

**CITY OF SOUTHGATE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Sept. 16, 2026
122 Electric Ave**

Call to Order: Mayor Hamberg called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

The following answered roll call: Council Members: Curry, Hartman, Okura, Messmer, Melville, and Whitehead were present. Also present: City Clerk Barton, Police Chief Christmann, Public Works Foreman Stortz (arrived late), and Assistant City Attorney Shultz. Finance Director/Treasurer Edgley and Fire Chief Beatsch were absent.

Public Comments: Mayor Hamberg presented a five year service award to Police Officer Joseph Boyce and thanked him for his service to the City.

Several residents commented on their concern about Flock cameras in the City. Kyle Randall requested the program be ended. Wendy Rice said the residents she spoke to don't want the cameras. Tom Hoffstedder requested to take the grass out between the sidewalk and street. Mayor Hamberg said the City will check on this and get back with him.

Approval of meeting minutes 9/2/26. Motion/Second: Okura/Hartman. Approved by vote: Aye 6 Nay 0.

Public Works: Council Member Melville reported that Public Works will be removing the blacktop from the community center parking lot in preparation for the contractor to repave it next week. Public Works Foreman Stortz said that Evergreen Cemetery requested the asphalt from the parking lot as fill, so Public Works will be dumping the fill at the cemetery.

Public Safety: Council Member Messmer had no report. Fire Chief Beatsch was absent. Police Chief Christmann had no report. Council Member Messmer said the Safety committee met to discuss the Flock cameras on Monday. He said that the committee heard from several residents about their concerns with the storage of the data from the cameras. They do think that it is a good tool for the police department. There are policies and procedures for the use of the cameras in place. Mayor Hamberg talked about the Judiciary meeting of the House and Senate in Frankfort last week. He asked Council what they would like to do moving forward. Council decided to hold a forum for residents to speak about what they want done about the license plate reader cameras at the next council meeting on Oct. 21. Council voted to cancel the Oct. 7 meeting because there is a forum for candidates to speak at the Campbell Co. Newport branch library on Oct. 7.

Motion to cancel Oct. 7 council meeting. Motion/Second: Melville/Whitehead. Approved by vote: Aye 6 Nay 0.

Code Enforcement: Council Member Curry had no report.

Community Relations & Recreation: Council Member Okura said the Pumpkin Walk is 10/9. The Fire Dept. Stagette is 10/16. Southgate Clean up event is 9/28-10/4. The Campbell Co. Senior picnic is 9/23.

Public Buildings: Council Member Whitehead said he has an estimate from Buckeye Power to repair the generator at the Fire Dept. and a quote from someone for a new replacement generator. The current generator is old and the cost to repair it is about \$12,000. Mayor Hamberg asked Public Works Foreman Stortz to check with City Engineer to get generator specs for bid process.

Finance and Administration: Council Member Hartman reviewed payables.

Finance Director Edgley was absent. City Clerk Barton said the City wide yard sale was Saturday. There were a lot of donations for St. Vincent De Paul. She said she is working on tax bills and they will be mailed out on 9/30. Assistant City Attorney Shultz had no report, but read the following:

Ordinance 26-13 Establish real & personal property tax 2026 (second reading)

Motion/Second: Hartman/Okura. Approved by vote: Aye 6 Nay 0.

Ordinance 26-14 Establish firehouse tax 2026 (second reading)

Motion/Second: Melville/Okura. Approved by vote: Aye 6 Nay 0.

Ordinance 26-15 Establish motor vehicle & boat tax (second reading)

Motion/Second: Curry/Hartman. Approved by vote: Aye 6 Nay 0.

Ordinance 26-16 Amend Waste fee (second reading)

Motion/Second: Curry/Whitehead. Approved by vote: Aye 6 Nay 0.

Ordinance 26-17 Prohibit smoking in city owned buildings (first reading)

Old Business: Mayor Hamberg said he and several staff members, Fire Chief Beatsch and Council Member Okura took a tour of Trilogy senior living facility last week. The building should be completed in June of 2027.

New Business: none.

Payment of Vouchers: Check vouchers #36557-36596 were presented for Council's review.

Adjournment: There being no further business, **Motion to adjourn. Motion/Second: Messmer/Okura. Approved by vote: Aye 6 Nay 0.**



Brandi Barton, City Clerk



Jim Hamberg, Mayor