

Official proceedings of the City Council of the City of Marseilles of the meeting of November 19, 2025.

The City Council of the City of Marseilles met in the City Chamber of City Hall at the hour of 6:00 P.M. on November 19, 2025.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Roll call showed the following present: Mayor Hollenbeck, Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Scheib, and Buckingham. Absent: None.

Moved by Commissioner Kaminski seconded by Commissioner Small that the minutes from the council meeting of November 5, 2025, be approved minutes and place on file. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: Commissioner Schieb.

Mayor Hollenbeck remained the public of the participation ordinance. Commissioner Scheib asked if criticism of a public official was a personal attack? Also asked, if something is documented and submitted and paid for by the city would that be a personal attack? Attorney Cantlin said it depends on the document.

Resident Denise Parini asked why the memorial wall donation boxes are still not out. Attorney Cantlin said she has reached out to both volunteer boards and are trying to find time to meet and discuss donations. Attorney Cantlin said QR codes used for donations are fine just no physical donation boxes.

Melissa Pointer, a seller within the Timber Edge subdivision, stated that a price list has been distributed to various individuals and that she believes she is being harassed in relation to the contents of that price sheet. The City Engineer stated that he prepared the price sheet using information obtained from public records available on GIS. Melissa also referenced a recent FOIA response. She stated she had requested paper copies and was surprised that Catherine Strottnier responded, noting that she typically receives responses from the City Clerk that she described as "like a high school newsletter." She expressed concern that the copy fees were too high and reported the response to the Attorney General's Public Access Counselor. Melissa further requested that the City Clerk be terminated due to issues she perceives with FOIA responses.

Scott Damnjanovic stated the price sheet that the City Engineer put together is wrong and Mike Etscheid is an idiot. Scott stated the City Clerk filed a false police report against him on April 22, 2025. Scott submitted a FOIA for body camera footage and said the footage was blurred. Scott stated Detective Weiss is a liar and falsified a police report. Scott was given 25 additional seconds to speak, Scott said he has bank records showing his spending and location. He stated Captain Buckingham and Detective Weiss will be getting sued over this matter.

Moved by Commissioner Kaminski seconded by Commissioner Small that the accounts payable for the first half of November in the amount of \$648,723.06 be approved and a warrant be drawn on the City Treasury for the said amount. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: Commissioner Scheib.

Moved by Commissioner Kaminski seconded by Commissioner Buckingham that the payroll for the first half of November in the amount of \$49,424.44 be approved and a warrant be drawn on the City Treasury for said amount. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: None. Abstain: Scheib.

Commissioner Kaminski said he and the mayor attended an OSF Ottawa Hospital meeting in hopes to save the ICU.

Commissioner Small seconded by Commissioner Kaminski that Resolution 2025-20, a resolution authorizing a mutual release settlement agreement with Karl Eccles be adopted. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: Commissioner Scheib.

Attorney Cantlin said this was a recommendation by corporation counsel to settle for the cost of defense. Commissioner Scheib asked if there was a non-disclosure agreement at settlement. Commissioner Small stated there was a non-disclosure agreement signed.

Commissioner Scheib said he would like to have multiple public hearings when new companies come to town while residents are not at work. Commissioner Scheib stated that a city employee went to his workplace and filed a complaint alleging that he had taken photos of residents' homes. He further alleged that this was part of a pattern of retaliation. Commissioner Scheib also said there is a mirror posted on Wallace Street to help with a blind spot.

Moved by Commissioner Scheib seconded by Commissioner Buckingham that Resolution 2025-21, a resolution for BLR 14220 the 2025 street maintenance be adopted. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Scheib, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: None.

Moved by Commissioner Scheib seconded by Commissioner Buckingham that a change in plans BLR 13210 for street maintenance 25-00000-00-GM adding \$20,996.68 to the contract be approved. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Scheib, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: None.

Moved by Commissioner Scheib seconded by Commissioner Small that the final pay estimate BLR 13230 to Universal Asphalt in the amount of \$158,221.12 be approved. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Scheib, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: None.

Commissioner Scheib asked if the city could install pylons on Bratton Avenue. City Engineer said he will investigate the cost.

Commissioner Buckingham said to look out for snow routes and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Moved by Mayor Hollenbeck seconded by Commissioner Small that the special event permit application for Holiday Magic Lighted Santa parade be approved and the permit fee be waived. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Scheib, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: None.

City Engineer said the city's bond rating has been increased from A to A+. He said this has been worked on for many months by the City Clerk and the City Treasurer. Many questions are asked during the calls which show no corruption or misappropriation of funds. The rating would not have increased if such was present. Mike stated that the CPA firm chooses to audit the City of Marseilles first because the books are in good order. He thanked both the City Clerk and the City Treasurer for their work. Mike said there was a phone call audit with IDOT. IDOT gave no violations, however 6 procedural changes were suggested. Mayor Hollenbeck agreed with what City Engineer stated regarding the city office staff.

Moved by Commissioner Buckingham seconded by Commissioner Small that the City Council adjourns. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Scheib, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: None.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Lesley Hart
CITY CLERK