

City Council Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2026

A regular meeting of the Hamburg City Council was held on January 12, 2026. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Harry Adams at 6:30 PM.

Roll Call: City Clerk Colleen Pelser conducted the Roll Call, and those present were Kent Benefiel, Earl Hendrickson, Mike Stenzel, and Rod Wilson.

Kent moved to approve the agenda, and seconded by Mike. The council approved the agenda.

Rod moved to approve the meeting minutes from 12/08/2025, and Mike seconded. The council voted to approve the minutes.

LIBRARY UPDATE: The library has implemented new hours, including extended hours on Tuesdays until 7pm to allow more citizens access to the library.

Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 11 am to 7 pm
Wednesday: 11 am to 5 pm
Thursday: 11 am to 5 pm
Friday: 11 am to 4 pm
Saturday: 9 am to 12 pm

Katrina has received a quote for tuck pointing of the brick of the library, to start in April 2026, and there will be funds available in a library budget amendment for FY26 and FY27.

There were no citizen presentations.

RESOLUTION 112-26A APPROVE BANK IOWA LOAN SIGNATURES: a resolution was introduced to allow the Mayor and the City Clerk/Treasurer to sign paperwork for business with Bank Iowa in Shenandoah. Mike moved to vote on the resolution, seconded by Earl. A roll call vote was held with the following votes recorded: Bill Barrett – Absent; Kent Benefiel – No; Earl Hendrickson – Yes; Mike Stenzel – Yes; Rod Wilson – Yes.

RESOLUTION 112-26B APPROVE BOND AND VALLEY CORP CONTRACT: a resolution was introduced to approve purchasing of a payment assurance bond for up to \$45,000 for a contract with Valley Corp to complete the infrastructure at the Northridge Acres development site. The bond fee is reimbursable by the IEDA grant. At this time, the City of Hamburg has not secured the payment bond, and concern was expressed as to whether the City would get one. Additional concern was expressed as to what would happen if IEDA fails to reimburse the City for expenses incurred by the engineering firm (Lamp Rynearson) and contractor (Valley Corp) on this project. Because of these concerns it was noted that perhaps more discussion with IEDA and the contractor was warranted. Earl moved to table the resolution, seconded by Mike, and a roll call vote was conducted with the following votes: Bill – Absent; Kent – Y; Earl – y; Mike – Y; Rod – Y.

Mayor Adams provided an update on issues with the Fremont County Landfill. The Landfill has been having problems with a large volume of leachate – water that percolates through the landfill – and is looking for nearby towns to provide a secondary source to process some of it. Jarod Coy, public works director pointed out that Hamburg does not have the capacity for mechanical treatment of leachate. Rod moved to note no interest, seconded by Mike, and all approved. It was noted that since Melissa Smith left the Landfill Board, Hamburg has not had a representative. There were no volunteers for this position, but it was decided to add to the agenda for the next regular meeting on February 13 th . Interested parties should contact City Hall.

Mayor Adams discussed a property at 1709 Park Street which the City has possession of. After review, the City determined that the house is not in the flood zone, bringing up the question of whether the City should sell it. No outcome was determined. Mayor Adams also discussed 1111-1113 Main Street, which was purchased for taxes by an LLC. The City would like to find a mailing address for the LLC in order to communicate City code requirements.

The Council addressed numerous complaints regarding animals at large and dangerous dogs in Hamburg. One of these complaints included a woman who had 4-5 of these dogs surround her, barking and intimidating her as she was trying to bring groceries into her car. At one point, they had her cornered against her garage. She stated that at least one of these dogs had bitten a person in the past. The Council discussed the fact that City's enforcement options include issuing civil infractions, which have been pursued, but note that the County Sheriff has authority to pursue criminal action. It has been difficult for the Sheriff to capture such animals, in part because of the lack of an animal shelter to take the animals to. The Mayor met with the Deputy Sheriff and the County Attorney, trying to find ways to resolve the issue. One suggestion was for Hamburg to build a kennel building on the sound side of town, and hire a building manager. However, this would not be feasible without support, including financial, from other towns in the County. The Mayor would like to approach other Mayors in the area to find out if they would support the effort. The matter will continue to be pursued.

Councilman Bill Barrett arrived at 7:04 PM.

The Council voted to approve a building permit for a fence at 1002 Argyle Street. Kent moved to approve the permit. A roll call vote was held with the following votes: Bill Barret – Yes; Kent Benefiel – Yes; Earl Hendrickson – Yes; Mike Stenzel – Yes; Rod Wilson – Yes. The motion was approved.

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE: Jarod Coy, the Public Works Director reported that he had received quotes for HESCO barriers, which are required by the Ditch 6 Levee project to be placed along the northbound lane of I-29 from the south tie-off of the Ditch 6 Levee to the Nishnabotna Levee in the necessary low spots. The cost of the barriers will be covered by the grant, but the funds also need to cover the storage containers for the barriers, and the concrete pad for the containers to sit on. The quotes are as follows:

Flood Defense Group: \$779,600; Gabion Pros: \$715,200; Maccaferri: \$700,500; and Dirickx Systems: \$492,800.

Currently, Dirickx Systems has enough stock already in the United States and they would not have to be imported and subject to tariffs. For the quoted pricing, it is important to act promptly, while the barriers are still in stock. The Grant Manager has given the City the go-ahead to get under contract, and Jarod requested the Council approve moving forward. Earl moved to approve the quote, seconded by Rod. A roll call vote was held with the following votes: Bill Barret – Yes; Kent Benefiel – Yes; Earl Hendrickson – Yes; Mike Stenzel – Yes; Rod Wilson – Yes. The motion was approved., and all approved.

There is \$40K allocated for the pad and shipping containers, and Jarod estimates that will take 32 yards of concrete for the 40-by-60 foot pad to be poured at 4 inches. He expects that it will cost a minimum of \$20K to pour the pad, and \$18-23K for the containers. Public Works staff will prepare the pad sites.

Jarod has also received quotes for completing street storm sewer work which is part of one of Hamburg's Streets Public Assistance grants, and asked for Council approval. Kent moved to approve the request, seconded by Rod, and a roll call vote was held with the following votes: Bill Barret – Yes; Kent Benefiel – Yes; Earl Hendrickson – Yes; Mike Stenzel – Yes; Rod Wilson – Yes. The motion was approved.

CITY CLERK UPDATE: Colleen requested that the Council approve the finalized Annual Urban Renewal report. Bill moved to approve, seconded by Kent, and all approved.

Colleen reported that the City's new computer firewall had been installed, that City Hall had been connected to fiber internet, and that the City's new domain name had been set up (cityofhamburg.org), with new email addresses for Councilmembers and staff. The email where the public can contact the City is cityhall@cityofhamburg.org .

Regarding IPIB complaint #25CF-0131: There are two more requirements to complete our agreement for information resolution of this complaint: 1) Re-visit the agenda items of the meeting on September 8 th , and re-certify any votes, which was addressed later in this meeting; and 2) Schedule the Public Information Training with IPIB. Possible training dates were discussed.

Colleen reported that the City Grant Funds received two payments from the Army Corp of Engineers totaling approximately \$1M for the Ditch 6 Levee project. The funds will need to be returned to the state and rolled back into the State Flood Recovery fund. The Fund Board will decide whether to re-allocate the funds for future projects, to which the City may apply. Bill Barret noted that there is a state program, the Iowa Public Agency Investment Trust, that may allow higher interest for the City on these funds while we await instructions on how to return the funds to the State.

Claims were reviewed and Bill moved to approve claims, which was seconded by Kent. A roll call vote was held with the following votes: Bill Barret – Yes; Kent Benefiel – Yes; Earl Hendrickson – Yes; Mike Stenzel – Yes; Rod Wilson – Yes. The motion was approved.

Claims approved were:

CLAIMS REPORT VENDOR	REFERENCE	AMOUNT
275 FUEL	275fuel@gmail.com	\$ 1,148.00
5150 WINDOW CLEANING	CITY HALL WINDOW CLEANING	\$ 25.00
ACCESS LEASING	Copier	\$ 236.67
ACCESS SYSTEMS	Phones	\$ 442.82
AGRIVISION EQUIPMENT	Parts	\$ 96.80
AQUA CHEMICALS	Chemicals	\$ 8,264.40
BADGER METER	meters	\$ 1,001.10
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	NATURAL GAS	\$ 1,398.92
BRIANNA O'HEARN	Legal	\$ 1,401.56
CENTURY LINK	PHONE BILLS	\$ 2,675.23
COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC	Hamburg Reporter Minutes	\$ 558.42
COUNCIL BLUFFS WATER	Sewer	\$ 50.00
FIRST INTERSTATE BANK	Norton and Google	\$ 132.79
FIRST INTERSTAE BANK	Hand written on CK#62673	\$ 150.00
FREMONT COUNTY LANDFILL	LANDFILL	\$ 3,743.62
FREMONT COUNTY SHERIFF	SHERIFF CONTRACT	\$ 9,488.00
HALLETT MATERIAL	Sand	\$ 206.08
HAMBURG CHARTER SCHOOL	Welding Parts	\$ 21.22
HOLLIMAN AUTO	Parts/supplies	\$ 1,010.77
IMWCA	Workers Comp	\$ 1,488.00
JESSICA KUHN	cleaning	\$ 100.00
MENARDS	Pothole Patch	\$ 741.86
METERING & TECHNOLOGY SOLUTION	Meters	\$ 7,363.94
MID AMERICAN ENERGY	ELECTRIC	\$ 5,115.27
MIDWEST DATA CENTER	BACKUP SERVICES	\$ 82.94
MIDWEST LABORATORIES	Testing	\$ 537.85
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MOBILE ACCOUNTING	Payroll	\$ 450.00
NEW TECH PROPERTIES LLC	TIF Refund	\$ 17,995.16
OAKES REPAIR	Tires	\$ 335.00
PAGE COUNTY LANDFILL	Recycle	\$ 897.00
PAPER TIGER	SHREDDING	\$ 70.00
SHENANDOAH SANITATION	Trash	\$ 666.20
TY'S OUTDOOR POWER & SERVICE	Parts	\$ 2,094.65
USA BLUE BOOK	Pumps and controls	\$ 1,068.33
VERIZON	acc#442756722-00001	\$ 223.95
VISA	Credit Card	\$ 1,303.30
Accounts Payable Total		\$ 72,584.85
**** REPORT TOTAL ****		\$ 72,584.85
GENERAL		\$ 21,717.15
LANDFILL/GARBAGE		\$ 3,743.62
LIBRARY		\$ 489.97
ROAD USE TAX		\$ 4,867.70
TAX INCREMENT FINANCING		\$ 17,995.16
WATER		\$ 17,035.72
SEWER		\$ 6,735.53
TOTAL FUNDS		\$ 72,584.85

Earl moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Bill, and all approved. The meeting was adjourned.

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