

CITY OF HARRIS CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 9, 2026

I. Call to Order- Mayor Carlson called the regular meeting of the Harris City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 9, 2026.

II. Pledge of Allegiance- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. Roll Call Present- Mayor Randy Carlson; Councilmembers Craig Moline, Chell Borash, Al Siedow, and Garrett Pearson. Absent: None. A quorum was present.

IV. Consent Agenda / Agenda Amendment- Mayor Carlson requested an amendment to the agenda to add an item prior to Regular Agenda Item A to formally hire Chante Carlson as City Clerk for purposes of documentation and authorization.

Motion by Siedow, second by Pearson, to approve the amended agenda and approve the January 12, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes, January 20, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes, and Accounts Payable. Motion carried unanimously.

V. Public Comment- Tiffany Detterman, 6956 460th Street, Harris, addressed the Council on behalf of a local nonpartisan group, Bridging the Political Divide. She provided information on a community workshop titled "Disagreeing Better," hosted in partnership with Braver Angels, scheduled for February 26, 2026, at the North Branch Library.

VI. Regular Agenda

A. Formal Hiring of City Clerk Motion by Borash, second by Siedow, to formally hire Chante Carlson as City Clerk. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Borash, second by Pearson, to add Chante Carlson and remove Shannon as authorized signers. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Fire Department Report The Fire Chief reported 18 calls year-to-date, including medical calls, structure fires, vehicle incidents, and one carbon monoxide call.

The Fire Chief requested an increase in the spending authorization limit for fire apparatus repairs from \$500 to \$2,500 without prior Council approval, noting continued adherence to purchasing policies and budget limits.

Motion by Pearson, second by Siedow, to approve increasing the spending limit to \$2,500 for a three-month trial period. Motion carried unanimously.

The Fire Chief also provided an update on Pinewood Apartments, including prolonged loss of heat, ongoing safety concerns, and coordination with county and state officials. Letters to the property owner and the Minnesota Attorney General were presented.

Motion by Siedow, second by Borash, to authorize sending letters to the property owner and the Minnesota Attorney General. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Fire Department Personnel The Fire Chief requested Council approval to hire C.J. Olson for the Harris Fire Department.

Motion by Borash, second by Pearson, to approve the hire of C.J. Olson. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Portable Radio Reliability and ARMER Upgrade Impacts Discussion was held regarding aging portable radios, failing batteries, grant uncertainty, and interim solutions. Council discussed replacement battery options.

Motion by Siedow, second by Borash, to approve the purchase of five replacement radio batteries for testing purposes. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Bollig Engineering Update Right-of-way establishment and utility layout updates were provided. No action was required.

F. Geotechnical Engineering Services Proposals from ITT and Chosen Valley were reviewed for geotechnical borings related to the water looping and I-35 extension projects.

Motion by Pearson, second by Siedow, to select Chosen Valley for geotechnical engineering services. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Assessment Process An overview of the assessment process was provided. No action was required.

H. Resolution 2026-03 – Application to Minnesota Public Facilities Authority Discussion was held regarding project eligibility and funding timelines.

Motion by Borash, second by Pearson, to adopt Resolution 2026-03 applying to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority. Motion carried unanimously.

I. Updates to Ordinances 54.02 and 54.03 Council acknowledged the Planning Commission's public hearing and recommendation. Final ordinance action to proceed as presented.

J. Nagell Appraisal & Consulting Update An update was provided with completion anticipated by the end of February.

K. WWTP HVAC Repairs Update Council discussed the status of obtaining quotes and potential future costs.

VII. Staff and Department Reports Reports were received.

VIII. Public Works No report.

IX. People Service Report No report.

X. Planning Commission No report.

XI. Clerk's Report No report.

XII. Treasurer's Report No report.

XIII. Mayor and Council Reports Council and Mayor provided brief updates.

XIV. Adjournment Motion by Pearson, second by Borash, to adjourn the meeting.
Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.

City Clerk- Chante Carlson

Jeff Borash-Chair

Date Approved