

**Approved Minutes
Earlham City Council
March 10, 2025**

The Earlham City Council met in regular session on March 10, 2025, 7:00 p.m. at Earlham City Hall. Mayor Lillie called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the following answered roll: Fredericksen, Miller, Mudge, Nelsen, Visser. Also present: Chief Stringham, Clerk Kaster

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Mudge, second by Fredericksen, to approve agenda.

Roll: Ayes – Unanimous - Motion passes.

2. PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. ~~Comprehensive Plan~~ – **CANCELLED**

3. PUBLIC FORUM – *The Mayor and Council welcome comments from the public on topics not on the agenda. The Mayor may limit each speaker to five minutes*

Allissa Johnson and Shelby Rutz spoke on behalf of Christmas on Chestnut and Chicks with Checks. The 2024 Christmas on Chestnut event included a bigger tree, more ornaments, roaming Santa, and a photographer. Attendance of 200+. Asking for \$2000 from the city for the 2025 event to be held on 11/29/2025. Council has already approved \$1000 in the budget for the event. Chicks with Checks is looking to partner with the City for their Big Money project, options include splash pad, walking trail, city park bathrooms, or baseball/softball bathrooms. The city will update them as they determine the best project. The Annual Harvest Dinner will be held on 10/5/2025, Chestnut Ave closure requested again.

Dr. Kaster spoke on behalf of Earlham Community School District, they would like to partner with the city to obtain internet access to the football field ticket booth, swimming pool, and baseball/softball fields. Conversations regarding this will continue in the future. 6th St closure for track meets is being requested again this year.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Council meeting minutes for 2-10-25
- b. Treasurer's Report for 3-10-25
- c. Claims and Receipts Report for 3-10-25
- d. Consider approval of re-appointment of Lance Ridgely to Library Board, term ending 12-31-2029

Motion by Mudge, second by Visser, to approve consent agenda.

Roll: Ayes – Unanimous - Motion passes.

5. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

a. Police Department – Chief Matt Stringham

Chief Stringham reported the department completed taser recertifications, and CPR recertifications this past month. He led the wrestlers out of town for the state tournament. The Street Camera project will add a camera facing the pool. The department will complete rifle and handgun recertifications next month.

6. BOARD, COMMISSION, COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Consider approval of Resolution No 25-16, Approving Law Enforcement Training Reimbursement Agreement Between the City of Earlham and Wyatt Spieker

Motion by Fredericksen, second by Visser, to approve Resolution No 25-16, Law Enforcement Training Reimbursement Agreement Between the City of Earlham and Wyatt Spieker

Roll: Ayes – Unanimous - Motion passes.

- b. Consider approval of Resolution No 25-17, Approving Placement of No Parking Signs on the North Side of NE 4th Street
Motion by Visser, second by Mudge, to approve Resolution No 25-17, Placement of No Parking Signs on the North Side of NE 4th Street
Roll: Ayes – Unanimous - Motion passes.
- c. Set date and time for Public Hearing for Budget Amendment #3 for FY25 for April 14, 2025, 7:00 p.m.
Motion by Mudge, second by Miller, to approve setting date and time for Budget Amendment #3 for FY25 for April 14, 2025, 7:00 p.m.
Roll: Ayes – Unanimous - Motion passes.
- d. Set date and time for Rescheduled Public Hearing for Comprehensive Plan for April 14, 2025, 7:00 p.m.
Motion by Mudge, second by Nelsen, to approve setting date and time for Rescheduled Public Hearing for Comprehensive Plan for April 14, 2025, 7:02 p.m.
Roll: Ayes – Unanimous - Motion passes.
- e. Discussion on Property Insurance Renewal
Mayor Lillie reported he spoke with Bric Nelson about changing deductible amounts to lessen the premium costs. Increasing building deductibles would not be beneficial, raising the deductibles for Public Works vehicles would help premium costs. There is a trailer that will be dropped to liability only due to value.
Motion by Visser, second by Mudge, to approve proceeding with the property insurance renewal with the increased deductibles for Public Works vehicles, and liability only for the trailer on the policy.
Roll: Ayes – Unanimous – Motion passes
- f. Set date and time for Human Relations Meeting for various topics
Meeting set for March 27, 2025 at 6:00pm to discuss Personnel Policy updates.

9. MAYOR'S REPORT

2025 Council Committees – Mayor Lillie is in the process of changing the committees, he will have a new list for the April meeting. The County Assessor has resigned her position. Dollar General contacted again to send if Earlham was now interested in their store – Mayor Lillie replied no, Council consensus was the same.

10. CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Kaster presented 3 CDs that are maturing later this month. Council consensus was to renew the General CD, and Perpetual Care CD. She will cash out the L.O.S.T CD, the reinvest half the balance back in a CD to help the cash balance of L.O.S.T during the time of no funds being received. Kaster reminded the Council of upcoming meeting dates and times, a follow up email will be sent. The Dance Marathon would like to extend the road closure from 5:00-8:00 p.m to 4:00-8:00 p.m. on April 6, 2025. Kaster will add this and the street closures for track meets to the special session agenda to be held on March 27, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.

11. COUNCIL COMMENTS/DISCUSSION - None

12. ADJOURN

Motion by Mudge, second by Visser, to adjourn.
Roll: Ayes – Unanimous - Motion passes.

Being there was no further business, meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Jeff Lillie, Mayor

Attest: Shelley D. Kaster, Clerk/Treasurer