

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2025 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 and Joe Jelovnick.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY FALL, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE SEPTEMBER 24, 2025 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes – September 4, 2025 Special Meeting and September 10, 2025 Regular Meeting

B. The Nicholas P. Koenig HERO Foundation, Application to Conduct a Raffle, Form LG240B on October 17, 2025 at The Great Blue Heron – 305 5th Ave S

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

MCDONALD'S SPECIAL USE PERMIT EXTENSION

Dockendorf stated that the Planning Commission had reviewed the extension and was recommending approval of it. She stated that no more extensions would be given if another year goes by, they would then need to reapply for the permit.

MOTION WAS MADE BY FALL, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO APPROVE A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF THE SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPROVED FOR MCDONALD'S USA TO ALLOW FOR A DRIVE-THROUGH, TO SEPTEMBER 25, 2026. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

ADOPT PRELIMINARY LEVY – RESOLUTION NO. 2025-16

Councilor Hennen stated that he felt that the amount of \$200,000 or a lesser amount should have been kept in equipment budget for 2026. He stated that keeping it in would have been a more responsible way to budget and provide better consistency for replacing aging equipment. He also stated that he felt that it is a disservice to employees who have to use and limp along equipment that needs replacing. He stated he felt there was an opportunity to do better and it was missed. The adoption of the proposed preliminary levy results in a 3.32% increase in the levy rate.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY FALL, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2025-16, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PRELIMINARY 2026 TAX LEVY, COLLECTIBLE IN 2026. ROLL CALL VOTE, AYES – FALL, SCHMITZ, RAMLER, NAYES – HEINEN AND HENNEN. MOTION PASSED 3-2.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

A. Updates

Stueve stated that they are planning on flushing water hydrants on October 13th and 14th. He updated the Council on the minimal cost for electric if a heater is installed in the Lions Park shelter. He explained that the heater would only be used in early spring and late fall. He stated the club has a plan ensuring it's turned off after use and would stop using the shelter once it snows.

CITY ENGINEER REPORT

A. Project Updates

Butler discussed punch list items that remain on various projects. He also stated that he continues to work through design reports with staff on the Wastewater Treatment Facility preliminary design.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Dockendorf reported that Chief Blum did not have anything to report for the meeting.

CITY ADMINSTRATOR REPORT

A. Updates

Dockendorf proposed several dates for meeting with the townships. It was agreed that the meeting would be held on Wednesday, October 22, 2025 at 7 p.m. She stated that she learned that the fire hall bonds could not be paid down and can't be refinanced until a much later date. She stated that the extra money could be used to make debt service payments and reduce the levy for the Fire Hall. She discussed that there is an open space on the lower level of the medical clinic building on Red River Avenue North that might be a good temporary space for the library. The Council discussed that space and indicated that they were interested and Councilor Fall offered to go with to view it. Dockendorf stated she would contact Cara from Great River Regional Library to discuss this space.

COMMISSION UPDATES

A. Planning Commission

Councilor Hennen stated that they discussed the extension of the special use permit for McDonalds.

B. EDA

Councilor Ramler stated they toured the Gentler Thyme business.

C. Park Board

The Park Board did not meet.

D. Rocori Trail

Councilor Schmitz stated that the trail meeting was at the same time as the City budget meeting therefore he missed the trail meeting.

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 \$382,754.51 AND SUPPLEMENTAL LIST TOTALING \$49,616.95 AS PRESENTED BY CITY STAFF. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

GENERAL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL

Councilor Hennen stated that he had received an email about Brewery truck traffic during the week at school start and stop times. The person sending the email requested that semi-truck traffic be limited during the morning and afternoon rush times for school. The Council discussed it and felt it was okay to contact the Brewery to inquire about it, but was unsure how receptive the Brewery would be to it since they are running a business. A short discussion was also held about engine braking by semi-trucks. Mayor Heinen announced an author speaking event on vanishing landmarks on October 1, 2025 at the DEF.

ADJOURN

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO ADJOURN AT 5:38 P.M., SEEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

Dave Heinen, Mayor

Kris Dockendorf, City Administrator