

CITY OF DONIPHAN
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
January 6, 2026
6:00 P.M.

The City Council met in regular session at 110 N. Grand Avenue, at the above-mentioned time and date with the following members of the council present: Mayor Dennis Cox. City Attorney Chris Miller & City Clerk Marti Porter. Council members present: Steve Collins, Denver Jackson & Leslie Netherland.

Others present were: Chief of Police Mark Rodgers & Utilities Director Jarret Ficke, Fire Chief Greg Crain, Treasurer Chasity Mathis, & Collector Kim Cannon.

Visitors were: Amber Hornbeck, Jeff Duhe, Lonnie Hopkins, Debra Tune & Heather Jones

Mayor Cox called the meeting to order. The Council reviewed the minutes of the December 12th meeting. A motion was made by Alderwoman Netherland to approve minute. Motion was seconded by Alderman Collins. All in favor. Motion carried.

Old business was next on the agenda. T.A.P. Sidewalk Grant Bid approval, the bid was approved by Modot, for Dickens & Swafford, Poplar Bluff.

The Mayor was contacted by Seiji Shimbo with Modot. Modot is making arrangement to put crosswalk & pole up for cross walks at 160, they need to know if the City wants them to go ahead & complete that or if we want them to wait until we are ready to complete the sidewalks. Discussion.

It was agreed for Modot to complete preparations for crosswalks across 160 to Y hwy.

Treasurer Chasity Mathis presented a budget amendment for the Transportation Dept. Alderman Jackson made a motion to accept the amendment. Alderwoman Netherland seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Chasity also presented a letter & complete audit from our auditor Mike Catlett. FY 2024-2025 was unremarkable.

Visitors were next. Amber Hornbeck from OFRPC was present to discuss the Active Transportation Plan. It is a plan through Health & Senior Services, they provide the money to OFRPC to put the plan together along with a stipend to the City of \$1000 for anything that is purchased for the plan & time spent on the plan. End of phase one is September 30th, phase 2 stipend could be as much as \$5000 for anything like painting bike lanes, or installing park benches. The plan will go with the Comp Plan & will help the City obtain grants. Discussion. There will be a survey for public participation & a walk audit this spring. Blocks that have needs will be audited.

Visitor Jeff Duhe with SBA was present to relay that the SBA has funds available for businesses & individuals that were affected during the 2025 Spring storms. Deadline is February 20th.

Departmental reports were next on the agenda.

Dec 15th/30th payroll & bills, Alderwomen Netherland made a motion to accept the report. Alderman Jackson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

January sales tax, Alderwomen Netherland made a motion to accept the report. Alderman Jackson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Public Works monthly report, Alderman Jackson made a motion to accept the report.

Alderwomen Netherland seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Fire Dept monthly report, Alderman Jackson made a motion to accept the report. Alderman Collins seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

MMDA Trial Balance, Alderman Collins made a motion to accept the report. Alderman Jackson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

PD Nov/Dec report, Alderman Jackson made a motion to accept the report. Alderwomen Netherland seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

During Open Discussion, City Clerk Marti Porter relayed that the HIC agency is speaking with Mo Highlands about being part of our tier 1 insurance since they are taking over the St. Francis facility in Poplar Bluff. Once it has been determined, that information will be relayed to the board & department heads.

Demolition grant was approved for \$87,000, 7 properties.

Fire Chief Greg Crain stated that Mo state legislation has passed PSSV271 for lift assist, giving entities ability to charge for lift assist. Chief Crain relayed that he is EMT certified & he does get called out for lift assist. The City would have to adopt a "C" code to charge. Per Chief Rodgers, dispatch get 25-30 calls for lift assist per month. Mayor Cox states he will look into it.

Lonnie Hopkins was present to inquire about the trash contract. He was directed.

Collector Kim Cannon wanted to bring to the council's attention about the penny shortage that is eminent. Discussion.

At this time Mayor Cox stated that a closed session had been posted & asked for a motion to end the open meeting & go into a closed meeting. Alderman Collins made a motion to end open & go into a closed session. Alderman Jackson seconded the motion. Roll call vote to go into a closed meeting was; Alderman Collins – yea, Alderwoman Netherland – yea & Alderman Jackson - yea.

Time was 6:43 p.m..

Alderman Collins made a motion to go back into a regular session, Alderman Jackson seconded the motion. Roll call vote for regular session was; Alderman Collins – yea, Alderman Jackson – yea, Alderwoman Netherland – yea. Time was 6:49 p.m..

THE FOREGOING MINUTES ARE PROVISIONAL ONLY AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE PRIOR TO APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN AT THEIR NEXT MEETING