

The Common Council met at City Hall in the City of Black River Falls on October 6, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. Alderpersons M. Rave, Busse, Miles, Gearing-Lancaster, Ammann, and Peloquin were present. Alderperson E. Rave attended remotely via Zoom meetings. Alderperson Wussow was excused. Mayor J. Eddy presided.

It was moved by Alderperson Gearing-Lancaster, seconded by M. Rave to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the September 16, 2026 Special Common Council meeting and approve as presented. Motion carried.

CITIZENS IN ATTENDANCE

There were 3 citizens in attendance 1 in person and 2 remotely via Zoom meetings. Black River Youth Hockey Board President-Elect Matt Karls distributed a letter of concern and supporting documents from their organization and addressed the Council regarding the City Administrator's responses to their concerns, the legality of the lease agreement, a perceived lack of oversight over the Milt Lunda Memorial Arena Committee, and their recommendation for a legal commercial lease between the City, Black River Youth Hockey, and the Black River Falls Figure Skating Club.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

It was moved by Alderperson M. Rave, seconded by Alderperson Peloquin to place on file the minutes of the September 17, 2026 Business Improvement District (BID) Board meeting. Motion carried.

It was moved by Alderperson Busse, seconded by Alderperson M. Rave to place on file the minutes of the September 28, 2026 Utility Commission meeting. Motion carried.

It was moved by Alderperson Busse, seconded by Alderperson Gearing-Lancaster to approve the 2027 contract between the City and the Municipal Street Department Teamsters General Union Local 662. Motion carried.

It was moved by Alderperson M. Rave, seconded by Alderperson Ammann to approve **RESOLUTION 2026-04** – a resolution to borrow \$363,000.00 from Waumandee State Bank at an interest rate of 4.85% for a term of 12-months for 2026 Street Department capital items. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 907 – An ordinance repealing and recreating Section 7.01 of the Code of Ordinances regarding state traffic codes adopted was presented – 1st reading.

It was moved by Alderperson Peloquin, seconded by Alderperson Gearing-Lancaster to approve the Mayor's appointments to the Ad Hoc Housing Study Steering Committee. Motion carried.

The City Administrator presented updated proposed 2027 City Operating and Capital Budgets. Changes were made to balance the operating budget while also complying with an estimated levy limit of .701%. The operating budget was initially more than \$100,000 over the levy limit. In order to balance the operating budget, the proposed capital budget was decreased by approximately \$85,000, the levy for the shared ride taxi service was decreased by \$5,000, and estimated interest income was increased by \$30,000. There were no capital projects cut, but adding to reserves for future capital project needs was reduced substantially. At least \$125,000 in grants and/or donations will need to be secured to make the filter replacement project at the Hoffman Aquatic Center possible.

It was moved by Alderperson Miles, seconded by Alderperson Peloquin to adjourn. Motion carried at 6:56 pm.

A. Brad Chown
City Administrator