

Minutes of the proceedings of the City Council of the City of New Auburn in the County of Sibley and State of Minnesota including all accounts audited by said Council.

## Regular Meeting

March 9, 2026

**Meeting called to order** by Mayor Mandy Grack at 7:00 p.m. at the city office.

**Members present:** Pam Horton, John Wangen, Michael Cotterman, Wayne Schultz and Mandy Grack

**Members absent:**

**Staff present:** Roberta Zaske, Bryce Busse, and Joey Schuft

**Additions or Corrections to the agenda :**

**Open Public Forum:**

**Approval of minutes:** A motion by John Wangen, seconded by Pam Horton to accept the minutes for February meeting, motions carried.

**Reports given:**

1. Fire Department – Chief Busse gave his report. 1 medical calls for the month. New blood pressure machine is in service. Township meeting is tomorrow.
2. Treasurer report – Report was given and approved.
3. Park/streets/buildings- Joey gave his report. Replaced 3 arrow signs in town, been repairing some damage along the side of the streets from plowing, fixed 2 hoses on plow truck.
4. Sheriff Report –

**Resolutions, Ordinances and Policy:**

**Resolutions: 20260309A Donation from Michael Grote** A motion by Michael Cotterman, seconded by Wayne Schultz to accept the donation from Michael Grote for \$500 for cemetery uses, motion carried.

**Ordinances:**

**Policy:**

**Unfinished business:**

1. STREAMS – Up coming Zoom meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Mandy signed some letters for funding.
2. SEH - Sam Fink - Spoke with the council on the update of the project. The City received a funding package from RD, now city needs to decided if the package is affordable for the city. City has a workshop set up with Engineer and Drown & Associates on March 17<sup>th</sup> to go over the funding package. Sam also talked about MDH lead and copper, we received a grant for \$50,000 to replace 2 galvanized lines in the city. A motion by Wayne Schultz, seconded by Michael Cotterman to accept the \$50,000 grant and agreement with SEH for \$6,000 for the engineering fees for this project that won't be covered in the grant, motion carried.
3. City Audit – we will go over the city audit at the April meeting.
4. Sealcoating the streets – Joey will bring back some pricing for April's meeting
5. Sibley County JD5 ditch – the city has a repair book available at the city office.

**New Business:**

1. Empty lot at 7443 7<sup>th</sup> Ave – Meeting was closed while the council discussed this land at 7:20 pm. The meeting was opened back up at 7:26 pm. A motion by John Wangen, seconded by Wayne Schultz to sell the vacant lot at 7443 7<sup>th</sup> Ave for \$5000 and the city will pay the closing costs, motion carried.
2. Vacate a street on 9<sup>th</sup> Ave between 7<sup>th</sup> Street and 6<sup>th</sup> Ave – A motion by Wayne Schultz, seconded by Michael Cotterman to vacate the street and alley on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue between 7<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> street, motion carried.
3. Jake Properties – apartment building - After much discussion the City council decided to allow only one duplex on the 7232 and 7234 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. The property doesn't meet the green space, the building appearance will look better from highway 22, concerns about parking with two buildings and the next door neighbors were concerned about the two buildings. A motion by Michael Cotterman, seconded by John Wangen to approve one duplex structure, motion carried. A motion by Michael

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Cotterman, seconded by John Wangen to amend the support letter for Sibley County Administration and have the mayor sign it, motion carried.

4. Local Board of Appeal and Equalization will be Monday, April 20, 2026 at 6:00 pm at city office.
5. New Auburn Lions Spring Fling - A motion by Wayne Schultz, seconded by Pam Horton to waive the hall rental fee on April 12<sup>th</sup> for the Spring Fling, motion carried.
6. Employee Valuation – Meeting was closed at 8:29pm to discuss employee valuation. Meeting was opened back up at 8:52 pm.

**Additional items discussed:**

1. Clerks Report - no report
2. Curt Reetz – no report
3. Open discussion - Discussion about a person driving through the alley and tearing it up. Letter requested a letter be sent to that party to repair the damages.

Motion by Wayne Schultz, seconded by Michael Cotterman to approve paying claims #70245-70266 in the amount of \$42,430.93 plus any other normal monthly bills. Claims paid in February were claims 70217-70239 for \$38,675.27 and additional claims 70240-70244 \$3,678.78 Payroll - CK 25102-25104 \$3,184.07 PERA \$633.24 Payroll CK 25128--25130 \$3,220.84 PERA \$633.24

Federal taxes for February \$1,989.76 Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nays

Motion by Michael Cotterman, second by Wayne Schultz to adjourn at 8:58 pm. Motion carried.

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Roberta Zaske, City Clerk-Treasurer