

Georgetown City Council Meeting

Minutes for March 2, 2026

The Georgetown City Council met in regular session at the hour of 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on the above written day.

Invocation delivered by Alder Gordon
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call:

Present:	Dennis Davidson	Alder Ward 1
	Curt Gordon	Alder Ward 2
	Michelle Brooks	Alder Ward 2
	Steffanie Lyons	Alder Ward 3
	Robert Weaver	Alder Ward 4
Also Present:	Darin Readnour	Mayor
	Amy Cavanaugh	Treasurer
	Jacqueline Wilson	City Clerk
Absent:	Jack Morrison	Alder Ward 1
	Mike Scott	Alder Ward 3
	Nick Krabel	Alder Ward 4

The mayor declared a quorum was present.

1. Approval of Minutes.

- a) Approve Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated February 17, 2026.
Action Taken: **Approved as presented,**
Motion / Second: Alder Davidson / Alder Weaver,
Motion passed unanimously 4 – 0, with Alder Lyons abstaining.
- b) Approve Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes dated February 24, 2026.
Action Taken: **Approved as presented,**
Motion / Second: Alder Weaver / Alder Brooks,
Motion passed 2 – 0, with Alders Davidson, Lyons, and Gordon abstaining.
- c) Approve Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes dated February 26, 2026.
Action Taken: **Approved as presented,**
Motion / Second: Alder Brooks / Alder Weaver,
Motion passed 2 – 0, with Alders Davidson, Lyons, and Gordon abstaining.

2. Payment of Bills.

Action Taken: **Authorized payment** of bills as presented in List 904. There were 31 payments to vendors for a total of \$46,708.59. Someone asked about the payment for Flock. It was explained this is for the license plate readers. They asked if they are still making money from them. The mayor explained that they have slowed down but are still bringing in money.

Action Taken: **Approved** as presented,
Motion / Second: Alder Gordon / Alder Weaver,
Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

3. **Clerk's Report:** Besides preparing the agendas, minutes, meeting packets and typing Streets & Alley reports, the clerk answered e-mails and phone calls. There were 52 bills emailed in February. The clerk collected waste pad payments totaling \$3463.75 and water lab payments

totaling \$50. The clerk issued a special event liquor license to Lucky League for \$100. The clerk issued a building permit for solar panels to Sandra Taylor at 409 W. 9th St.

Action Taken: **Approved** as presented.

Motion / Second: Alder Lyons / Alder Davidson,

Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

4. **Streets & Alleys Report:** fixed water main break at 1307 Guy on President's Day, fixed water main break and tile at 407 Huffman, ran sewers, did their yearly safety training, salted roads and city sidewalks, greased new backhoe and dump trucks, cleaned off storm drains, did dirt work around town, worked on road at dam, and burnt the brush pile. **Did work orders, read meters, shut off list, Bad meter list, and J.U.L.I.E.'s.** Overtime hours: February 5 - 18, 2026 – 31.5 hours.

Action Taken: **Approved** as presented.

Motion / Second: Alder Lyons / Alder Davidson,

Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

5. **Water & Sewer Report:** CSO report, water reports, sewer reports, monthly test, cleaned glass bowls on all pumps at Georgetown sewer plant every two weeks, filled chemicals at Cayuga water plant and Georgetown sewer plant, did bi-weekly lift station reports and inspections, cleaned trickling filter once a week, did chores in Cayuga and Georgetown daily, did test every Thursday and Friday every week, followed by reading test results every following Tuesday and Wednesday, washed lab equipment and dishes as needed after every test and sample, cleaned grit wash station once a week, cleaned rake system once a week, cut and collect all trash for trash pick-ups on Tuesday, cleaned septic dumping bed, decanted digester, worked with Tanner on training on every day maintenance and problem solving, cleaned up sludge station, worked on work orders, checked and started blowers for lagoons, worked on SDS (safety data sheets), worked on trying to get started with some lock out, tag out supplies and plans in place. **Overtime hours:** 13 hours for February 5 - 18, 2026.

Action Taken: **Approved** as presented.

Motion / Second: Alder Lyons / Alder Davidson,

Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

6. **Public Safety Report:** The Police had over 55 calls along with 3 in town and 10 out of town assists, with 4 ordinance violations and 17 traffic stops.
Overtime Hours: 0 hours, 1 Comp time for February 1 - 27, 2026.

Action Taken: **Approved** as presented.

Motion / Second: Alder Lyons / Alder Davidson,

Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

Old Business

1. **Consider Public Hearing for vacation of Pumphouse alley.** The new owners have requested this; they own the property on both sides of the alley. Alder Davidson asked if we had a list of vacated alley, the mayor said they are listed on the maps.
Action Taken: **Approved**
Motion / Second: Alder Weaver / Alder Gordon
Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.
2. **Consider Ordinance 2026-180 vacate Pumphouse alley.**
Action taken: **Approved**
Motion / Second: Alder Weaver / Alder Brooks
Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.
3. **Consider Ordinance 2026-179 water rate increase** – this will raise the minimum to \$65. Alder Davidson suggests raining the base next time, he believes just raising the minimum effects the ones that try to conserve water more.

Action Taken: Approved,
Motion / Second: Alder Weaver / Alder Gordon,
Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

4. **Consider committees** – the mayor would like to move some people around on the committees. We have had issues calling meeting due to alderman being unable to attend. The mayor is going to talk with Alder Scott first.

Action Taken: **Tabled**,
Motion / Second: Alder Weaver / Alder Brooks,
Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

Committee Briefs:

- The mayor has been talking to the men's club about the old city hall. They are looking for somewhere to have their meetings. They are having a meeting tonight and will decide if they would like to get it. The city is able to donate a building to a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, which they are in the process of getting. Alder Weaver asked about other organizations in town. The football and baseball board do not have anywhere to meet either. The mayor said they may be interested in sharing the building. The mayor has talked to the funeral home in the past; they are not interested in it for additional parking. The legion could use the space if they build a new building eventually, but do not have the money at the moment. Alder Davidson mentioned that the Lion's club is not interested, they would prefer to use their money for donations, instead of maintaining a building.
- The question was asked if the money from the strip mall had been spent. The mayor said yes, it went towards the new backhoe and the records building.
- The mayor informed the council the stoplight at the square has to be updated. One of the lights was taken out by a semi a few months ago and has not worked right since. They have tried to find parts, but they are no longer being made. We will have to pay for it up front and will be reimbursed for half from the state. The mayor said we will pay for it from the business district funds.

New Business:

1. **Consider GYSA Park use March 30 – July 10.**

Action Taken: **Approved**
Motion / Second: Alder Weaver / Alder Lyons,
Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

2. **Consider GYSA Score boards** – The GYSA is raising funds for new score boards. They will be buying 2 this year. They would like to see if the city would donate money to help with the installation or if the city would like to donate some work to help with the installation. The quote the board received for installing 4 score boards was \$9,000. They are only doing 2 this year, so it would be around \$4,500. This covers everything that needs to run the power and install the signs. The youth sports boards asked if the city had any requirements. They suggested using a certified electrician. They should have them by April 17th. They would like them installed by the 1st game.

Action Taken: **Approved**
Motion / Second: Alder Gordon / Alder Brooks,
Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

3. **Consider Keep Vermilion County Beautiful** – We did the \$50 membership last year. Alder Gordon made a motion for the \$150 membership this year.

Action Taken: **Approved**,
Motion / Second: Alder Gordon / Alder Lyons,
Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

4. **Consider IDROP** – This is a program for municipalities through the state comptrollers office. The city can send them unpaid bills and upload the information to their site. They will match it and withhold the amount owed from tax returns, lottery payouts, commercial payment, or payroll check along with an administrative fee. This will help us to get our unpaid bills taken care of without placing liens on the property.
Action Taken: **Approved**,
Motion / Second: Alder Weaver / Alder Brooks,
Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.
5. **Consider 218 E. Oak St.** – the mayor has someone interested in the property at 218 E. Oak to remodel. We will have to put it up for sealed bid first.
Action Taken: **Approved**,
Motion / Second: Alder Brooks / Alder Lyons,
Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.
6. **Consider updated job descriptions** – the personnel committee has been working on updated the job descriptions. The council asked the #18 from the street & alley be added to the water & sewer description.
Action Taken: **Approved with corrections**,
Motion / Second: Alder Weaver / Alder Brooks,
Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.
7. **Consider community solar** – Jerod McMorris the representative from Good Energy met with the mayor about community solar. This is a program that would save customers 15-20% on the electric bill. One downside is they would have 2 bills to pay. They will get billed the amount the saved from Ameren minus 15-20%. They are asking the city to partner with them, so that residents see that it is a trustworthy company. The marketing material they send out would have Ampion and the City of Georgetown. Alder Davis thought this would confuse residents, like the complaints about Constellation/Homefield. Alder Weaver does not like the idea of the solar fields taking away our cornfields.
Action Taken: **Denied**
Motion / Second: Alder Gordon / Alder Brooks,
Motion denied 3 – 2.
8. **Consider natural gas pricing** – Jerod McMorris also talked to the mayor about our natural gas prices. The city can sign a contract with a company as our natural gas supplier. This would lock in the rate for 36 months, similar to the electric aggregation. They do not have the rates yet. The council needs to give the mayor or the clerk authorization to sign the contract.
Action Taken: **Approved**,
Motion / Second: Alder Brooks / Alder Gordon,
Motion passed unanimously 5 - 0.
9. **Consider renaming accounts to include bicentennial account** – The bank needs to add Bicentennial celebration to the Special Activities account, so they are able to deposit money into it.
Action Taken: **Approved**,
Motion / Second: Alder Weaver / Alder Lyons,
Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.
10. **Consider donation from the planning committee to the bicentennial committee** – Treasurer Cavanaugh asked about donating funds from the planning committee that is no longer used to the Bicentennial committee. She believes there is around \$6,000 in the account. The motion was made to donate \$3,000 to the bicentennial committee.
Action Taken: **Approved**
Motion / Second: Alder Brooks / Alder Weaver,
Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

Executive Session: 5ILCS 120/2(c) (5) Personnel

Action Taken: **Passed** to enter executive session for personnel.

Motion / Second: Alder Weaver / Alder Gordon,

Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

Executive session Entered at 8:17 pm.

Reconvened from Executive Session

Action Taken: **Passed.**

Motion / Second: Alder Brooks / Alder Weaver,

Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

Exit Executive session at 8:34 pm

Recommendations from Executive Session: Approve hiring Charlie Penry as full-time to Street and Alley department.

Action Taken: **Approved,**

Motion / Second: Alder Brooks / Alder Lyons,

Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

Adjourn Meeting:

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm

Action Taken: **Approved**

Motion / Second: Alder Brooks / Alder Lyons,

Motion passed unanimously 5 – 0.

I, Jacqueline Wilson, Clerk for the City of Georgetown, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting which was held March 2, 2026.

Jacqueline Wilson, City Clerk