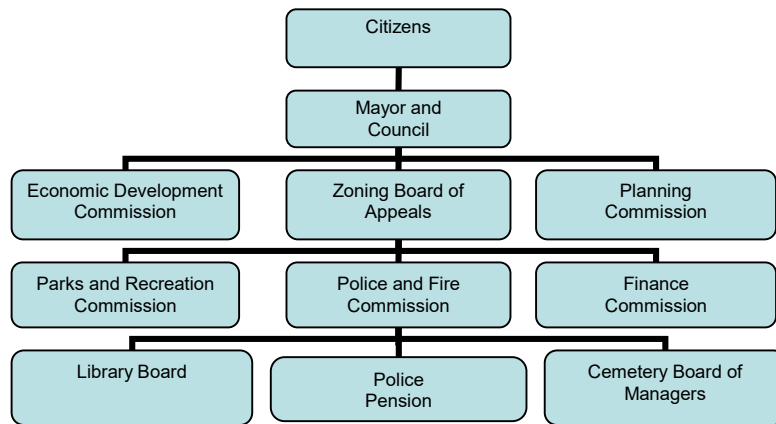


Legislative Branch



Summary of Basic Function

The Legislative Department of the City includes all functions relating to the City Mayor and Council. This includes City wide Legislative and Policy efforts.

Council – Manager Form of Government

The council – manager form of local government combines the strong political leadership of elected officials in the form of a council with strong managerial experience of an appointed local government manager. Approximately 47% of US cities with populations of 5,000 or more adopted the council – manager form.

The Role of the Mayor and City Council

The Mayor and four City Council members act as the political head of the City. They are elected on a staggered basis. They are responsible for setting policy, approving the budget, determining the tax rate, and formulating broad long-term policies that outline the City's public function. The City Manager is appointed by the Council to carry out policy and ensure that the entire community is being served. The City Manager makes policy recommendations to the Council, but the Council may or may not adopt them and may modify their recommendations. The City Manager is bound by whatever policy action the Council takes.

The Mayor is Chief Elected Officer of the City and presides over all meetings. The City Council meets in formal session the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month.

The City has commissions that are specialized in specific subjects. The Mayor, with advice and consent of the Council, appoints members to the Planning Commission, Economic Development Commission, Police and Fire Commission, Police Pension Board and other ad hoc commissions from time to time. The commissions make recommendations to the Council, and the Council makes decisions based on those recommendations. Below are descriptions of each formal committee.

- **Planning Commission:** This seven member commission meets on a monthly basis and reviews pending development and annexation proposals for the City of Mascoutah. Members address proposed developments and annexations from a planning perspective by comparing the proposed land use to the City's Comprehensive Plan document. The commission formally votes and makes recommendations to the City Council.

Members: Chairman Ken Zacharski, Bruce Jung, Rich Thompson, Jack Klopmeier, Glenn Shelley, Jim Connor and Karen Wobbe.
- **Zoning Board of Appeals:** This commission consists of seven members that are appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Council as required by state statute. The commission evaluates variances, appeals, and special use zoning requests. The final determination regarding variance requests are concluded by the Zoning Board of Appeals while zoning recommendations are forwarded to the City Council for final review and determination.

Members: Chairman Don Taylor, Harry Friederich, Robert Scott, James Kuehn, Dean Smith, Kimberly Kilgore and Richard Fuess.
- **Economic Development Commission:** This four member commission facilitates promotion of commercial, industrial, and residential development in the City. This commission meets on a monthly basis and the activities are coordinated through the Economic Development Coordinator. This commission makes recommendations to the Council on matters essential to the economic development of the City as expressed in the City Comprehensive Plan document.

Members: Chairman Ken McQuiston, Connie Kappert-Knipp, Tony Sax, Donna Mae Schlueter, and Charles Jefferson.
- **Police and Fire Commission:** This commission consists of three members and meets on an as needed basis. This commission is responsible for the selection and appointment of the municipality's full time sworn police officers as set forth by the Illinois Compiled Statutes and City Code.

Members: Gene Isbell, Steve Beimfohr, and Kevin Dawson.
- **Police Pension Board:** This commission consists of six members and meets on a monthly basis. These members oversee the investment of Police Pension Fund Reserves as provided in the Illinois Pension Code.

Members: Chairman Terry Giles, Tom Klingelhofer, Becky Douglas, Kenneth Bouas, Anthony Weck and Cameron Rettig.
- **Finance Commission:** This commission consists of three members and meets on a monthly basis. The purpose of the Finance Commission is to assist the Council and City staff in the development, review and promotion of sound fiscal policies and procedures for the City.

Members: Chairman Tim Boyce, Terry Twenhafel, and Todd Gober.
- **Library Board:** This commission consists of ten members and meets on a monthly basis to govern the operations of the public library and library services.

Members: Director Marian Albers, Wayne Wilhelm, Jordan Kneschke, Frank Bandre, Merly Friedland, Roger Grodeon, Suzy Friederich, Nancy Larson, Bethany McQuiston and Kay Connolly.

- **Parks and Recreation Commission:** This commission consists of seven members and meets on a monthly basis. This commission assists the Council in the promotion of parks and recreation in the City.
Members: Chairman Harold Knoth, Doug Elbe, Ryan Hinrichs, Steve Heizer, Mark Pruett, Adam Kasper and Nick Carr.
- **Cemetery Board of Managers:** This commission consists of five members and meets on an as needed basis to make recommendations to the Council with regards to the maintenance, care, repair, or ornamentation of the City's cemetery, lots, and graves.
Members: Chairman Bob Moll, Bob Edwards, Cathy Klingelhoef, Dan Dietz and Nancy Larson.