

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Bellbrook City Council Meeting

August 10, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Schueller called the meeting to order on August 10, 2026.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Schueller led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

- **Council Members Present:** Mr. Ashley, Mrs. Cyphers, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Havens, Deputy Mayor Hoke, Ms. Wright, and Mayor Schweller.
- **Council Members Absent:** None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Without any changes or corrections noted, the minutes from the meeting of July 27, 2026, were approved as submitted.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Mayor Schweller reported there were no announcements or special guests.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

- Jenn LeClaire, representing the Bellbrook Farmers Market Interim Steering Committee, expressed gratitude for the city's support. She announced the market's kickoff and ribbon-cutting ceremony would take place on Friday, August 21, 2026, just before 4:00 p.m. in the City Building parking lot. The markets will be held on Friday evenings from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and will feature 15-20 local vendors, music, and potentially DORA.
- Mr. Havens suggested coordinating with the high school for Friday night football games to manage traffic and potentially create joint events. The City Manager noted that city staff is already involved in coordinating with the market organizers.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Schommer reported on several items:

- New city gateway signs are being installed and have received positive feedback.
- An agreement with the school has been finalized and is ready for execution.
- The application period for a Brownfield Grant opens on August 11, 2026. The city has conducted preliminary meetings with the county development department and environmental companies have begun their studies. Grant award results are expected by September 11, 2026.
- The city is reviewing technology upgrades due to several systems reaching their "end-of-life." This includes the meeting management system, streaming platform, and website. The goal is to find an integrated solution that is native to mobile applications, improves ADA compliance, and consolidates notifications across the website, mobile apps, and social media. The aim is to upgrade technology while keeping costs consistent with current expenditures.
- Regarding personnel, the Water Project Manager position has been filled internally. The city will reevaluate the needs of the service department before backfilling the vacated position to ensure resources are maximized.
- In response to council questions, Mr. Schommer clarified that the installation of the new gateway

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signs is being done by the city's service department as time permits. The installation of new street signs is the next step, pending the arrival of new mounting hardware. Signs for the DORA district are expected to be installed within the next one to two weeks.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Community Affairs/Administration

Mr. Havens had nothing to report.

Finance

Mrs. Cyphers had nothing to report ahead of the legislation.

Resolution 2026-R-27: Authorizing and Ratifying Transfers and Advances Within Various Funds of the City of Bellbrook

The City Manager presented the resolution as a standard transfer of previously appropriated funds, not a supplemental appropriation. The primary purpose is to move funds to cover increased electric utility costs, which were affected by a change in transmission fees. The funds are available from capital outlay, as vehicle lease payments are not due until the next year. A smaller portion of the transfer is for anticipated costs related to the technology upgrades discussed in the City Manager's report. He noted that a future supplemental appropriation may be brought forward to reduce the budget, as some large expenses like the new medic have been pushed into the next fiscal year.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2026-R-27 was made by Ms. Wright and seconded by Deputy Mayor Hoke. Voting Yea: Mr. Ashley, Mrs. Cyphers, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Havens, Deputy Mayor Hoke, Mrs. Wright, Mayor Schweller. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Public Safety

Mr. Ashley provided a committee report:

* **Fire Department:** The new hires are performing well. The department is appreciative of the funds approved for the new medic, though delivery is still years away. The next major capital item to consider will be a new ladder truck, with an estimated cost between \$1.1 and \$1.75 million.

* **Police Department:** Detective Josh Warren has transitioned to the role of School Resource Officer. One new officer is scheduled to start on August 17, 2026, with another candidate in the hiring process, leaving two open positions. The department will be present at the upcoming Lions Club Festival to ensure public safety.

Public Service

Mr. Greenwood had no report.

CITY OFFICIAL COMMENTS

- **Mr. Greenwood** reminded the public that school starts on Thursday and urged drivers to be

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cautious of increased traffic and children.

- **Mr. Havens** echoed the reminder about school starting, asking residents to be vigilant about stopping for school buses. He also promoted the Lions Club Festival, noting there will be a parade on Saturday.
- **Deputy Mayor Hoke** made a plea for volunteers for the blackjack tables at the Lions Club Festival. He also commended the revitalization of the historic building for Demers Coffee, calling it a phenomenal community asset.
- **Mayor Schweller** expressed his belief that the farmers market will be a great success and stated he looks forward to attending the first market on August 21, 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm

Michael Schweller, Mayor

Robert Schommer, Clerk of Council