

**CITY OF ITHACA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 1, 2026
5:30 PM**

The regular meeting of the City of Ithaca City Council was called to order by Mayor Brett Baublitz at 5:30pm. and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present were Mayor Baublitz, Councilpersons James Andrew, Rob Endter, Brandon Ester, Kristyn Roethlisberger and Brooke Vernon. Staff present were City Manager Jamey Conn and City Clerk Cathy Cameron.

Audience in attendance was Aaron Wendzel with ROWE, Zoey Harrison and Rozena Harrison.

Moved by Andrew, seconded by Hubbard to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held August 18, 2026. Motion carried.

Mayor Baublitz asked for approval of the agenda and for any items to be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Vernon, second by Ester to approve the Agenda, including the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Mayor Baublitz asked for public comment. Resident Zoey Harrison addressed council on an upcoming fundraiser she organized benefiting the Gratiot Emergency Services Association.

Consent Agenda

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

- **City Manager's written report included updates and information on the Lobby Update, Woodland Park Update, Grant Update, Union Street Bid Opening, Planning Commission, West Tower, Purchase Agreement, Animal Shelter and Sewer Backup.**
- **Financial Reports for July.**
- **Claims submitted to the Ways and Means Committee by City Treasurer Foster and recommended for payment: Accounts Payable Checks #51651-51687, #1045(A), and Payroll Checks #17236-17241, DD #3873-3895, EFT #2229-2238 as listed in the Check Register Book.**
- **Correspondence received was none.**

Motion carried by Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (7) Andrew, Endter, Ester, Hubbard, Roethlisberger, Vernon, Baublitz

Nos: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

Committee/Department Reports

There was none.

City Manager Comments

Manager Conn provided a status update on the lobby renovations and the sale of the Animal Shelter property. The west tower was recently drained and cleaned. Manager Conn was notified by our legal counsel that the plaintiff has dropped the lawsuit against the city for their sewage backup. He was successful at negotiating an additional \$9,000 for the Westwind lots. The purchase agreement has been sent to Miller Cranfield for review.

Unfinished Business

Manager Conn announced that the city has been awarded \$50,000 from the Fitness Campaign Grant. He has submitted two additional grant applications. The Gratiot County Parks and Recreation grant application could not be submitted prior to September 1st, so he will submit that one this Friday for consideration.

Moved by Andrew, seconded by Ester to accept the Fitness Campaign Grant in the amount of \$50,000. Motion carried.

New Business

Aaron Wendzel, with ROWE PSC, presented the bids received for the Union Street Construction Project. There were six total bids ranging from \$3,596,606.00 up to \$5,783,029.25. The lowest bidder was Malley Construction, Inc.. Discussion was held. Mr. Wendzel stated that ROWE has successfully worked on similar projects with the low bidder; therefore, recommending the contract be awarded to Malley Construction Inc.

Moved by Andrew, seconded by Ester to award the bid to Malley Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$3,596,606.00 for the Union Street Reconstruction Project, contingent on Michigan Department of Transportation Approval of Transportation Economic Development Fund Category B compliance and the closing of the bond sale related to the project. Motion carried.

Public Comment

There was none.

Announcements

Councilperson Endter inquired on the status of the fog seal treatment of several streets. Manager Conn reported that it should be completed within the next week or two. Councilperson Roethlisberger inquired on the wage study that was last referenced in June. Mayor Baublitz requested that the item be added to Unfinished Business at the next meeting. Councilperson Endter provided a proposal for security cameras to be installed at the Senior Center; with the Building Board requesting the city fund a portion of the cost. Mayor Baublitz requested that the item be added to Unfinished Business at the next meeting. Manager Conn reported that more information on the traffic study will be provided at the next meeting.

Moved by Hubbard, second by Ester to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:26pm.

Approved 9/15/2026

Cathy Cameron

Cathy Cameron, City Clerk