

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 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, Jon Stueve, Jason Blum, Jeff Kraemer, Chris Byrd, Becky Reynolds, Jim Kraemer, Kevin Brink, Peter Nagel and Joe Jelovnick.

OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

Jeff Kraemer stated although their family owned business, Kraemer Trucking and Excavating was sold to Knife River last year, he still works for the company. He stated that he was not contacted to provide a bid for the project that was approved at the last meeting. He stated he would appreciate being able to bid on local projects and in the past, most of the time they were low bidder. He stated that community is still of high importance to him and requested that the City get bids from local companies.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY RAMLER, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE APRIL 8, 2026 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes – February 17, 2026 Special Meeting and March 25, 2026 Regular Meeting

B. Resolution No. 2026-16, a Resolution Approving Annual Liquor, Tobacco, and Lower-Potency Hemp Edible Retailer Licenses

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-17, CSAH 2 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROJECT

Stearns County Highway Engineer Chris Byrd explained he is requesting authorization to move forward with the improvements north of the roundabout on Co Rd 2. He explained an Active Transportation Grant would cover the costs for the added sidewalks, pedestrian crossings and traffic calming measures. He stated that there would be no road closures during construction and that a start date and contractor have yet to be determined. He stated that the golf course did have some concerns about pedestrians using the sidewalk getting hit by golf balls but he felt that probability would be low. Stueve added that Stearns County would take care of removing snow from the concrete pedestrian refuge islands, and that adjacent property owners would still be responsible for snow removal on the sidewalks. Councilor Fall requested that the concrete and bituminous seams along the roundabout also get fixed as they are severely cracking. Byrd stated that he would look at it on his way out of town and it would be addressed separately from the Active Transportation project.

MOTION WAS MADE BY FALL, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2026-17, A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING CSAH 2/RED RIVER AVENUE NORTH ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PROJECT TO STEARNS COUNTY. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

LIBRARY FUNDRAISING PRESENTATION

Becky Reynolds stated that she is one of the committee chairs for the capital campaign for the new library. She stated that they are hoping to have a memorandum of understanding in May with an organization to serve as the fiscal agent for tax deductible donations to the library. She discussed their communication pieces, website, and online donation portal that they have been busy creating. She stated their goal is to fundraise for the entire cost of the building, which is estimated to cost \$4.5 million, through their capital campaign and will also accept in-kind donations, with a projected groundbreaking for the project in 2028.

LEASE FOR TEMPORARY LIBRARY SITE

Dockendorf explained that the City Attorney and League of MN Cities Attorney had edits to the initial proposed lease agreement. She stated that the version being presented had received their approval. She stated the three exhibits include the space, improvements for the space, and the insurance certificates.

MOTION WAS MADE BY FALL, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO APPROVE THE LEASE WITH KOLLMER PARTNERSHIP FOR A TEMPORARY SITE FOR THE COLD SPRING BRANCH OF GREAT RIVER REGIONAL LIBRARY. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-12, APPROVING PLANS AND ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR THE CITY HALL/POLICE REMODEL

Peter Nagel from HMA Architects stated that the plans and specifications for the remodel project are complete and ready for the bidding process which Donlar will be leading.

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2026-12, A RESOLUTION APPROVING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND ORDERING ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR THE COLD SPRING CITY HALL AND POLICE DEPARTMENT REMODEL PROJECT. ROLL CALL VOTE AYES – RAMLER, FALL, HENNEN AND HEINEN, NAYES - SCHMITZ. MOTION PASSED 4-1.

LUMBER ONE LICENSE AGREEMENT

Dockendorf stated that in January when the Council had approved Lumber One's Plat request, that one of the conditions of it was that they obtain a license for the encroachments in the City's right-of-way. Initially it was thought that both their sign and parking lot were in the right-of-way, but after further review of the survey and legal description it was learned that only the parking lot is in the right-of-way. She added that the Planning Commission had reviewed the agreement and recommended approval of it.

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY RAMLER, TO APPROVE THE LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH LUMBER ONE FOR ENCROACHMENTS IN THE CITY'S RIGHT-OF-WAY. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

A. Purchase of Side-By-Side Ranger and Accessories

Chief Weber stated that this purchase has been on their wish list for several years, but they never had the room to store it. He stated that over the course of several months they have obtained bids for the purchase with the low bid being proposed for purchase using proceeds from their gambling fund. He also stated that additional accessories such as an electric chain saw, storage rack, and nozzle are also being planned for down the road. Councilor Schmitz suggested that Weber get quotes for those items, since they could likely be an eligible expense from the gambling fund.

MOTION WAS MADE BY FALL, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A 2026 POLARIS RANGER 1000 SIDE-BY-SIDE FROM JIM'S SNOWMOBILE AND MARINE, AT A COST OF \$34,500, AND TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THE FOLLOWING ACCESSORIES FOR THE SIDE-BY-SIDE: AN 18' TRAILER FROM THE TRAILER CENTER AT A COST OF \$6,745, A SKID TO CARRY EQUIPMENT FROM KIMTEK AT A COST OF \$9,260, LIGHT PACKAGE FROM NORTH CENTRAL TRUCK UTILITIES AT A COST OF \$5,000, WITH \$47,500 TO BE PAID FROM THE SIDE-BY-SIDE DONATION ACCOUNT, AND THE BALANCE OF \$8,005 FROM REGULAR DONATIONS. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

B. Other

Chief Weber thanked the Richmond and Rockville Fire Departments for their mutual aid on a house fire and Blake Kraemer from Kraemer Corp. for his quick response and help with site excavating.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT

Stueve stated that the County will be putting the new population signs up this spring. He stated that hydrant flushing is coming up and updated the Council on the exact cost for the Meadow Lane connection to Fireside Road, which is \$12,019.47. Both connections to Fireside Lane combined will cost \$31,000, which is \$14,000 below what was budgeted.

CITY ENGINEER REPORT

Butler stated that the drawings for the construction documents were completed on the City Hall and Police Remodel Project which were approved earlier in the agenda to go out for bid. Butler stated that he is continuing to work on updated cost estimates for the Wastewater Treatment Facility with the final report to be reviewed with City staff tomorrow.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

A. Update

Chief Blum presented the call for service report for March.

B. Purchase of Encrypted Radios

Chief Blum stated that encrypted radios are needed for 2027 at a cost of \$30,337.24, which is projected to increase in the next coming months. He presented several options for funding the cost, including using funds from the Gambling Fund, using the General Fund and then budgeting for it in 2027 to repay the fund, or budgeting for it in 2027 at the higher cost. He stated that with all the other items that were budgeted out of the gambling fund for this year, the remaining balance in the fund would be \$70,000.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY FALL, TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF ENCRYPTED RADIOS AT A COST OF \$30,337.24, FROM THE GAMBLING FUND. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

C. Lions Club Donations

Chief Blum thanked the Lions Clubs from Richmond, Cold Spring and Rockville for their donations to the DARE program.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Liability Insurance Coverage Waiver

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO APPROVE MAINTAINING THE LIABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE, AND FURTHERMORE, THAT THE CITY DOES NOT WAIVE THE MONETARY LIMITS ON MUNICIPAL TORT LIABILITY ESTABLISHED BY MINNESOTA STATE STATUTE §466.04. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

B. Updates

Dockendorf stated she is fielding questions on when the official move out day is for the current building. She stated she continues to communicate with the contractor but the date has not yet been determined. She stated that in preparation of that date, starting in May all the meetings are scheduled for the temporary space in the DEF.

LIST OF BILLS

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO REVIEW AND ACCEPT PAYMENT OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ACCORDING TO THE LIST TOTALING \$350,051.68 PRESENTED BY CITY STAFF. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

ADJOURN

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO ADJOURN AT 5:54 P.M., SEEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

Dave Heinen, Mayor

Kris Dockendorf, City Administrator