

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- DECEMBER 15, 2025

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Karst. The following Council members were present: Carr, Austin, Nistler, Heitman, Ozark, and Koski. DPW Skubinna, City Judge Morehouse-Mix, Deputy Clerk Daubner, and Street Foreman Runningen were in attendance. Candy Lagerquist, Kristie Brabeck, Darcia Schindler, and Bonnie Mullen were also in attendance. City Clerk Amundson, Chief Weber, City Grant Writer Byers, and City Attorney Pekovitch attended via Google Meets. The media was represented by Michelle Bigelbach of the Glasgow Courier.

Mayor Karst led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment on any Agenda Item: NONE

Mayor Karst mentioned the policy the council abides by for council meetings has been printed on the back of the agenda and will continue to be printed for each meeting.

Council member Nistler made a motion approving the consent agenda including the payment of claims for December 15, 2025 in the amount of \$172,145.74, the Valley Court Apartment claims in the amount of \$1,243.36, and the minutes of the December 1, 2025 Regular Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst performed the oath of offices for Council Members Ozark, Schindler, and Brabeck.

Council President Ozark performed the Oath of Office for Mayor Karst.

Council member Koski made a motion reappointing City Judge Morehouse-Mix for another four (4) year term effective January 1, 2026. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst performed the oath of office for City Judge Morehouse-Mix.

DPW Skubinna talked about Robert Rodriguez's qualifications for the open water/wastewater operator position and that he will be a good asset for the team. Council member Heitman made a motion to approve the hiring of Robert Rodriguez. The motion was seconded by Council member Nistler, and carried unanimously.

Council member Carr inquired if the cemetery caretaker position is a supervisor position. Mayor Karst said it is not considered a supervisor position according to the job description. DPW Skubinna explained that in accordance to the collective bargaining agreement and the city's process, it was advertised internally. Dan Miller has decided to retire at the end of this month. He said he received one internal applicant, which was Scott and the hiring team felt Scott was qualified for this position. Council member Heitman made a motion to approve the hiring of Scott Runningen for the open cemetery caretaker position. The motion was seconded by Council member Ozark. Council members Nistler and Carr voted against; motion carried. Mayor Karst mentioned since Scott is moving over to the cemetery department from the Street Foreman position, there will be an opening. DPW Skubinna said that opening will be advertised internally for a week and if no applications are received or there are no qualified candidates, then the job will be advertised externally.

Chief Weber stated that Officer Ames has finished the background check on Natalie Hopstad and is excited to get her onboard and has the experience for the Victim Witness position. He believes she will take the program and take it to the next level. Council member Carr made a motion to hire Natalie Hopstad for the open part-time victim witness advocate position. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin, and carried unanimously.

DPW Skubinna told the council that the city has a set schedule with Midco for the city's water tank maintenance once every five (5) years. Midco is offering today's price for maintenance for five (5) years from now to assist with their scheduling. Council member Austin made a motion approving the Midco 2030 tank maintenance project quote. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst introduced and offered for adoption **Resolution No. 3222** – A Resolution of the City of Glasgow City Council Amending the Fee Schedule Adopted by Resolution No. 3161 to Increase the Price of Cemetery Vault Sales. Mayor Karst explained the reasoning for the increase. Council member Carr moved for the adoption of **Resolution No. 3222**. The motion was seconded by Council member Koski; whereby **Resolution No. 3222** was unanimously adopted.

Council member Koski stated that she is waiting on a cost estimate from Northwestern Energy to install poles instead of trenching under the street, but the city is able to run the electricity from the northside fire hall. This item will be on the next agenda. Council member Koski mentioned that Northwestern Energy wouldn't be able to do the work until spring.

Mayor Karst said the January meetings will be on the 5th and Tuesday the 20th due to the Martin Luther King Holiday.

Unfinished Business – Levee Safety Committee Report – DPW Skubinna said the meeting will be this Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. He will try to attend the meeting electronically. He talked about the funding opportunity through the Montana Resiliency fund which is run through Montana DES and is a 75/25 match. One of the qualifying projects under this funding is property acquisition and structure elevation which are items that are included in the city's SWIF plan. He wanted to bring this to the council's attention for any comments for this funding. The notice of intent to apply for funding needs to be submitted by 7th of January and then the application would be due in March 2026. Council member Ozark wanted to know how much funding the city could apply for. DPW Skubinna said the amount wasn't listed in the initial paperwork.

Committee Reports: There were no reports for Water or Cemetery. The personnel committee will be meeting after the council meeting. Chief Weber reported the police department was awarded the grant to purchase the state-of-the-art training simulator through the Montana Board of Crime Control, but is unsure of the timeframe to have it up and running. City Grant Writer Byers mentioned she has not found funding to update the city's website and she hasn't found anything from RD. Council member Koski told Ashleigh that she has a contact at RD and will get her that information. She also asked if the city was wanting to pursue funding on the splash park anytime soon. Mayor Karst said not at this time. Ashleigh also said that she thinks LWCF would help with funding when that time comes. Council member Koski told her that there is tourism grant up to \$100,000.00 that is coming out this month and is for infrastructure. City Attorney Pekovitch said that there is nothing new for ordinance at this time, but over the next few months she will look at going through the city's ordinance book to see if there is anything that needs to be updated. She talked about the animal ordinance that was codified and the chapter was changed from 5 to 6 and her and City Clerk Amundson are working on getting that resolved. City Clerk Amundson said that she had reached out to Municode, but hasn't heard back from them yet and will reach out to them again this week.

Department Head Reports:

Chief Weber said the applicant for the part-time positions background check has just been completed, so a meeting will be set up with the Police Commission to get their approval to hire. He also mentioned the police department has been towing vehicles over the past week.

DPW Skubinna told the council that snow is being moved as quickly as possible and there are two (2) contractors that are helping out to get through the primary and secondary lists on the snow removal plan. He also stated that for the January meeting he will have a revision to the snow removal plan that will need approval. He realized that in the current plan clearing the Northside Fire Hall was not included after the incident from the other night. Council member Ozark asked DPW Skubinna if there is money budgeted for the hired contractors that are removing snow. DPW Skubinna told Council member Ozark that it wasn't budgeted, but believes he will be able to find money in the budget to cover the expenses.

City Attorney Pekovitch asked the council for ideas for kids to do community service. She will be in town on Thursday and told Council member Koski that she will stop in to meet with her at the Chamber office. Council member Koski told City Attorney Pekovitch that she has some stuff that can be done for community service at the Chamber office.

Council member Heitman reported on the fire that happened late last Thursday, early Friday morning. There were a few issues that occurred; one of their trucks went down and the closest fire hydrant they wanted to use was frozen, so they had to run hoses from another hydrant. The water department was there to try and get that hydrant working. DPW Skubinna said that hydrant is on a list to be fixed.

Mayor Karst said that tonight's meeting is Council member Carr and Nistler's last meeting and thanked them both for the years they have been on the city council. He's also looking forward to the two (2) new council members that will start in January.

Public Comment: NONE

Council member Nistler made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Carr the meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

ATTEST:

Stacey A. Amundson

Stacey Amundson
City Clerk-Treasurer

Rod Karst
Mayor