

**CITY OF ITHACA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
June 2, 2026
5:30 PM**

The regular meeting of the City of Ithaca City Council was called to order by Mayor Pro-Tem Clark Hubbard at 5:30pm. and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present were Mayor Brett Baublitz (*arrived at 6:37pm.*), Councilpersons James Andrew, Rob Endter, Brandon Ester, Clark Hubbard, and Brooke Vernon. Staff present were City Manager Jamey Conn, City Clerk Cathy Cameron; and City Treasurer/Finance Director Chris Foster. Additionally, previous City Treasurer Luke Klifman.

Absent was Mayor Baublitz and Councilperson Kristyn Roethlisberger.

Audience in attendance was Shelly Brown with Greater Gratiot Development (*arrived at 6:10pm.*).

Moved by Andrew, seconded by Ester to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held May 19, 2026. Motion carried.

Moved by Vernon, seconded by Ester to excuse Mayor Baublitz and Councilperson Roethlisberger. Motion carried.

Mayor Pro-Tem Hubbard asked for approval of the agenda and for any items to be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Andrew, seconded by Vernon to approve the Agenda, including the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mayor Pro-Tem Hubbard asked for public comment. There was none.

Consent Agenda

Moved by Vernon, seconded by Andrew to approve the consent agenda items as listed:

- **City Manager's written report included updates and information on 2024 Watermain Projects Punch List, County Drain Commission, Financial Consulting Firm, Water Quality Report, MML Training, EGLE Visit and City Hall Roof.**
- **Claims submitted to the Ways and Means Committee by City Treasurer Foster and recommended for payment: Accounts Payable Checks #51488-51507, and Payroll Checks #17202-17206, DD #3755-3772, EFT #2187-2195 as listed in the Check Register Book**
- **Correspondence received was County Millage Renewals Flyer.**

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (5) Vernon, Andrew, Endter, Ester, Hubbard

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (2) Roethlisberger, Baublitz

Committee/Department Reports

Mayor Pro-Tem Hubbard reported that the Committee of the Whole met on May 19, 2026 to review and discuss the Proposed 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget.

City Manager Comments

Manager Conn reported that Isabella Corporation would be back this week to provide restoration of South Pine River/Newark Street quadrant and Barnes Street projects. The Water Quality Report was reviewed by EGGLE with one correction to be made; upon approval the report will be mailed out to all water users. Discussion was held on council availability to schedule the MML Training. Tentative date being July 27, 2026 at 5:30pm.

Unfinished Business

Mayor Pro-Tem Hubbard reported that the personnel review, held at the previous meeting during closed session, for the City Manager was completed with a score of 90% for meeting or exceeding expectations resulting in a successful review.

Manager Conn presented a wage study as requested by council at the previous meeting. Discussion was held. Mayor Pro-Tem Hubbard suggested that further discussion be held at the next meeting prior to any decision.

Public Hearing

Mayor Pro-Tem Hubbard requested a motion to open the public hearing on the 2026-2032 Capital Improvement Plan and the proposed 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget.

Moved by Andrew, seconded by Ester to open a public hearing to take comments on the 2026-2032 Capital Improvement Plan and the proposed 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget. Motion carried.

The public hearing opened at 5:54pm.

Mr. Klifman assisted City Treasurer Foster with the presentation of the 2026-2032 Capital Improvement Plan and the proposed 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Budget. It was reported that the proposed budget contained an error of transition resulting in an unbalanced bottom line. Discussion was held. Further review of the budgetary highlights was presented. This budget was drafted, as directed by the strategic planning and committee meetings, which prioritize sustaining existing operations and items identified in the city's Capital Improvement Plan. Water and Sewer rates will increase 5%. It is noted that this hearing also serves to take comment on the property tax millage rates. Discussion was held.

Mayor Baublitz arrived at 6:37pm.

Moved by Mayor Baublitz, seconded by Andrew to close the public hearing. Motion carried.

The public hearing closed at 6:39pm.

New Business

Mayor Pro-Tem Hubbard presented Resolution 2026-09: Designation of City Depositories FY 2026-2027.

Moved by Ester, seconded by Baublitz to adopt Resolution 2026-09: Designation of City Depositories FY 2026-2027.

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Vernon, Andrew, Endter, Ester, Hubbard, Baublitz

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (1) Roethlisberger

Mayor Pro-Tem Hubbard presented Resolution 2026-10: Amending Water and Sewer Rates.

Moved by Ester, seconded by Baublitz to adopt Resolution 2026-10: Amending Water and Sewer Rates.

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Andrew, Endter, Ester, Hubbard, Vernon, Baublitz

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (1) Roethlisberger

Mayor Pro-Tem Hubbard presented Resolution 2026-11: Approving the 2026-2027 Property Tax Millage Rates. Mayor Baublitz stated that the Emergency Services Millage of 1.5 mills will no longer be collected beginning July 1, 2026, so should be reflected as 0 (zero) in the resolution and in the proposed budget.

Moved by Baublitz, seconded by Andrew to adopt Resolution 2026-11: Approving the 2026-2027 Property Tax Millage Rates; as amended by reflecting the Emergency Services Millage as 0 (zero) mills.

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Endter, Ester, Hubbard, Vernon, Andrew, Baublitz

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (1) Roethlisberger

Mayor Pro-Tem presented the 2026-2032 Capital Improvement Plan.

Moved by Andrew, seconded by Ester to approve the 2026-2032 Capital Improvement Plan.

Moved by Ester, seconded by Andrew to table Resolution 2026-12: Approving the FY 2026-027 Budget Appropriates to the next meeting. Motion carried.

Manager Conn presented both Financial Consulting Services Proposals that were received. Discussion was held. Staff recommendation is for Plante & Moran, PLLC. Two options for fee structuring were offered.

Moved by Ester, seconded by Baublitz to approve and enter into an agreement for Financial Consulting Services with Plante & Moran, PLLC., selecting the \$200 hourly blended rate structure. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mayor Pro-Tem Hubbard asked for public comments. Shelly Brown provided information regarding the Gratiot County Millage Proposals Renewals for the Commission on Aging and Agriculture & Economic Development Services (MSU Extension/4-H and Greater Gratiot Development).

Announcements

Mayor Pro-Tem stated that Catherine Street looks very nice now after project completion.

Moved by Baublitz, second by Andrew to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:02pm.

Cathy Cameron

Cathy Cameron, City Clerk