

February 17, 2026

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Mayor B. Schmiedeberg called the meeting to order at 5:28pm. City Council members that were present were Pattijo Shablow, Clarence (Skip) Strom, and Brian Undeberg. Council member Tatum Carlson was absent. Also present was city clerk Sandy Lund. Public present were Anna Jauhola Kittson County Enterprise reporter, Krista Pietruszewski North Star News reporter, Ronnie Austad, Leana Kowaliuk.

The pledge to the American flag was given.

The minutes were reviewed by council members prior to the meeting as presented in the city council packets. Strom made a motion, seconded by Shablow to approve the regular city council minutes of the January 20, 2026, meeting. Approved with all members in favor.

The mayor asked for citizen comments: Kowaliuk said she had paid her water bill and the late fee, then the next month she was charged another late fee. Schmiedeberg will look back three months and get back to her about this. Austad said the last time he was at a council meeting he requested that a bill be paid. Austad also said he went back and talked to the contractor and the previous mayor about this issue. Austad asked Undeberg if the city is responsible for providing ditches and maintaining the ditches. Undeberg said it depends on what the situation is. Austad said the city has to provide access to the homeowner's property. Undeberg said the city would have to give them access. Schmiedeberg said he will ask the contractors to come to the next meeting to discuss this issue. Kowaliuk said she was on the council when this occurred, and someone said small gravel would be ok. Kowaliuk also says her driveway on River Street is flooded. She also wants her ditch fixed. Austad and Kowaliuk debated this. Austad thanked the council for their time and left the meeting.

There was no old business:

New business: 2025 Cash Basis Report from the clerk was approved by a motion from Undeberg, seconded by Strom with all members in favor.

Fire Contracts were approved by a motion from Shablow, seconded by Strom with all members in favor.

The City Water Policy was discussed and changes were made. Added were that the customer water rates will be raised when Kittson Marshall Water, the supplier, raises their rates. Homeowners with a leaking water pipe will have their water shut off at the curb stop. And the homeowner will be responsible for having the leak fixed and notifying the city, so their water can be turned on again. Undeberg made a motion to approve the water policy changes, and it was seconded by Strom with all members in favor. The new policy will be posted in the community center window.

House Demolition permit for 222 East Main Street was presented and approved by a motion from Strom, seconded by Undeberg with all members in favor.

Schmiedeberg asked the council to go through the Rules of Decorum Policy, and it will be discussed next month.

The maintenance report was given by Schmiedeberg. He said he has been busy trying to get rid of some of the ice on the roads. Schmiedeberg said the city had a 45,000-gallon leak and the clerk found it by using the water meter scanner and program. The leak was a broken pipe in someone's house. The homeowners were gone so a family member had the water shut off.

February 17, 2026

Council Round Table: Schmiedeberg said we should not be talking to anyone about another homeowner's water meter unless the homeowner is at the meeting also and the homeowner has given written consent. Undeberg asked if anyone knew anything about the fish house festival on Main Street. Schmiedeberg gave a list of what may happen at this event on March 21st.

The city claims were reviewed as presented in the council packets and they were approved by a motion from Undeberg and seconded by Shablow with all members in favor.

The fire department claims were reviewed as presented in the council packets and they were approved by a motion from Undeberg and seconded by Strom with all members in favor.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:10pm on a motion by Strom and seconded by Shablow with all members in favor.

The next scheduled regular City Council meeting is scheduled for Monday March 16, 2026, at 5:30 pm.

Sandra Lund, City Clerk