operating e-bikes and e-scooters on public property.

A staff memo from the City Attorney explained A recent change to Utah law requires persons under age 21 *on a highway* to wear protective headgear while operating or riding on or in any all-terrain vehicle, electric assisted bicycle, high power electric device, motorcycle, auticycle, moped or motor assisted scooter. Utah law allows local governments to enact ordinances requiring the wearing of protective headgear while operating or riding on or in such devices *in other areas*. Staff recommend that the City Council adopt an ordinance requiring persons under age 21 *on public property (in addition to highways)* to wear protective headgear while operating or riding on or in any all-terrain vehicle, electric assisted bicycle, high power electric device, motorcycle, auticycle, moped or motor assisted scooter. The City Council discussed the proposed ordinance in its July 28 work meeting and advanced the proposal to its August 11 business meeting for further consideration.

COUNCILMEMBER CRAGUN MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT PROPOSED ORDINANCE 2026-21 ADOPTING SYRACUSE MUNICIPAL CODE (SMC) SECTION 11.15.040 REQUIRING PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR WHEN OPERATING E-BIKES AND E-SCOOTERS ON PUBLIC PROPERTY. COUNCILMEMBER ROBERTSON SECONDED THE MOTION; ALL VOTED IN FAVOR.

11. Public comments

There were no additional public comments.

12. Mayor/Council reports and announcements

The Council and Mayor then provided announcements about recent and upcoming community events, and other opportunities for public involvement.

COUNCILMEMBER POLLARD MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN. COUNCILMEMBER WATSON SECONDED THE MOTION ALL VOTED IN FAVOR TO ADJOURN.

The meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

Dave Maughan
Mayor

Cassie Z. Brown, MMC
City Recorder

Date approved: September 8, 2026