

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026 COLD SPRING CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dave Heinen at 5:00 p.m. The following City Council members were found to be present: Mayor Dave Heinen and Council Members Mike Fall, Ryan Hennen, Fran Ramler and Doug Schmitz. Absent: None. Others present: Kris Dockendorf, Sam Butler, Jon Stueve, Jason Blum, Ryan Studanski, John Maile, Wayne Cymbaluk, Rylan Sabo, Ione Leither, Darren Heying, Keith Plekkenphol, Jamison Wall, Larry Zeman, and Joe Jelovnick.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE JANUARY 14, 2026 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes – December 23, 2025 Regular Meeting

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY FALL, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

PURCHASE OF TWO HOISTS FOR FIRE HALL

Ryan Studanski from Donlar presented the request for the purchase of two hoists for the new Fire Hall. He stated that two hoists were inadvertently omitted in the specifications book for the project and explained since a staff transition happened, it was now identified that these items were missed. He explained that they obtained bids from two vendors and is recommending the low bid which was a discount of 30% off. Councilor Schmitz inquired about the cost of these items and less expensive cranes. MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF TWO PROTEK HOISTS FROM DONLAR CONSTRUCTION, AT A TOTAL COST OF \$15,121.06 FOR BOTH HOISTS. ROLL CALL VOTE, AYES – HENNEN, FALL, RAMLER, NAYES – HEINEN AND SCHMITZ. MOTION PASSED 3-2.

CONSIDERATION OF CHARITABLE GAMBLING LICENSE APPLICATIONS

Dockendorf explained that no one was present from Cold Spring Bowling Lanes. Each of the four applicants were given a few minutes to explain their application. Ione Leither from the Cold Spring Area Historical Society, Darren Heying from River Lakes Hockey Inc., Keith Plekkenpol from Cold Spring Fire and Rescue Relief Association, and Larry Zeman and Jamison Wall from Cold Spring Lions Club all spoke about their respective organizations and experience with charitable gambling. Councilor Hennen stated that since the Historical Society doesn't currently have a gambling license, which can take up to six months to obtain, the River Lakes Hockey Inc. does not have an office in Cold Spring, and the Fire Relief already has the maximum amount of sites, that the Cold Spring Lions Club should be awarded the premises permit for Cold Spring Bowling Lanes.

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY RAMLER, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2026-04, A RESOLUTION APPROVING A GAMBLING PREMISES PERMIT APPLICATION FOR COLD SPRING LIONS CLUB AT COLD SPRING BOWLING LANES. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

DISCUSS LOOKOUT PARK PROJECT & GRANT

Wayne Cymbaluk and John Maile from Stearns Conservation District explained that a grant is available to remove invasive species and re-seed a large area of the north side of Lookout Park. They explained that a deed restriction is part of the grant and that the City would be required to do two maintenance burns of the area in the next ten years at a cost of approximately \$5,000 each. Rylan Sabo explained that the grant did not align fully with the FFA's mission of restoring the Park back to its original historic design, especially in reference to the deed restriction area. The Council was hopeful that through discussion, the two sides might be able to make the deed restriction work. Ultimately, the Council did not want to lose the valued work that has already been completed and future efforts planned by the FFA for the entire Lookout Park site.

MOTION WAS MADE BY FALL, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE GRANT FOR LOOKOUT PARK AS PROPOSED BY STEARNS CONSERVATION DISTRICT. ROLL CALL VOTE, AYES – FALL, NAYES – HEINEN, HENNEN, RAMLER, AND SCHMITZ. MOTION FAILED 1-4.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-01, APPOINTMENTS RESOLUTION

Councilor Fall stated that he was not in favor of the Council meeting on Wednesday nights at 5 p.m. due to it being a church night, and it being too early in the evening for the public to attend the meetings. MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2026-01, AN APPOINTMENT AND MEETING DATES RESOLUTION. ROLL CALL VOTE, AYES – HEINEN, HENNEN, RAMLER, SCHMITZ, NAYES – FALL. MOTION PASSED 4-1.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-26: A RESOLUTION APPROVING JOINT POWERS AGREEMENTS WITH THE STATE OF MINNESOTA ON BEHALF OF THE CITY ATTORNEY AND THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2026-06, A RESOLUTION APPROVING JOINT POWERS AGREEMENTS WITH THE STATE OF MINNESOTA ON BEHALF OF THE CITY ATTORNEY AND THE COLD SPRING POLICE DEPARTMENT. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

APPOINT FIRE DEPARTMENT HIRING COMMITTEE

Mayor Heinen volunteered to serve on the Fire Department hiring committee. MOTION WAS MADE BY FALL, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO APPOINT GLENN MUELLER, MATT HESSE, KRIS DOCKENDORF AND DAVE HEINEN TO THE FIREFIGHTER HIRING COMMITTEE. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

RESIGNATION OF BECKY REYNOLDS FROM PLANNING COMMISSION

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY FALL, TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF BECKY REYNOLDS FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 31, 2026, AND TO THANK HER FOR HER SERVICE ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION; FURTHERMORE, TO SEEK A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO FILL THE VACANCY. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT

Stueve stated that he is looking at getting new summer banners for the downtown business district. He stated that he has been in contact the Rocori art and graphic design teacher to have a student design contest for the new banners. Stueve suggested setting up a workshop to discuss the Public Works Capital Improvements Plan. The Council agreed to have the workshop on Tuesday, February 17th at 5 p.m. Stueve also suggested having a Holiday Decoration committee meeting to discuss their plans for next season.

CITY ENGINEER REPORT

Butler explained that he has been working on the civil design portion of the City Hall and Police remodel project. He also stated he has been working on the Wastewater Treatment Facility design report memos and gave a timeline update.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Blum provided a calls for service report for December and a year-end report which showed 5071 calls for 2025. He stated that the new squad has been delivered back after being outfitted. He also answered questions about jake braking.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Dockendorf stated that she has not received a response back from the townships on the fire service contracts. The Council stated that another meeting should be set with them prior to their annual meetings in March.

LIST OF BILLS AND ADDITIONS

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO REVIEW AND ACCEPT PAYMENT OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ACCORDING TO THE LIST TOTALING \$2,836,249.73 AS PRESENTED BY CITY STAFF. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

CLOSED SESSION TO CONSIDER OFFERS OR COUNTEROFFERS FOR THE CITY’S PURCHASE OR SALE OF REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY OR INTERESTS THEREIN UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 13D.05, SUBDIVISION 3 (c)

Mayor Heinen introduced the closed session to consider an architectural lease at 406 Main St, 308 5th Avenue South, 22 3rd Avenue South, 28 Red River Avenue North, and 402 Red River Avenue North. MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO CLOSE THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING AT 6:27 P.M. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

REOPEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO OPEN THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING AT 6:53 P.M.

ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Heinen stated that no action was taken.

ADJOURN

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY RAMLER, TO ADJOURN AT 6:53 P.M., SEEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

Dave Heinen, Mayor

Kris Dockendorf, City Administrator