

LUDLOW COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

July 23, 2026

Mayor Sarah Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Laurie Sparks called the roll, which showed the following council members present: Meagan Guthrie, Julie Terry Navarre, Brian Bumgarner, David Ziegler, and Paula Graszus. Steve Chapman was absent.

ALSO ATTENDING: City Attorney Michelle Eviston, City Attorney Zach Smith, City Clerk Laurie Sparks

Motion by Ms. Graszus, seconded by Mr. Ziegler, to approve the minutes from the council meetings on July 9, 2026, and July 14, 2026. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

Motion by Ms. Graszus, seconded by Mr. Ziegler, to approve Councilmember Julie Terry Navarre's absence from the meeting on July 14, 2026. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Thompson thanked everyone who attended and supported Limburger Fest. Mayor Thompson encouraged everyone to attend Porch Fest at 606 Linden Street on July 25, 2026, from 3:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. Donations benefit the Ludlow Family Resource and Youth Service Center.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Bob Steimetz, 449 Oak Street, discussed an issue with a sinkhole near to his driveway in Cedar Alley that was created when a new phone pole was installed. Mayor Thompson advised that she would ask Public Works Director Shane Hamant to look into it.

Jeff Landwehr, 417 Deverill Street, expressed his concerns about the possibility of data centers moving into the city. Mayor Thompson advised that there was an ordinance on the agenda to place a moratorium on data centers in the city.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Second Reading of Ordinance 2026-12

At Mr. Smith's request, motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, seconded by Ms. Graszus, to proceed with the second reading of Ordinance 2026-12 *An Ordinance Amending Section 50.06: Waste Collection Assessments of the Ludlow Code of Ordinances to Establish the Annual Fee in summary.* Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes. Following a second reading by Mr. Smith, motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, seconded by Mr. Ziegler, to adopt Ordinance 2026-12. Mr. Ziegler advised that if residents have an issue with the service, they should contact Rumpke first, document, and then let the City know. Ms. Graszus stated that a lot of people have asked why the City is staying with Rumpke. Ms. Eviston advised that the City opened a bid process and Rumpke was the only company who bid. **Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.**

Second Reading of Ordinance 2026-13

At Mr. Smith's request, motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, seconded by Mr. Bumgarner, to proceed with the second reading of Ordinance 2026-13 *An Ordinance Imposing a Temporary Moratorium on the Acceptance and Processing of Applications Related to I.T. Infrastructure Facilities (Including Data Centers)* in summary. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes. Following a second reading by Mr. Smith, motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, seconded by Ms. Guthrie, to adopt Ordinance 2026-13. Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.

Second Reading of Ordinance 2026-14

At Mr. Smith's request, motion by Ms. Guthrie, seconded by Ms. Graszus, to proceed with the second reading of Ordinance 2026-14 *An Ordinance Relating to Alcoholic Beverage Control and Amending Section 112.20 of the City of Ludlow Code of Ordinances* in summary. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes. Following a second reading by Mr. Smith, motion by Ms. Guthrie, seconded by Mr. Ziegler, to adopt Ordinance 2026-14. Following a roll call vote, motion carried: all ayes.

NEW BUSINESS

First Reading of Ordinance 2026-15

At Ms. Eviston's request, motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, seconded by Ms. Graszus, to proceed with the first reading of Ordinance 2026-15 *An Ordinance of the City of Ludlow, in Kenton County, Kentucky, Adopting an Amended Comprehensive Pay Plan for the Non-Elected City Officers and Employees of the City of Ludlow, in Accordance with KRS 83a.070(2)* in summary. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes. Ms. Eviston completed the first reading of Ordinance 2026-15. Mayor Thompson advised that there may be another change in the pay plan in the fall. Ms. Guthrie advised that she would like to see how the City's wages compare to the wages in other river cities. Discussion on reviewing the pay plan on an annual basis.

Council will have a special meeting on August 5, 2026, to discuss increasing the fire tax rate. Ms. Eviston advised that council previously discussed increasing the tax rate to \$.200, but they could choose a different rate for the first reading of the ordinance at the special meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Ziegler announced that he will try to have one more Hot Dogs in the Park this summer.

Motion by Ms. Terry Navarre, seconded by Mr. Bumgarner, to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Following a voice vote, motion carried: all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Sparks, City Clerk

Attest: _____
Sarah Thompson, Mayor