

# Minutes for Public Hearing for initial plat and Annual Holdingford City Council Meeting Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**Council Members in attendance:** Travis Harlander, Tim Winter, Seth Young

Council Members not in attendance: Jayme Opatz, Eric Berscheid

**Others in attendance:** Nicky Lahr, Herman Lansing, Jared Johnson (Albanytel), Derek Iverson (Albanytel), Carol Greiner, Joanne Fussy, Gordy Sjaasheim, Greg Konsor, Gregory Wacker, Kristi Wacker

Travis called the **public hearing** to order at 7:00 p.m. He explained that Greg Konsor was requesting an initial plat approval for his property at 17278 County Rd 17 and requesting zoning change from R-A to R-1. Greg explained that if the Catholic Church is going to build on the property, he will also apply for a conditional use permit. If they do not, he would keep it as R-1 and potentially build residential structures. No public comments or questions were presented. It was explained that a Council vote would take place at the February 9<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. Travis closed the public hearing at 7:04 p.m.

Travis called the **regular meeting** to order at 7:04 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Seth made a motion to approve the consent agenda including December minutes and claims. Tim seconded it and the motion passed with all in favor.

**Guests** Jared Johnson and Derek Iverson spoke on behalf of Albany Mutual Telephone/Albany Fiber Communications. They stated that they would be bringing fiber optics into the City this summer. They are seeking approval on engineering and permitting for the project. Nicky stated that the City Engineer was already assisting with maps, and no permit will be needed for the project. Jared mentioned that they will be knocking on doors at some point as they will need access onto properties. Nicky stated that she can assist by providing information on the city website as well as mailing information in with utility bills. They expect the project to begin late spring, or early summer depending on weather conditions. Council acknowledged the update and no action was taken.

## **Department reports:**

Dave Blommel was not at the meeting, but submitted the City Engineer report that outlined some options for the Council to consider for the next step in finding a new drinking water source for the City. He will be at the February meeting to discuss these options and potentially make further decisions.

Nicky gave the Clerk's report. She explained that the City's server failed, and lost three of the four hard drives, leaving the information unrecoverable. Shift Technology was able to restore a backup to the fund accounting software off of a local computer, and all information prior to October was restored from off-site portable drives. Utility billing was restored from the 3<sup>rd</sup> party online billing provider, however some UB data history was lost. New hard drives were installed and more fail-safes were put into place to prevent this from happening in the future. Nicky also requested a quote for cloud hosted server services and will present that at a future meeting. Due to these issues the annual audit will be pushed back slightly. Nicky reported that the bi-annual LGA payment was received along with the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 2025 levy payment from the County. The large utility bond was paid along with the 2 tax abatement payments.

## **Unfinished Business:**

Seth made a motion to pass a memorandum of understanding for the AFSCME union contract. This agreement would split the PFMLA insurance payments equally with the employee and the employer. It also stated that the union members would only qualify to accrue vacation and sick time if they are using PTO while on PFMLA. Tim seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

**New Business:**

Tim made a motion to pass resolution 26-1-12-1 for the official designations for 2026. Seth seconded this and it passed with all in favor.

Due to Steve's absence, his annual review was tabled until February.

Tim made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Seth seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

Looking forward: Next Council meeting is on February 9<sup>th</sup>. City Hall will be closed on January 19<sup>th</sup> for MLK Day. There will be no open Mayor's hours on January 21<sup>st</sup>.

Signed:

Nicky Lahr \_\_\_\_\_

City Clerk-Treasurer, Holdingford