

March 25, 2025

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Mayor Bobby Schmiedeberg called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. City Council members that were present were Clarence (Skip) Strom and Brian Undeberg. City council members Pattijo Shablow and Tatum Carlson were absent.

Present was city clerk Sandy Lund. Public present were Patti Krininger, Becky Bakken and Ronnie Austad and Kittson County Enterprise reporter Anna Jahola.

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. Underberg made a motion, seconded by Strom to approve the regular city council minutes of the February 17, 2026, meeting. Approved with all members in favor.

Carl Hunt From Ottertail Power Company talked with the council about the Otter Power Company electric franchise ordinance between the City and Ottertail power company with a term of 20 years. Hunt also said that the substation that is currently within the city limits will be moved to just outside town and Ottertail will be replacing a few power poles in town. Underberg made a motion, seconded by Strom, to approve the Ottertail Power Company ordinance.

The mayor asked for citizen comments. P. Krininger said she and B. Bakken are interested in putting a camper on the east side of the grocery store across the alley and selling items from the camper, like a little craft store. Schmiedeberg said that would be fine. P. Krininger said there is a dog that seems to roam around a certain neighborhood. Schmiedeberg knew the dog in question and will talk to the homeowner about this. P. Krininger said that she felt the Fish House Festival was a success and hopes that next year they plan another festival. Krininger thanked the council for removing snow this past winter and getting the dilapidated trailer taken care of. R. Austad said it is the city's responsibility to make sure the job they requested is done right. Austad said he came to this meeting because the council said former Mayor Ryan Rector and Anderson Construction would be present. Mayor B. Schmiedeberg said he had contacted them and they would not be attending. Austad argued that the city is responsible for the ditch and he should not have to pay for the rock. Austad said that no one from the council was at the job site during the construction. Schmiedeberg said that the council voted months ago not to pay the bill for the rock that Austad had ordered without consulting any member of the city council. This conversation went on and on. Strom and Underberg tried to talk to Austad about this, but he was adamant that he was right and the city should pay for the rock. Austad left the meeting at 5:53pm. Krininger and Bakken also left the meeting.

Old business: Rules of Decorum Policy – Underberg tables this until a full council was at a meeting.

New business: Strom made a motion, seconded by Undeberg to donation to EMT's in Kittson County and Tri-County \$100.00 for each EMT.

Board of Appeals Meeting set for April 7, 2026, at 9am at the Community Center.

Temp cleaning person – The clerk said our temp cleaner is going to work another job for a while and we need someone to be on call for when our regular cleaning person cannot work. The position pays \$16.00 per hour and is between 2.5 and 4 hours a week.

Schmiedeberg gave a maintenance report that he had blown out Adam's and Haugen's culvers. Undeberg asked about storm drains and Schmiedeberg said he had talked to Roger Davis about the drain by the Covenant Church. Davis said he will try to pump the water out because there must be ice in it.

Council Roundtable: Underberg asked the clerk about her plan to retire from the city. After a discussion it was decided to place an ad in the newspaper. The position will be granted a few months of training prior to the clerk leaving on July 31st.

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All council members agreed to approve the city claims after reviewing them in the council packets, following a motion by Undeberg and a second by Strom.

All council members agreed to approve the city claims after reviewing them in the council packets, following a motion by Strom that was seconded by Undeberg.

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

The next scheduled regular City Council meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2026, at 5:30 pm.

Sandra Lund, City Clerk