

City Council Special Meeting Minutes
Budget Workshop #3
February 11, 2026

On February 11, the Hamburg City Council held a special meeting for the FY27 budget. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Harry Adams at 6:30 PM.

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

Kent moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Bill, and all approved.

Bill moved to change regular City Council meetings to the first Monday of the month at 6PM, to accommodate schedules better. Rod seconded the motion, and all approved.

The Council opened and reviewed bids for mowing the cemetery, and separate bids for mowing the parks and city building properties. Bill moved to reject the bids and continue to have City employees do the mowing. Kent seconded the motion, and all approved.

The Council discussed budgeting for 4% raises for City employees compared to the 3% previously included in the draft budget. Considerations included inflation rates, what other cities were providing, length of service, and total impact on the budget. Bill moved to set the increase at 4% for all employees, seconded by Rod. A roll call vote was held with the following votes: Kent – yes; Bill – yes; Rod – yes. The motion was approved.

Additional discussion was had around joining the Iowa Public Agency Investment Trust (IPAIT). Colleen noted that having an outside entity shop interest rates would provide better quotes without doing all the legwork in-house. In addition, the fund is managed by a fiduciary, and there is next-day availability of all funds invested. Kent moved to approve the IPAIT resolution from the previous meeting (RESOLUTION 209-26A: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING...PARTICIPATION IN...THE IOWA PUBLIC AGENCY INVESTMENT TRUST). Bill seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was held with the following votes: Kent – yes; Bill – yes; Rod – yes. The resolution was passed.

211-26B A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF LEVIED DEBT SERVICE FUNDS FOR REPAYMENT OF THE CITY OF HAMBURG'S GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND SERIES 2023. Colleen introduced a resolution to formalize the City's current process of repaying the General Obligation bond, using debt service levies. Bill moved to pass the resolution, seconded by Rod. A roll call vote was held with the following votes: Rod – yes; Bill – yes; Kent – yes.

The current draft City budget was discussed. Proposed expenditures in the general fund were too high by about \$6,000, which could be balanced by eliminating the allocation for community beautification.

Colleen presented a funding mechanism for consideration for planning to re-line the water tower, a process costing approximately \$250,000 which is expected to be needed within the next five years. The project could be designated as a Capital Project, and the city could levy to start a savings fund to save up for the expense. The Council felt that this was a consideration for a future year and not this one.

The Council discussed quotes Jarod provided for the purchase of a new service truck. Overall the council felt that it was more cost-effective at this time to budget for repairs for the current truck.

Rod moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Bill, and all approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8PM.

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