

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
EMINENCE CITY MUNICIPAL BUILDING

SEPTEMBER 14, 2026
EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

The City Council of the City of Eminence, Kentucky met in regular session on Monday, September 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Fred Downey and the following members present: Lee Ann Armstrong, Karen Paris, Bobbie Jo Frazier, Justin Wayman and Connie Nation. Absent was Member Phillip Smith. Also, in attendance were City Attorney Chelsey Brammell, City Clerk Robin Mullins, Fire Chief Steve Lucas, Public Work Director Troy Popp, Utility Clerk Donna Rangel, Utility Maintenance J.R. Ellis, Asst. Public Works Director Jonathan Bates, Asst. City Clerk Debra Moore, Henry County Local Representative Joe Durban, and see sign in sheet.

Mayor Downey called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m. ET/5:00 p.m. CT.

Pledge of allegiance held.

Public Hearing: Mayor Downey asked if anyone from the public would like to speak.

Public Comment — Proposed Tax Increase: Treva Browning addressed the Council regarding the proposed tax increase. She emphasized that residents are already facing difficult economic conditions and encouraged the Council to pursue alternative sources of revenue. She suggested selling the three police vehicles parked in the lot and renting out the community center parking area rather than increasing taxes.

Public Comment — Property Tax Increase: Lillian Burdick, a 73-year resident of Eminence, addressed the Council and urged members not to increase property taxes. She stated that residents already face substantial expenses, including taxes and the costs of homeowners and automobile insurance. She encouraged the City to identify alternative revenue sources and pursue measures that bring residents together rather than placing an additional financial burden on them.

Mayor's Response — Mayor Downey reported that the City's General Fund balance was approximately \$1.2 million and that the City anticipated receiving \$160,000 in insurance premium tax revenue.

Projected Revenue at the Compensating Rates:

- Real property: 23.5 cents per \$100 of assessed value, generating an estimated \$439,840.
- Personal property: 29.91 cents per \$100 of assessed value, generating an estimated \$38,421.

Mayor Downey stated that these revenues should provide sufficient funding for capital projects without adopting the permitted 4% tax increase. He expressed a preference for funding capital projects with interest earned on the General Fund rather than placing an additional burden on taxpayers.

Council decided after hearing concerns from the public to go with the compensating rate of 23.5 cents per \$100.00 for real property and 29.91 cents per \$100.00 for tangible property.

Motion made by Member Frazier and seconded by Member Wayman to close public hearing and open regular meeting at 6:13 p.m. On a call for votes, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: Community Room Parking for Bunco - Ruby Bigelow addressed the Council regarding parking for community room rentals. The Bunco group meets in the community room on the second Wednesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. ET/10:00 a.m. CT and typically includes 36 to 56 ladies. Ms. Bigelow explained that attendees must park at the far end of the parking lot and carry food, purses, and gifts to the community room. She noted that the group supports local businesses and participates in events throughout Eminence and Henry County. A suggestion that attendees park in the CVS lot was considered unsuitable. Ms. Bigelow reported that Nathan Stahl of Glenn Chevrolet contacted her, apologized for the parking situation, and offered to assist in resolving the issue.

Subject: Antenna on Water Tower – Michael Shaw from Bluegrass Fiber addressed the council about the potential of putting an antenna on the water tower that would allow residents another option for high-speed internet.

Fire Chief Lucas felt this would interfere with the repeater. Mr. Shaw said it wouldn’t be they already have equipment on six water towers.

Public Works Director Popp reported a tank inspector recommended not to put anything including antennas on the water tower.

Council decided to table this discussion until next meeting, after they had more information.

Subject: Roberts Rules of Order: Mayor Downey asked the council if they would like to follow Roberts Rules of Order for council meetings.

Motion made by Member Paris and seconded by Member Armstrong to follow Roberts Rules of Order for council meeting going forward. On a call for votes, all members present voted “Yea”

OLD BUSINESS

Subject: Minutes – The minutes of the regular meeting held on August 10, 2026, were reviewed. Mayor Downey asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes. Motion made by Member Armstrong and seconded by Member Frazier to approve the minutes as presented. On a call for votes, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: Minutes – The minutes of the special meeting held on August 19, 2026, were reviewed. Mayor Downey asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes. Motion made by Member Nation and seconded by Member Frazier to approve the minutes as presented. On a call for votes, all members present voted “Yea”.

Subject: First Reading of Property Tax Ordinance – Attorney Brammell held the first reading on an ordinance setting the real property tax rate at 23.5 cents per one hundred dollars assessed value, personal property tax rate at 29.91 cents per one hundred dollars assessed value, and the

motor vehicle and watercraft rate at 26.6 cents per one hundred dollars assessed value for 2026. First Reading no action taken.

NEW BUSINESS:

Subject: Second Leak Adjustment – Mayor Downey presented the second leak adjustment for Connie Nation in the amount of \$144.73.

Member Nation left the council table and stood in the audience because the adjustment was for her.

Motion made by Member Frazier and seconded by Member Paris to approve the second leak adjustment for Connie Nation in the amount of \$144.73. On a call for vote, all present members at the tables voted “Yea”.

Subject: Resolution on Force Main Grant – Attorney Brammell gave a summary of the Resolution on the Force Main Grant for accepting the grant, approving the grant assistance agreement, authorizing the amendment to the city budget and authorizing a representative to sign all documents.

Motion made by Member Paris and seconded by Member Armstrong to approve the Resolution on the Force Main Grant. On a call for votes, all members present voted “Yea”.

Bid Opening: Park Upgrade – Mayor Downey opened the bids from the following contractors:

Member Paris sat in the audience during bid opening because her company was bidding on the contract.

ARP Builders, LLC	Mulch Replacement	\$141,259.00
	Concrete Replacement	\$104,600.00
	Pump House	\$ 14,375.00
	Splash Pad Resurfacing	<u>\$ 9,000.00</u>
	Total	\$269,234.00

M&K Construction	Mulch Replacement	\$179,086.70
	Concrete Replacement	\$113,100.00
	Pump House	\$ 31,500.00
	Splash Pad Resurfacing	<u>\$ 17,420.00</u>
	Total	\$341,106.70

CLL Enterprise	\$407,686.60
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Mayor Downey asked Kevin Roederer of ARP Builders, LLC to come to the podium since their bid was the lowest. Mr. Roederer said he could start in a couple of weeks and get it completed by

the end of November. He also stated the concrete has to be done before the turf can go in and everything is dependent on the weather.

Mayor Downey asked if he would object to a per diem if the work wasn't completed on time excluding weather. Mr. Roederer said he would.

Motion made by Member Armstrong and seconded by Member Frazier to accept the bid of ARP Builders, LLC in the amount of \$269,234.00 for Coach D Park Upgrade. On a call for votes, all present members seated voted "Yea".

Bid Opening: City Streets Paving using LARP Grant – Mayor Downey Opened the bids from the following contractors:

Mago Construction Co.	Dogwood Lane	\$27,000.00
	Blackaby Lane	\$33,240.00
	Bell Avenue	\$11,960.00
	Crabb Avenue	\$37,080.00
	Eminence Terrace/Lakeview	<u>\$35,040.00</u>
		\$144,320.00
Libs Paving Co., Inc.	Dogwood Lane	\$16,060.00
	Blackaby Lane	\$31,920.00
	Bell Avenue	\$13,340.00
	Crabb Avenue	\$39,030.00
	Eminence Terrace/Lakeview	<u>\$48,050.00</u>
		\$148,400.00
Flynn Brothers	Dogwood Lane	\$45,899.98
	Blackaby Lane.	\$37,872.08
	Bell Avenue	\$25,223.29
	Crabb Avenue	\$43,978.43
	Eminence Terrace/Lakeview	<u>\$56,483.70</u>
		\$209,457.48

Bid Opening: City Streets Paving – Mayor Downey Opened the bids from the following contractors:

Mago Construction Co.	Vernon Avenue	\$47,280.00
	Uncle Ed Street	\$ 7,560.00
	North Penn Ave	\$14,820.00
	Myrtle Street	\$13,650.00
	Fairview Court	<u>\$26,400.00</u>
		\$109,710.00
Libs Paving Co., Inc.	Vernon Avenue	\$44,850.00
	Uncle Ed Street	\$ 7,600.00

North Penn Ave	\$14,020.00
Myrtle Street	\$13,960.00
Fairview Court	<u>\$24,870.00</u>
	\$105,300.00

Flynn Brothers

Vernon Avenue	\$46,382.39
Uncle Ed Street	\$ 7,125.03
North Penn Ave	\$13,944.38
Myrtle Street	\$13,939.00
Fairview Court	<u>\$24,985.78</u>
	\$106,376.58

Motion made by Member Armstrong and seconded by Member Frazier to accept the bid for street paving from Mago Construction for the LARP Grant in the amount of \$144,320.00 and city streets in the amount of \$109,710.00. The reason for accepting the higher bid for the city street paving is they will already be in town working on the LARP Grant, and they are a local established company. On a call for votes, all members present voted "Yea".

Lease Agreement – 127 E. Broadway Street – Mayor Downey reported the renewal is up on the Lease agreement with Glenn Chevrolet for the 127 E. Broadway Street Rental. The current monthly rent is \$700.00.

Motion made by Member Nation and seconded by Member Wayman to renew the lease agreement for \$700.00 a month including utilities. On a call for votes, all members present voted "Yea".

Mayor's Update – Mayor Downey reported the parking lot situation had been sorted out with Glenn Chevrolet.

Mayor Downey reported Brandon Bates had been hired as a Public Works Employee.

Mayor Downey reported he is interviewing police candidates this week.

Mayor Downey stated there is a rumor going around that the Sheriff Department is going to take over the Eminence Police Department. Mayor Downey reported that he had discussed with Sheriff Keith Perry the possibility of the County assuming responsibility for the City's police services. Mayor Downey clarified that the discussions were exploratory, that he was gathering information only, and that no decision had been made. He noted that any decision would require Council approval. When he asked whether the Council wished to consider the proposal further, the Council declined.

Council – New Business – Member Armstrong reported that the traffic is horrible during pick up at Eminence Independent on Sulphur Avenue and something needed to be done.

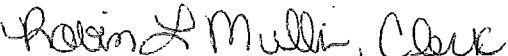
Mayor Downey reported he has obtained a survey of Sulphur Avenue and has an idea about how to widen the street to make the situation better, but this would not occur to next fiscal year.

Member Armstrong asked if a speed bump could be put on Sulphur Avenue. Director Popp will get this done.

Open Citizen Comments – Jeff Browning asked the council to consider if the Sheriff's Department taking over the Police Department would provide better protection from crime and saving lives. We need to know for sure if it would be better in order to make an informed decision. He was curious to know how the community leans on this subject.

With no further business to be discussed, the motion made was by Member Frazier and seconded by Member Nation to adjourn. All members present voted "Yea". The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m. ET/6:38 p.m. CT.


FRED DOWNEY, MAYOR
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

ATTEST: 
ROBIN MULLINS, CITY CLERK
CITY OF EMINENCE, KENTUCKY

AGENDA – SEPTEMBER 14, 2026
EMINENCE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 p.m. ET, 5:00 p.m. CT

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Hearing – Property Tax

Closing of Public Hearing and Opening of Regular Session

Ruby Bigelow – Bunco Parking

Michael Shaw – Bluegrass Fiber

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of Minutes – August 10, 2026

Approval of Minutes – August 19, 2026

Second Reading of Property Tax Rate Ordinance

~~Discussion – Community Room Parking Lot~~

NEW BUSINESS:

Second Leak Adjustment

Resolution – Force Main Extension Grant

Bid Opening – Park Upgrade

Bid Opening – LARP Street Paving

Bid Opening – City Street Paving

Lease Agreement – 127 E Broadway

Mayor's Update

Council – New Business

Public Comments (3 Minute Maximum)

Closing of the Meeting

ROBIN MULLINS
CITY CLERK/TREASURER

MATT McALLISTER
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR



Fred Downey
MAYOR

SCOTT WILCOXSON
POLICE CHIEF

STEVIE LUCAS
FIRE CHIEF

August 3, 2026

Honorable Fred Downey
5115 South Main Street
P.O. Box 163
Eminence, KY 40019

Dear Mayor Downey:

Please see the following for police department activity in August 2026:

General Activity:

Complaints	Written Warnings	Traffic Stops	Criminal Cases
274	14	14	6
Domestic Violence Reports	Traffic Collisions	Incident Reports	TOTALS
2	7	4	285

City Ordinances: 10
Business Checks: 175
Crisis Intervention: 1
(Complaints = Alarms-MA-Assists-911 hang ups-welfare checks)

Number of Individuals Arrested:

EXPLANATION: These figures represent the number of individuals arrested and the number of charges attributed to these individuals.

Individuals Arrested	Total Citations
1	1

Comments

On August 6, the police department received eight new laptop computers for the cruisers. Replacing the five-year-old computers.

Conducted interviews on August 4,5 and 7th. Four total applicants.

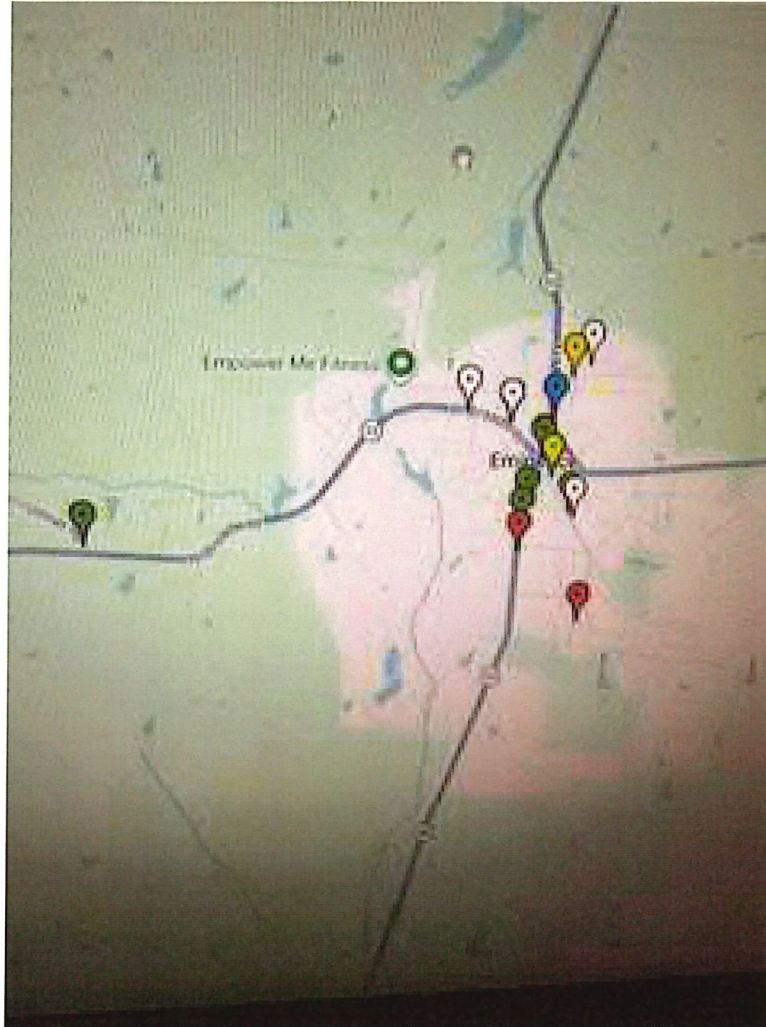
On August 26 and 27 second interviews were conducted for three applicants. Interviews were conducted by Robin, Troy and Scott. Looking to hire two of the three to get the police department back to full strength.

Participated in the Back to School Bash. SRO Dewitt raised \$114 for "Eminence Shop with a Cop" by being the target in a dunk tank.

Fuel Report

24/25 MONTH OF YEAR	GAS		MAINTENANCE		TOTAL COST PER MONTH	MILES DRIVEN PER MONTH
			TOTAL	TOTAL		
	GAL.	COST	PARTS	LABOR		
JULY	635.8	1341.39			\$1,341.39	7165
AUGUST	585.9	\$1,566.35			\$1,566.35	6685
SEPTEMBER						
OCTOBER						
NOVEMBER						
DECEMBER						
JANUARY						
FEBRUARY						
MARCH						
APRIL						
MAY						
JUNE						
TOTALS	1221.7	\$2,907.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,907.74	13850

KY-OPS Agency Activity



Red – Call Response Green – Collisions Orange – Courtesy Notices
Blue - Citations White - NIBRS Yellow – JC3

Eminence Police Department
Police Activity Report

Sincerely,
Scott Wilcoxson
Chief of Police

Cc: Council Member: Lee Ann Armstrong
 Council Member: Justin Wayman
 Council Member: Bobbi Jo Frazier

Council Member: Connie Nation
Council Member: Karen Paris
Council Member: Phillip Smith

Public Works Activity Report AUGUST 2026

City Department:

- Routine - We picked up & emptied trash and performed typical upkeep & maintenance of City property, Mowing and Bushhogging season.
- Public Works have been preparing for fall and cleaning up around the sewer plant, removing limbs, trash, clearing overgrown vegetation on side streets & also, they had the Backhoe building insulated with spray foam.
- Near 318/323 Shadyview Dr, Public Works had the culvert that was collapsed replaced and concrete was installed.
- City Public Works has received the new Skid Loader with the Bush Hog attachment they have cleaned the area of overgrown trees and bushes from the Jim Green Trail area.
- Drainage culvert was replaced near the intersection of Crabb Avenue on Dobner Way to help with the flooding in this area, asphalt has been replaced.
- New speed hump was installed on E Broadway St.
- Driveway on Vernon St has had the concrete repaired and all the dirt work was also replaced from a leak that was repaired in the Spring.
- N. King St, & S Main St had some potholes temporarily repaired with Perma Patch.
- Bids for the LARP fund city roadway paving will be taken until September 11.
- City of Eminence will be looking into a grant options for storm drainage in near future.

Water Department:

- Routine-We performed required samples, utility locates, read meters, and maintained the water distribution system.
- Main line leak was repaired on Shawnee Dr, & Vernon Avenue.
- Repairs were made to sinking meter box with Perma Patch.
- Troy and Jonathan attended the Henry County Water Management meeting at the Judge Executives office in New Castle, to prioritize water and wastewater management projects for 2027 fiscal year for KIPDA.

July 2026-6,997,443 gallons/purchased
August 2026- gallons/purchased

Wastewater Department:

- Routine-We performed required samples; utility locates and maintained the wastewater collection system and treatment plant.
- The kickoff meeting for the Sewer Force Main extension on Mulberry Pike was Thursday, July 23rd with Strand Engineering, Public Works and surveyors will be walking the entire area for the force main. The Second and third week of August.

Coach D Park Updates:

- Jr has still been picking up trash on the walking trail & throughout the city, removing vegetation, limbs, and mowing and weed eating at Coach D Park.
- Bid Packet is out for Coach D Park Upgrade 2026-2027 project bids due September 11.

Office of City Clerk

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REPORT – September 2026

The following information details some of the extra projects being worked on by the administrative office staff and provides miscellaneous information. It also details some of the quarterly and additional items beyond the normal day-to-day billing, bookkeeping, accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, etc.

Water & Sewer Services:

Processed Twelve New or Temporary Services and Three Final Bills and/or Changes.

Processed Several Leak Adjustments & Oversaw Misc. Complaints and Questions

City General:

Processed Insurance Premium Tax/License Fee Receipts for August - \$93,983.94

Processed Occupational Tax Receipts for August – \$24,958.98.

Processed Business & Misc. Licenses for August – \$50.00.

Processed Alcohol Licenses for August - \$0.00.

Processed Net Profits Returns & Extensions for August – \$200.00.

Processed Property Taxes/Franchise Fees from August 1st through August 31st in the amount of \$1,056.27. Collected 98% of 2025 Property Tax Bills.

Received \$4,118.24 for local collection of vehicle taxes from Henry County.

Received \$3,580.70 for local collection of vehicle taxes from Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Received \$29,527.66 for KU Franchise Fees.

Received \$12,772.06 for July Trash Transfer

Eminence Fire and Rescue Department

August 2026

Fire Runs- 2
City- 1 Rural- 1

Alarm Runs- 0
City- 0 Rural- 0

EMS Assist Runs- 4
City- 4 Rural- 0

Accident Runs- 2
City- 1 Rural- 1

Other Runs- 1
City- 1 Rural- 0

Total Manpower Hours- 146 Hours/0 Minutes
Day Hours- 38 Hours/0 Minutes Night Hours- 108 Hours/0 Minutes
Total Runs- 9 Total Run Hours- 41 Hours/0 Minutes
Training Hours- 105 Hours/0 Minutes
Special Detail Hours- 0 Hours/0 Minutes

CC: Eminence Fire Board

Report By: Paige Lucas-Jamiel

September 8, 2026