

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
COMMON COUNCIL & RENSSELAER UTILITY BOARD
March 9, 2026**

The Common Council of the City of Rensselaer and Rensselaer Utility Board met on March 9, 2026 in regular session in Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Jeffrey S. Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by an invocation offered by Jeff Seger and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Answering roll call were: Mayor Jeff Phillips, Clerk-Treasurer Shelby Keys, Council Members Russ Overton, Kevin Arnold, Noelle Weishaar, Jeff Rayburn, Ernest Watson, Jr, City Attorney Todd Sammons, Building Commissioner Jacob Hall, Cemetery Caretaker Joe Effinger, Fire Chief Kenny Haun, Police Sargent John Davis, Utility Office Manager Heather Smart, Manager of Electric Operations Heath Malone, Park Supt Heather Hall, Street/Water/Sewer/Sanitation Supt. Bryce Black, Gas Supt. Todd Wilson and Assistant Superintendent Josh Eldridge.

Police Chief Matt Anderson was absent.

Also, in attendance were: Harley Tomlinson, Jim Miller, Stace Pickering and Kyler Laird.

The minutes of the February 23rd, 2026 regular council meeting were presented. There was a motion by Rayburn, second by Watson, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

CivicRec: Hall said this new platform is for patrons to sign up for activities and rent shelter houses online.

Resolution 04-2026, Gas Tracker: Wilson stated the gas tracker reflects a 24¢ increase per 100 cubic feet. There was a motion by Rayburn, second by Weishaar, to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution 05-2026, PEFA Gas Supply Agreement: Wilson said this resolution is passed every 7 years and is to continue being in the pefa gas program and receiving a discount. There was a motion by Rayburn, second by Watson, to approve the resolution. Weishaar-yes, Arnold-yes, Overton-yes, Watson-yes, Rayburn-yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Claims Approval: The claims were presented to council for approval. There was a motion by Arnold, second by Weishaar, to approve the claims. The motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business: None.

Administrative Comments:

Phillips said JCEDO will no longer be running the Façade Grant for the Redevelopment Commission. The INDOT trail grant will go from the County Highway building to 850 West. Another grant will cover a path from Brookside to the Fairgrounds.

Keys requested a committee for reviewing the website. Arnold and Call will sit on the committee.

Watson had nothing.

Weishaar had nothing.

Rayburn had nothing.

Arnold had nothing.

Overton had nothing.

Superintendents Reports:

Police Dept: Davis said the hiring process for a new officer is ongoing.

Law Dept: Sammons had nothing.

Utility Office: Smart said year-end is closed and annual reports have been submitted. The energy assistance moratorium ends next week.

Building Dept: Hall said he has made some progress with 306 N. College and will be following up with them to continue cleaning.

Fire Dept Haun said another fireman has left the department.

Electric Dept: Malone said 4 employees have started classes to obtain their CDL.

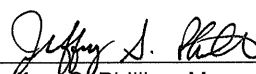
Street, Sanitation, Water and Sewage: Black had nothing. Eldridge said the CCMG pre-construction meeting will take place in April with construction beginning in May.

Gas Dept: Wilson said USDI will be back in 2 weeks, then the gas portion of the I-65 extension will be complete. There is currently an opening in the department.

Cemetery Dept: Effinger had nothing.

Park Dept: Hall said the parks comprehensive plan is moving forward. There will be no fees to visit the pool this year.

There being nothing more to come before council, there was a motion by Weishaar, second by Rayburn, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.



Jeffrey S. Phillips, Mayor

Attest:



Shelby E. Keys, Clerk-Treasurer