

Pipestone, Minnesota
January 20, 2026

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Pipestone City Council was duly held in the Municipal Building at 6:30p.m. on the 20th day of January, 2026. Mayor Dan Delaney called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken and a quorum was declared. Members Present: Dan Delaney, Rodger Smidt, Scott Swanson, Verdeen Colbeck, and Danielle Thompson. Others Present: City Administrator Stephanie LaBrune, City Clerk Megan DeWitte, Cable Access Coordinator Steve Moffitt, Kyle Kuphal, Kevin Kellen, Susan Hoskins, Steve Weets, Donna Morris and Erica Volkir. City Attorney Jason Hill and City Engineer Travis Winter appeared by Zoom.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVE AGENDA- ADDITIONS, CHANGES, OR DELETIONS

Mayor Delaney stated that there was an addition to the agenda needed under New Business, item I. Resolution 2026-10, amending Resolution 2025-48, a resolution authorizing the city of Pipestone to enter into the Minnesota Clean Water Partnership Loan Agreement along with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to conduct the Pipestone Sanitary Service Improvement Project, Part 2.

Motion made by is Smidt, seconded by Thompson and unanimously carried to approve the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Delaney state that the consent agenda contains the January 5, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes, the January 5, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes, the December 2025 Financial Report, and the Payment of Claims-Listing of Bills in the amount of \$2,262,434.42 for warrants #076635- #076767.

Motion made by Thompson, seconded by Smidt, and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda that contained the January 5, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes, the January 5, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes, the December 2025 Financial Report, and The Payment of Claims-Listing of Bills for warrants #076635- #076767 in the amount of \$2,262,434.42.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Kevin Kellen property owner of 601 3rd Ave NE, Pipestone, shared his complaints from past interactions of trying to obtain building permits from the City. He stated back in 2017 he had made attempts to get a building permit and try to maintain buildings at 601 3rd Ave NE. He also disputed that 601 3rd Ave NE had now been rezoned into the flood plain zone instead of a flood fringe zone. Kellen shared that he has no plans to build anymore and would be willing to sell the property at 601 3rd Ave NE to the City, but stated that it would be costly.

Donna Morris, resident of 420 9th Ave NW, appeared to share her concern for a water utility bill at her rental property located at 1003 3rd Ave SW. She shared that she was unable to reach staff and she does not feel that she is responsible for the unpaid balance.

Delaney shared that the bottom line is, the city does not get stuck with unpaid utility bills. He informed Morris that she could follow up with staff to put this on the agenda for the next Council meeting if she wants this to be addressed by the Council.

REPORTS

Senior Center

Director Steve Weets appeared to share the quarterly report with Council. He shared the reports on how many members the Center had in 2025, currently has in 2026, as well as, how many people in total went through the Center's doors last year.

Museum

Director Susan Hoskins from the Pipestone Historical Society shared information on grants the Museum was awarded in 2025. She shared what projects the grant funding has covered and the plans for future projects as well.

Chamber of Commerce

Erica Volkir shared information on the many events the Chamber hosted in 2025. She shared details of fundraisers the Chamber organized and how much was raised in total by each event.

EDA

Community Development Director Justin Schroyer shared new progress that is being made and additions to the community from 2025.

ENGINEERING

Delaney shared the two Pay Requests that have been submitted for work being done at the Pipestone Municipal Airport.

80'x80' Hangar Pay Request No. 2

Engineer Winter explained that he is recommending payment for the 80'x80' Hangar Pay Request No. 2 for the amount of \$124, 406.56. He said this will complete payment for the dirt work and material costs.

Motion was made by Smidt, seconded by Swanson and unanimously carried to approve pay request no. 2 in the amount of \$124, 406.56 to Everstrong Construction, Inc. that completes payment for the civil site work and building material cost.

AWOS Pay Request No. 2

Delaney then shared that second request for the updates made to the AWOS system. Engineer Winter stated the pay request is for the amount of \$4,642.50, which will close the project.

Motion was made by Swanson, seconded by Smidt, and unanimously carried to approve the pay request in the amount of \$4,642.50 and to release retainage to Werner Bros Inc. as they have completed construction and submitted all final documentation to close the AWOS project.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2026-6

Delaney stated this resolution will grant a permit for the application submitted by the Pipestone County Pheasants Forever, to sell raffle tickets for their annual banquet on March 31, 2026 at the Pipestone National Guard Armory Building. If approved, Delaney said their application will be forwarded to the Minnesota Gambling Control Board with no waiting period.

Motion was made by Smidt, seconded by Swanson, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2026-6 approving the gambling permit to the Pipestone County Pheasants Forever chapter raffle ticket sales, for their annual banquet on March 31, 2026.

Resolution 2026-7

Delaney shared that this resolution accepts donations from the Pipestone United Way in the amount of \$500, for Lights at the Lodge, \$2,000 to assist with Parks and Recreation funds, and another \$2,500 to assist with the Rec Center's Afterschool Program and Summertime Fun Program.

Motion was made by Thompson, seconded by Colbeck, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2026-7, accepting donations from the Pipestone United Way in the amount of \$500 for Lights at the Lodge, \$2,000 to assist with the Parks and Rec Department, and \$2,500 to assist with the City's Afterschool and Summertime Fun Programs.

Resolution 2026-8

Delaney stated this resolution orders the abatement of a hazardous property and buildings and public nuisances located at 601 3rd Ave NE. He shared that this property contains a dwelling and buildings that are in adequately maintained, collapsing, dilapidated, and abandoned. Delaney said that the property also contains unlicensed and presumably inoperable recreational vehicles and motor vehicles and other nuisances also.

Motion was made by Smidt, seconded by Delaney and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2026-8 ordering the abatement of a hazardous property and buildings and public nuisances located at 601 3rd Ave NE.

Resolution 2026-9

Delaney shared this resolution is to appoint election judges and designate St. Leo's Catholic Church as he designated polling place for the 2026 Elections.

Motion was made by Thompson, seconded by Smidt and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2026-9 appointing election judges and designating St. Leo's Catholic Church as the designated polling place for the 2026 Elections.

Meulebroeck, Taubert & Co. PLLP Audit Engagement Letter

Delaney stated that in the Council packet there is an engagement letter stating that the City of Pipestone recognizes and agrees to Meulebroeck, Taubert & Co. as being the official accounting firm to provide the City's financial auditing services. Delaney called for a motion to enter in to this agreement.

Motion made by Colbeck, seconded by Thompson and unanimously carried to authorize Meulebroeck, Taubert & Co. PLLP to perform the 2025 city audit.

Schedule Planning Work Session

Delaney share that the Council needs to schedule the annual Council work session for the one year and five-year plan. The date selected is Saturday, January 24, 2026, with at 9.am. start time.

Motion was made by Colbeck, seconded by Swanson, and unanimously carried to schedule the special work session council meeting for January 24, 2026 at 9.am.

Schedule Public Hearing

Delaney stated that a public hearing needs to be scheduled for the Pipestone County Assessor's office for a Local Board of Appeals and Equalization Hearing. Delaney shared that the Assessor's would like to schedule that Public Hearing date for Tuesday April, 7, 2026 at 7p.m., and to have it be located in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Motion was made by Smidt, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried to schedule a Public Hearing for Tuesday April 7, 2026 at 9a.m. for the Pipestone County Assessor's Local Board of Appeals and Equalization Hearing.

Accept Employee Resignation

Delaney shared the news that Building Maintenance Technician Bob Bullerman will be retiring on January 30, 2026 and there will also be a retirement open house at the Hiawatha Lodge on January 30th from 2-5p.m. Delaney asked for a motion to accept Bullerman's resignation.

Motion was made by Swanson, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried to accept the resignation of Building Maintenance Technician Bob Bullerman.

The council members then thanked Bullerman for his work with the city.

Resolution 2026-10

Delaney state that this resolution is amending Resolution 2025-48 to remove past Administrator Nelson's name as the Project Representative and designate that authority to current Administrator Stephanie LaBrune.

Motion was made by Thompson, seconded by Smidt, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2026-10 which amends Resolution 2025-48 to transfer Project Representative Authority to the current City Administrator Stephanie LaBrune.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Delaney shared that it has been quite a month in Minnesota and that we need to remain non-partisan on the Council level. Delaney said people on all levels are doing the best they can and our collected hope is for Pipestone to be the best it can be. Delaney encouraged everyone to try to be more positive and more kind.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Colbeck, seconded by Smidt, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:43p.m.

Dan Delaney, Mayor

ATTEST

Megan DeWitte, City Clerk