

Mayor Kletscher called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll showed Councilpersons Lee, Ross, DeGross, Kraft and Stoner were present. Also present were CT LaBeree, Police Chief Klatt, Officer Jerome Hoyt, PW Director Caress, Fire Chief Greg Holden, Ambulance Director Julie Lee, Lynn McIntyre from Cedar Corp, Carlton Dewitt, Angela Jeske, Amanda Olson and David Olson.

DeGross moved and Stoner seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Voice vote carried.

Lee moved and Stoner seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2026 Regular meeting. Voice vote showed all councilpersons present voting yes.

Kraft moved and DeGross seconded a motion to approve all presented disbursements. Roll call vote showed all councilpersons present voting yes.

Amanda Olson spoke during public comments regarding police response time. Mayor Kletscher will follow up with the department.

There was no summer rec report.

A paper copy of the library report was submitted by the Library Director.

Public Works Director Caress reported the lagoon blower is out for repair, the maintenance issue at 2nd and Walnut was inspected, a leak on First Street was repaired (sidewalk repair pending), and Elm Street sidewalk repairs are upcoming. Councilperson Kraft asked for a budget review related to winter expenses.

A written report was submitted by Chief Klatt. Chief also made mention that all sidewalks but one on Oak Street in front of the area businesses were shoveled after the last large snowfall.

Chief Holden reported the department received a new fire truck requiring cleaning, tires, lighting changes, radio setup, and minor repairs. Some upgrades will be completed in-house to reduce costs.

Ambulance Director Lee reported ongoing "Egg My Yard" fundraiser preparations

The Clerk-Treasurer's office stated that the first election of the year went off without any issues. The Clerk has registered for the Wisconsin Municipal Clerks Association conference which takes place in April. It was also brought up that Alcohol Beverage Licensing packets will be going out to area establishments within the next month or so.

Mayor Kletscher noted departments are tracking within budget and he will follow up on a library budget question. Councilperson Kraft will attend the next meeting telephonically. The Mayor also recognized Councilperson Steve Lee for his years on the council having served since 1988.

There was a brief discussion on Hinman Park. Mayor Kletscher will be reaching out to the school district to see if there are any community education funds available for staffing the pool/lifeguard in hopes of getting that up and running this summer. The blue slide may be declared surplus at an upcoming meeting, and transferred to the Village of Downing.

The issue of Crypto Kiosks/ATMs was discussed by Chief Klatt. He addressed the dangers these kiosks can post and he would like to work with the city attorney to draft an ordinance requiring any kiosks set up in the city contain warning signs on the kiosk itself or as a prompt on the screen. He would also like to set high fines for anyone violating the proposed ordinance.

Officer Klatt brought forth discussion for consideration of installing security cameras down at Hinman park. There has been an uptick in vandalism, injuries and some bullying happening over the last several months. He also mentioned that more lighting down at the park would help with these issues. A motion was made by Kraft to approve the camera install based off of cost-effective installation options for the city. Motion was seconded by Ross. Voice vote showed DeGross and Stoner voting yes, with Lee opposed.

Discussion on Sunny Link server upgrades and software migration was tabled for a later date as we are still waiting to hear about the Cyber Security Grant that the city applied for at the end of January. Selections should be made and notified sometime in April.

A motion was made by DeGross to approve the 1996 Freightliner Engine as surplus. Motion seconded by Kraft.

Public Works Director Dave Caress shared information regarding trees at Hinman park that are likely infected with Emerald Ash Borer and will likely need to be taken down. He met with a DNR representative who marked 3 trees that are definitely infected. She will plan to return later in the spring/early summer when the trees have their leaves to assess the tree canopy. Dave shared that there is a Grant available through the DNR Forestry that could assist with the costs involved in removing the infected trees. Discussion was made about infected trees on private residential properties. Our city ordinance states that it is the homeowner's responsibility for any tree removal on personal property.

Consideration of the Picnic License for the Fire Department were tabled for the next meeting.

At 7:48 p.m. DeGross moved and Lee seconded a motion to adjourn. Voice vote carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristin LaBeree
Clerk-Treasurer