

Official proceedings of the City of Marseilles of the meeting of March 18, 2026.

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 March 18, 2026.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

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

Moved by Commissioner Kaminski seconded by Commissioner Buckingham that the minutes from the council meeting on March 5, 2026 be approved as displayed and placed on file. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Buckingham and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: Commissioner Scheib.

Mayor Hollenbeck reminded the public of the proper procedure for addressing the council during the public comment portion of the meeting.

Resident Stacy Bridges addressed the council, requesting the adoption of a resolution to ban the sale of Kratom. He shared that approximately eight weeks ago, his husband fell from the river bridge and was believed to have been under the influence of Kratom at the time. Stacy expressed his gratitude to the police and fire departments for their efforts in searching for his missing husband.

Resident Larry Cowie asked for a status update of pending city lawsuits.

Moved by Commissioner Kaminski seconded by Commissioner Small that the accounts payable for the first half of March in the amount of \$79,178.73 be approved and a warrant be drawn on the city treasury for the said amounts. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: Commissioner Schieb. Commissioner Scheib asked Commissioner Kaminski about the compensation paid by Etscheid Duttlinger to Mike Etscheid, City Engineer/Administrative Consultant.

Moved by Commissioner Kaminski seconded by Commissioner Buckingham that the payroll for the first half of March in the amount of \$94,598.28 be approved and a warrant be drawn on the city treasury for the said amounts. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: None. Abstain. Commissioner Scheib.

Commissioner Small said the city will be modifying the safe routes to school ordinance. Small let Stacy Bridges know at the next meeting an ordinance banning the sale of Kratom will be on the agenda. Small reported that her department is purchasing fuel in bulk, resulting in savings of over \$1 per gallon.

Moved by Commissioner Small seconded by Commissioner Kaminski that the special event permit application for Marseilles Fun Days to be held June 27, 2026 and July 16-19, 2026 be tabled. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Scheib, Buckingham and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: None. The dates submitted coincide with the Firemen's Car Show. Fun Day will need to resubmit new dates for the event.

Commissioner Scheib said Lincoln Street project will be moving forward soon. Scheib thanked the street crew for efforts during the high winds. Commissioner Scheib said Illinois Street sewer lining bids will be sometime in May, work to be completed in the fall 2026.

Commissioner Buckingham asked the council to support the membership of the Chamber of Commerce. Actual cost of annual membership is unknown. Commissioner Scheib stated the cost can be saved by carpooling to IML conference instead of staying overnight. Commissioner Buckingham said the chamber will open the museum in City Hall every Saturday 11-1P.M. Commissioner Kaminski asked for a contract, invoice, and terms of the agreement. Commissioner Kaminski asked for the Chamber president to come speak at the next meeting and a vote will be taken.

Mayor Hollenbeck reported on the outcome of a court ruling related to a lawsuit filed by resident Mathew Underwood against the City of Marseilles. The lawsuit alleged violations of the Open Meetings Act and unlawful use of public funds in connection with the vote for annexation of 716 acres south of the river. Mayor Hollenbeck stated that on March 5, 2026, Judge Martin issued a final ruling dismissing all counts in the complaint with prejudice.

Mayor Hollenbeck stated that the housing rehabilitation grant program will be available again this year. In previous years, eligibility was limited to residents within designated geographic areas. However, this year, all residents within the city limits who meet low-to-moderate income requirements will be eligible to apply.

Attorney Christina Cantlin reported that, in a separate lawsuit, the City of Marseilles has been dismissed as a party to the case. Commissioner Scheib asked Attorney Cantlin if she is referring to a federal or state matter, Cantlin said it is a state matter. Commissioner Scheib said he is still being sued by the mayor, clerk, deputy clerk, and a former employee.

Moved by Commissioner Small seconded by Commissioner Buckingham that the city council adjourn. Ayes: Commissioner Kaminski, Small, Buckingham, and Mayor Hollenbeck. Nays: Commissioner Scheib.

Respectfully submitted,

Lesley Hart

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City Clerk