

**MINUTES
DAYTON CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
February 17, 2026**

PRESENT: Mayor Annette Frank
Council President Drew Hildebrandt
Councilor Scott Hover
Councilor Kitty Mackin, Zoom
Councilor Robin Pederson
Councilor Chris Teichroew

ABSENT: Councilor Colt Wilkins

STAFF: Jeremy Caudle, City Manager
Rocio Vargas, City Recorder
Dave Rucklos, Tourism and Economic Director
Cyndi Park, Library Director

A. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Frank called the meeting to order at 6:31pm and all those present gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. ROLL CALL

Mayor Frank noted that there was a quorum with Councilors Hildebrandt, Hover, Pederson, Teichroew present in person and Councilor Mackin present via Zoom. Councilor Wilkins was absent.

C. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS

None.

D. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Library Discussion

Cyndi Park, Library Director, updated the Council on the changes the library has made to make the library safe for employees.

Councilor Hover asked if there have been any incidents that have put staff in danger.

Library Director stated that there have been situations where staff have felt unsafe.

Discussion continued regarding the different safety precautions that are being taken to make the library safe for staff now that they are located separate from other city staff.

2. Planning Commission Application Question Update

Mayor Frank led a discussion regarding the wording of a question about applicants' vision for the future of Dayton. She asked Council for feedback on simplifying the question to make it clearer and encourage more thorough responses.

Council discussed expectations for Planning Commissioners and what is needed for success in the role. Council expressed interest in including language requiring applicants to attend the Council meeting at which their appointment is considered.

Jeremy Caudle, City Manager, suggested adding a yes or no question for attendance at a council meeting at the end of the application.

3. USDA Congressional Direct Spending Grant Update

City Manager updated the council on what the grant money could be used for and what the plan is to spend the money on. He stated that in communication with a USDA representative they did emphasize that the money should be used soon.

City Manager also updated the results of the RFQ for a facilities study.

Council discussed the best use of the grant funds and the current state of City facilities.

4. Public Safety Town Hall Assessment

Mayor Frank commented that the Town Hall went well overall.

Councilor Hover agreed and stated that the people are very comfortable speaking their mind. He added that the Sheriff did a really good job answering.

Councilor Pederson commented that the personal stories shared were impactful.

Council discussed survey results and expressed interest in increasing community participation.

Council President Hildebrandt suggested bringing back "Coffee with the Council" to have a more informal setting to get feedback from the community.

Council also discussed ways to better inform the public about the Public Safety Levy. To increase engagement, Council plans to host a booth at Friday Nights to meet community members where they are.

Council identified the following outreach priorities: Coffee with the Council, a Friday Nights booth, a standalone mailer, and a mailer included with utility bills.

5. Update on the City Hall/Services move to Annex

Dave Rucklos, TED Director, updated the council on the moved from city hall to the annex. He stated that the move went smoothly between staff, contractors, and electricians. City services office is ready to be fully operational.

Council discussed the future of the former City Hall and library buildings.

E. CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

Dave Rucklos announced his retirement.

Councilor Hover stated that he would be out of the state the first week of March.

Councilor Pederson thanked Dave for his time with the service.

Councilor Teichroew thanked staff and Dave.

Council President Hildebrandt thanked Dave for his time with the City.

Mayor Frank will be out for surgery on the 27th and in recovery for a few weeks and will miss the April meeting. She inquired about the bathroom light at Andrew Smith Park concerned about someone being inside after hours.

F. ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 7:40pm

Respectfully submitted:

APPROVED BY COUNCIL on **April 6, 2026.**

By:

As Written

As Amended

Rocio Vargas, City Recorder

Annette Frank, Mayor