City of Gilbert Regular Council Meeting Minutes

September 22, 2026

Call to Order and Agenda

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m., followed by roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance. The Council discussed additions and changes to the agenda, including matters to be addressed after returning to open session. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Councilor Vertachnik as amended was seconded by Councilor Skrbec and carried by voice vote. A separate motion to approve the consent agenda was seconded and carried by voice vote.

Public Input

Members of the public addressed the proposed annexation of the Fayal Township portion of Differding Point and possible detachment of the Gilbert portion. Comments concerned property taxes, existing township services, water rates and the expired water service agreement, road and utility costs, representation, and relations between the communities. Speakers also raised concerns about City staffing and the clerk selection process. Council members and the City Attorney responded to questions. No Council action was taken during public input.

Old Business

Resolution 2026-22 Proposed annexation of the Fayal Township portion of Differding Point: A motion to reject the resolution was made by Councilor Skrbec and supported by Councilor Redepenning. The second was withdrawn, and no replacement second was offered; the motion did not proceed. A motion to approve Resolution 2026-22 was then made by Councilor Redepenning and seconded by Councilor Pontinen. Following a roll-call vote, the motion failed, with two votes in favor and three opposed. No Votes: Councilors Redeppening, Skrbec and Mayor Oberstar. Yes votes: Councilors Pontinen and Vertachnik.

Reports

Council members gave brief reports and thanked residents for participating. The police chief reported that this was his 500th council meeting as chief. The Council briefly discussed removal of a cardboard crusher. The city attorney reported no formal items and answered a question about temporary signing of city documents.

New Business

Broadway Manor trees: A motion to have staff contact a tree service regarding trees near Broadway Manor by Councilor Vertachnik was seconded by Councilor Skrbec and carried by voice vote.

Special meeting: A motion to move the special Council meeting from September 29 to Monday, September 28, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. was made by Councilor Skrbec and was seconded by Councilor Redepenning and carried by voice vote. A separate motion to table campground host pay discussion until that meeting was made by Councilor Skrbec and seconded by Councilor Vertachnik and carried.

Interim administrative support: The Council discussed temporary administrative and operational assistance during the transition in the clerk's office. A motion was made by Councilor Skrbec to adopt Resolution 2026-23, authorizing a professional services arrangement with a maximum cost of $7,500 per month the motion was seconded by Councilor Vertachnik. The discussion contemplated a short-term arrangement with an option to terminate by written notice. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Access road bids: A motion by Councilor Skrbec to approve the access road bids was seconded by Councilor Vertachnik and carried by voice vote. MCU

Leaf pickup: A motion by Councilor Skrbec was made to set leaf pickup for October 26 through October 30, 2026, requiring leaves to be bagged and brush to be six feet or less, was seconded by Councilor Redepenning and carried by voice vote. MCU

Tree trimming along alley: A motion by Councilor Skrbec to have staff contact the power company about trimming around power lines in the alley between Ohio and Iowa Avenues was seconded Councilor Redepenning and carried by voice vote.

Information technology services: A motion by Councilor Skrbec to proceed with an independent contractor agreement with Randy Parkhurst for IT services at $30 per hour, using a prior city contract as a starting point, was seconded by Councilor Redepenning and carried by voice vote. The city attorney indicated that he would prepare the agreement.

Laundromat: The Council discussed complaints concerning conditions and drainage at a laundromat. The city attorney discussed obtaining a formal assessment and possible inspection or enforcement steps.

Recess and Return

The Council recessed at 7:39 p.m. to enter closed session. The Council reconvened in open session at 8:10 p.m., and roll call was taken. The full Council was present.

Actions After Return to Open Session

City clerk offer: A motion was made by Councilor Skrbec to accept Nancy Sanford's counteroffer for the city clerk position was seconded by Councilor Redepenning and passed on a recorded vote of 5–0. It was separately moved by Councilor Skrbec to direct the city attorney to prepare an employment contract reflecting the agreed terms; the motion was seconded by Councilor Vertachnik and carried by voice vote.

Election judge: A motion by Councilor Skrbec to designate Nancy Sanford as head election judge in place of the former clerk was seconded by Councilor Redepenning and carried by voice vote.

City Hall hours: A motion by Councilor Skrbec to temporarily set public office hours from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., five days per week, with Council review at least every 30 days, was seconded by Councilor Redepenning and carried by voice vote.

Bank signatory: A motion by Councilor Skrbec to add Nancy Sanford as an account signatory in place of the interim signatory, stated as effective October 14, 2026, was seconded by Councilor Vertachnik and carried by voice vote. The Council discussed the bank's requirement for approved minutes.

Organizational designations: A motion by Councilor Skrbec to update the designations made at the January organizational meeting so Nancy Sanford assumes the prior clerk's designated duties, including data practices and attesting functions, was seconded by Councilor Redepenning and carried by voice vote.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and carried by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

N. Sanford

City Clerk

Karl Oberstar Jr.

Mayor Karl Oberstar Jr.