

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ----- JANUARY 20, 2026

The Regular Council Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Karst. The following Council members were present: Austin, Ozark, Schindler, and Koski. Council members Heitman and Brabeck were absent. City Attorney Pekovitch was in attendance. Candy Lagerquist was also in attendance. City Clerk Amundson and City Grant Writer Byers attended via Google Meets. There was no media representation.

Council member Schindler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment on any Agenda Item: NONE

Council member Koski made a motion approving the consent agenda including the payment of claims for January 20, 2026 in the amount of \$128,305.53, the Valley Court Apartment claims in the amount of \$2,041.25, and the minutes of the January 5, 2026 Regular Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Karst introduced and offered for adoption **Resolution No. 3224** – A Resolution Appointing a Firefighter of the Glasgow Fire Department for a Probationary Period of Six (6) Months – Chris Duros. Council member Koski asked Council member Austin where they find people to volunteer on the fire department. He said that they find them, usually after talking with other members of the community. There are aging members on the fire department, so it's good that the younger community members want to get involved and volunteer. Council member Schindler made a motion adopting **Resolution No. 3224**. The motion was seconded by Council member Austin; whereby **Resolution No. 3224** was unanimously adopted.

Mayor Karst mentioned the swim pool committee had met with Interstate Engineering and are wanting an idea of how much this project would cost. The initial sample from seven (7) years ago was about \$150,000.00 and now the project would be over a million. This isn't a project that the swim pool committee is going to try to complete by this summer, but the money is available to have the design completed. Council member Ozark asked if the money for this contract was coming out of the swim pool fund. Mayor Karst said yes. Council member Koski made a motion to approve entering into an agreement with Interstate Engineering to design a future splash park not to exceed \$15,000.00. The motion was seconded by Council member Schindler, and carried unanimously.

Council member Koski stated that she had spoken with Levi from Northwestern Energy and to set an electrical pole for Smith Bike Park will cost \$800.00. Levi suggested looking into a meter solar base with a battery, as this option would be cheaper. Council member Koski reached out to Mattfeldt Electric to get an estimate on the solar and is waiting to hear back. TBID had approved paying \$4,015.00 to Mattfeldt for the initial electrical install and is sure the TBID board will approve the difference in cost, but she will have to have it approved at a meeting. The only thing the TBID board would like is for the city to pay the electrical bill. Council member Ozark said to keep the item on the agenda until everything gets figured out.

Mayor Karst said the February meetings will be on the 2nd and 17th due to the President's Day Holiday.

Unfinished Business – Levee Safety Committee Report – NONE

Committee Reports: There were no reports for Water or Cemetery. The personnel committee is currently working on revising the Director of Public Works job description. Jon Bengochea had some ideas to include in the job description and as soon as we receive those, another personnel committee meeting will be held to come up with a final draft to present to the council for approval before advertising the opening. They talked about if the city actually needs an engineer for that position. They also mentioned the starting wage around \$30.00 or so. Council member Austin wanted to discuss an employee within the city and wants to sit down and meet with them and talk about the certifications that are needed. He also asked if the city was able to get an extension on Interim Supervisor Morehouse's evaluation period. Mayor Karst said yes, the city has received the go ahead on the extension. Council member Ozark suggested if this topic needs to be talked about in depth, if possible, go set up an executive session at a later date. Mayor Karst reiterated that the city did receive the extension for Adam. Council member Koski asked if Adam was ok with it. Mayor Karst said yes, he was. City Attorney Pekovitch explained that it gives the city time to complete the job assessment and talk with everyone as planned, but since DPW Skubinna resigned from his position, we asked for the extension. The city will have until the February 2nd council meeting to have everything completed. Mayor Karst said that it was a different committee that was going to do the interviews and then will come back to the personnel committee. The committee was going to consist of DPW Skubinna, the mayor, and others. He asked City Clerk Amundson who was all supposed to be on that committee. She said it was also going to include a couple of the council members to meet with Adam and the other employees in the water department to see how things are working, if it's a good fit, and bring the job evaluation back to the personnel committee to discuss everything. If this is the position to keep him in or move him back down into a water operator position. The personnel committee can also discuss wages and if there are any other issues that have come up during the evaluation process and will give a recommendation to the council by February 2nd. She also told the council that everything will have to be completed before next Wednesday to be put on the agenda for that meeting. Mayor Karst asked if there were certain questions that need to be asked during the evaluation. City Attorney Pekovitch asked if the mayor would like her to write up the questions for him. He said yes. The committee will consist of the mayor,

City Clerk Amundson, Council members Austin and Schindler, and City Attorney Pekovitch. Mayor Karst asked City Clerk Amundson when the personnel committee meeting has been set for. She recommended meeting with Adam and the other employee in the water department sooner rather than later this week, because she needs to have at least 48 hours posting notice for the personnel committee meeting, plus have the recommendation for the council by the 28th of January. After further discussion the evaluation committee will meet on Friday and the personnel committee meeting will be set for Monday January 26th at 4:00 p.m. City Grant Writer Byers said she has submitted some grant applications last week and working on a couple additional to be submitted this month. Council member Koski talked about the rural grant that is available for emergency response departments. She also inquired on any water and sewer projects that may be coming up because MCEP and RRGL grants will be available in the spring. City Attorney Pekovitch said that nuisance letters will be mailed out in the spring, the police department is working on removing the vehicles from the street, and working on trying to get the animal ordinance renumbered. She also told the council that Council member Austin had talked to her about the \$3.00 insurance charge that Malta has for water and will provide that information. This fund assists with any breaks that may happen between the main and the curb stop. Council member Austin talked about the weeds in the roads ordinance and how it states that the property owners are supposed to be responsible for that. Mayor Karst talked about the tree ordinance that was passed not that long ago.

Department Head Reports:

City Attorney Pekovitch said she will be in town on Thursday since she has a jury trial and back on Friday for court.

City Clerk Amundson asked City Grant Writer Byers if she had found any grants for updating the city's website. At this time, she hasn't come across any grant money, but we may be able to use some of the funding if awarded from the growth policy grant. She told the council she was supposed to meet with Matt about the status of the website update last week, but he had to cancel, so she will meet with him this Friday. She told City Attorney Pekovitch she has copies of the two (2) resolutions from Malta that she can distribute to the council. She also completed the responses to the audit findings and returned those to the auditors.

Mayor Karst talked about the three (3) doors that need to be replaced, the curb and gutter list is being updated by Code Compliance Officer Dees, and Adam has Dan from Prestige coming to town to rebuild the pump at the lift station.

Public Comment: Council member Schindler feels that something needs to be done with the bed bugs at Nemont Manor. Mayor Karst there was a company there today that was out of North Dakota. She asked the mayor if he knew what the name was. She had spoken with Darren Wersal the other day and they had talked to him back in October and received all of the licenses that he needed to and he is contracted with this company to spray for them, but not for the bed bugs. She said they are in the laundry and when the residents start hearing that, they will take their stuff to the local laundry mats, they are riding the transit buses, which have cloth seats. She stated that letterheads go a long way. Council member Ozark asked Council member Schindler, what she was wanting the city to do. She said that she can hand out the information that states they don't carry disease, they are just a nuisance, so there's not much the city can stand on. She mentioned that they had sprayed her mom's room and two (2) of the adjacent rooms and it didn't help at all. The hospital has also contacted Nemont Manor about them because the residents that live there have been coming to the hospital because of the bites. Council member Ozark asked Council member Schindler if she wanted it on the radio tomorrow. She said that was one of the suggestions. Council member Ozark said, since it was stated at public comment her name would be used, and that she has asked the city to take a stand on this subject. She has also talked with Commissioner Alsberg at the county and he was going to talk to the other two (2) commissioners to see what they could do. Council member Austin stated other than writing a letter stating the city knows that there is a problem, how are they addressing it, and the city would like to be updated, as we don't need these throughout the city. Council member Schindler tried contacting the County Sanitarian today, but he hasn't gotten back to her. He was going to contact Silver Woods, the company who owns Nemont Manor. They talked about how quickly bed bugs can spread through town and end up at a residence that didn't have them to start with. They asked City Attorney Pekovitch her thoughts on it. She said she has never come across an issue like this. She will look into it to see if the city can even do anything about it and will update the mayor with any information she finds. Candy mentioned letting the laundry mat know, since there is a spray, they can use to sanitize the machines with. City Attorney Pekovitch wants to look into code and contact the city's insurance company to make sure the city is doing everything correctly before moving forward.

Council member Austin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council member Ozark the meeting adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

ATTEST:

Stacey A. Amundson

Stacey Amundson
City Clerk-Treasurer

Rod Karst
Mayor