



City Of est. 1839
BOONVILLE

City of Boonville

April 20, 2026

7:00 PM

City Council Chambers

525 E. Spring Street

Boonville MO 65233

I. Call to order – Pledge and Prayer

A. Barry Elbert

The Boonville City Council met in Regular Session on April 20, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at 525 East Spring Street, Boonville, Missouri. The following officers were present: Randy Ayers, Sergeant at Arms; Kate Fjell, City Administrator; Mike Conway, Mayor; and Brad Wooldridge, City Counselor. City Clerk Amber Davis was absent. The meeting was called to order. Whitney Venable led the prayer after the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Roll Call

The following council representatives were present: Whitney Venable, Drew Davis, Hallie Thompson, Evan Melkersman, Andrew Cowherd and Sy Harvell.

Council Members Absent: Barry Elbert and Tanner Bechtel

III. Hearing of Citizens' Comments

None

- **School Resource Officers**

Officers Schanzmeyer and Simmons came before the Council to discuss the School Resource Officer Program that has been embedded in the Boonville Schools for three years. Officer Scanzmyer stated that there has been a significant decrease in events or disruptions in the high school since the SRO program was implemented. Officer Schanzmeyer also stated that he believed the relationships he is able to establish with the students allow him to de-escalate situations, offer a safe haven for students facing difficult situations at home or school, and also help students see law enforcement as a resource or advocate rather than a threat.

Officer Simmons stated that he gets to interact and build relationships with kids from 3rd

grade to 8th grade, which he believes enables him to teach them coping skills that build and develop over the years. Officer Simmons stated that he would be implementing the radKids program in all Boonville and Cooper County schools in the coming year with the help of teachers and other law enforcement partners. The radKIDS program teaches personal empowerment and safety education to children. This program will be implemented in 2nd and 4th grade.

Councilman Harvell asked if the radKIDS program would also be in Saint Peter and Paul. Officer Simmons stated it would be.

Councilman Cowherd stated that the value the SRO's has brought as a trusted adult or default counselor has touched countless students' lives and can change the trajectory of a child's path in life.

Mayor Conway asked if the SRO's or other local police officers have noticed that kids interact differently with law enforcement now that the kids see them in school daily. Officer Schanzmeyer stated that he had seen it personally in his interactions. Officer Simmons stated that he had heard from other officers as well that kids have reacted more positively. Officer Simmons also stated that they will often times invite other police officers to have lunch with the kids or participate in programs in the schools.

Councilwoman Thompson asked about what indicators or statistics would be available for the radKIDS program to demonstrate success. Officer Simmons stated that he wasn't sure, but felt like they were trained, and the program was implemented, success indicators would be identified.

Councilman Davis asked if the SROs felt the two SROs for the 4 schools were adequate or if there was a need for more officers. Officer Schanzmeyer stated that while he would always advocate for more assistance, they felt fortunate because some SROs have to cover as many as 12 schools in other communities.

Councilman Cowherd asked about the relationship between the school and the police department. Officer Schanzmeyer stated they all have a great working relationship and that the officers serve as a liaison between the police department and the school system and everyone has been easy to work with.

Councilman Venable stated that he has heard several positive comments on the SROs from community members and thanked them for their work.

Ms. Fjell stated that the school district reimburses the City for the SROs and that the administrations have worked well together on this program.

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. April 14 Council Minutes

The minutes stand as presented.

V. Consent Items

A. Consider Change Order No. 4 for \$0.00 to C.L. Richardson Construction for Water and Sewer Improvements 2025

Councilman Davis moved, and Councilman Venable seconded a motion to approve the consent items. Roll Call was taken. Ayes: Venable, Davis, Thompson, Melkersman, Cowherd, Harvell. Opposed: None. Absent: Elbert and Bechtel. Motion carried.

VI. Presentation of Accounts and Claims

A. Appropriations

Ms. Fjell read the Ordinance Appropriating Money in its entirety and a second time by title only, since a copy of the ordinance had been made available prior to the meeting. Councilman Davis Venable, and Councilman Cowherd seconded a motion to approve the consent items. Councilman Cowherd asked where the money came from for the Roundabout payment. Ms. Fjell stated that some came from reserves, some came for the CIP fund and some came from gaming. Councilman Harvell asked about the match for the roundabout. Ms. Fjell stated that it was a 50/50 match with the Missouri Department of Transportation. However, the City also received \$500,000 from CDBG to reduce the City's match to approximately \$600,000.

Roll Call was taken. Ayes: Venable, Davis, Thompson, Melkersman, Cowherd, Harvell. Opposed: None. Absent: Elbert and Bechtel. Motion carried.

VII. Unfinished Business

None

VIII. New Business

A. Heritage Days

Ms. Fjell stated that the Council has received the festival and event permit for Heritage Days 2026. Ms. Fjell stated that no action on street closures would be taken at tonight's meeting. Mrs. Roz Gordon and Mary Jo Ramey were on hand to answer any questions. Mary Jo stated that Heritage Days is planned for June 26-27 with the same street closures and events as last year.

IX. Reports of Standing Committees

A. Police Board (Whitney Venable)

Councilman Venable stated the meeting was cancelled due to a lack of agenda items.

B. Street, Alley, and Sanitation Board (Andrew Cowherd)

Councilman Cowherd stated there was a brief meeting to discuss parking issues, but the Board tabled discussing the parking issues and remedies till the next meeting. Councilman Cowherd stated there was additional information in the packet.

X. Reports of City Officials

A. Mayor

None

B. City Administrator

Ms. Fjell asked for Mr. Cooper to come forward and update the Council on the mold remediation at the fire station. Mr. Cooper stated that the mold remediation appears to be contained to the HVAC duct work and some ceilings and sheet rock, but in all it does not appear to be as extensive as staff thought.

Ms. Fjell asked for Council's input on the May 4th Council meeting. Ms. Fjell stated that there was an event at the high school that several staff members would be attending and a baseball game which staff and councilmen were coaches of, which meant that a 7:00pm meeting would likely not work. After discussion, the Council agreed to move the Monday, May 4, 2026, meeting to 5:00PM.

C. City Clerk

None

D. City Counselor

Mr. wooldridge stated that he is actively working to seure the necessary easements for the roundabout on Main Street.

XI. Miscellaneous

Councilman Harvell stated that a constituent had called to ask about improvements to Maple Street. Mr. Harvell stated that the street has no curbs and the constituent's garage floods during rain events. Mr. Harvell stated that the constituent's garage is below street level, and he does not know if curbs would solve the issue. Mr. Venable asked if this was a new issue or was a house elevation issue. Mr. Harvell stated it is a house settling issue but is the low point for the street and where all water flows.

Mr. Wooldridge stated a sunshine law request from an individual on Maple Street has been forwarded to his office, and he is addressing that request. Mr. Wooldridge stated that there may not be a quick fix, but staff is aware.

XII. Adjourn

With no further discussion, Councilman Cowherd moved, and Councilman Davis seconded the motion to adjourn at 7:37 p.m., and the voice vote was unanimous.