

Max City Council met on January 05, 2026, at 7:00 pm. Mayor Adams, and council members; Swanson, Fritel, and Weltikol were present. Westman absent. Visitors in attendance were Delvin Fannik, Rob Rohrbach, Alex Hemphill, Angie Hemphill, Jody Gullickson, Julie Hoehl, and Angelica Hoehl.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Adams Called the meeting to order.

Swanson motioned to approve and dispense December, 2025 meeting minutes as read. Fritel second. Votes, all aye. m/c/a.

Delvin Fannik discussed purchasing lot 4 of Whiting Addition, where a single wide mobile home that needs to be removed. He enquired about the possibility of obtaining a variance to the planning and zoning ordinance, to replace it with a newer, single wide model if he purchases the lot. It is council consensus that the lot dimensions are more appropriate for that size of home and that a variance can be granted.

Rob Rohrbach discussed that he has had sewer back up issues for a few years, and thinks it could be a problem with the city mane. Swanson motioned to have the city mane jetted on 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave in that area. Weltikol second. Votes, all aye. m/c/a.

Court Report was presented and citations for December are low. The total received for the year are \$900.

Catherine Turcotte informed council that no one has volunteered to serve on the Planning and Committee.

Presented was the Liquor License Renewal for Pour Choices, for the time period of January 5<sup>th</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> 2026. Fritel motioned to approve. Weltikol second. Votes, all aye. m/c/a.

Discussion was held on the virtual scheduling hearing that is to be held January 12<sup>th</sup> with Mclean County District Court, for the Klein's tree issue. Council consensus is for the auditor to attend, and council members will join if schedules permit.

The upcoming city election will be held on June 9, 2026. Positions to be placed on the ballot are the 4-year term office of Mayor, two 4-year term council members, one unexpired 2-year term council member., and 3 4-year term Park Board Members. Petitions are available in the auditor's office for anyone wishing to run for office to fill these positions. Petitions are also located on the McLean County Website. Petitions must be turned into the City Auditor's Office by 4:00 pm on April 8, 2026.

Presented was the Joint Powers agreement for Elections from McLean County. Weltikol motioned to approve and sign the agreement. Swanson second. Votes, all aye. m/c/a.

The report from the State Auditor's office for the 2024 Financial Review was presented. The city is in compliance with state accounting regulations and standards. The Current Activity balances can now be transferred to the Investment accounts. Weltikol motioned to approve. Swanson second. Votes, all aye. m/c/a. Transfers to be made are, \$14,807.45 to the City Maintenance- Infrastructure Account, \$38,132.18 to the Water Fund Account, \$21,501.33 to the Sewer Fund account. The positive Street Improvement Bond Fund balance of \$1,294.07 was redesignated to the City Maintenance-Infrastructure Fund in March 2025, and transfer will be made in accounting software only.

Employee evaluation for the auditor is due in January. Swanson and Adams, will schedule a time.

Open discussion was held about a dog complaint where residents feel threatened, specifically a Pit Bull, that was believed to be removed from the city. Also, there are illegally parked cars hindering snow removal efforts. Law enforcement will be contacted regarding both matters.

Bills to be paid in January were presented.

| <b>Bills to pay-December 2025</b> |  |                  |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------------|
| <b>ENTITY</b>                     | <b>Description</b>   | <b>AMOUNT</b>    |
| Ackerman Estvold                  | Tree Consultation  | 682.50           |
| Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND      | Medical Insurance (Employer Portion)                       | 1,000.00         |
| Circle Sanitation                 | Garbage Service Contract                                   | 4,388.50         |
| Coal Conversion Counties          | Dues   | 141.00           |
| EFTPS                             | Payroll 941 Liabilities-Paid online (Employer Portion) NOV | 1,651.56         |
| First District Health             | Water Testing  | 30.00            |
| Max Farm Service                  | Fuel Costs (Estimated waiting for bill)                    | 638.68           |
| McLean County Sherriff's Dept.    | Law enforcement Contract-New year contract amount          | 2,794.01         |
| McCormick Law, PLLC               | Klein Litigation Case-Retainer Paid 12/16/2025             | 2,500.00         |
| McElwain Construction Inc         | Curb Stop Replacements & Repairs                           | 15,375.00        |
| MDU                               | Natural Gas Utilities                                      | 499.66           |
| Menards                           | Tarp, janitorial, Ice melt                                 | 142.00           |
| Microsoft Office                  | Cloud Storage  | 142.39           |
| Municipal Judge                   | Monthly Pay  | 178.00           |
| NorDak North Publications         | Publications   | 137.00           |
| NPRWD                             | Purchased Water  | 3,664.60         |
| Ottertail Power Company           | Electric Utilities   | 1,217.94         |
| Overhead Door Co. of Minot        | Garage Door Remote   | 99.90            |
| QuickBooks                        | Online Subscription  | 357.00           |
| RTC                               | Phone and Internet (estimated, waiting for bill)           | 409.00           |
| Schock's Safe & Lock Service      | Shop Walk-in Door Lock Replacement                         | 550.00           |
| Semchenko Electric                | Water Tower Electrical                                     | 31.25            |
| Sweeney Controls Company          | SCADA Insight Annual Fee                                   | 540.00           |
| Teamlab                           | Wastewater Lagoon Sonar                                    | 800.00           |
| US Postal Service                 | 1 Roll Post card stamps & 1 Roll General Mail              | 139.00           |
| <b>Totals</b>                     |  | <b>37,443.48</b> |

End of year financial reports and the Q 4 Budget checks was presented. Fritel motioned to approve the reports and pay the bills. Swanson second. Votes, all aye. m/c/a.

Office supplies requested are a box of paper, file folders, printer ink, and cable management supplies for electronics. Swanson motioned to approve. Fritel second. Votes, all aye. m/c/a.

Weltikol motioned for meeting to adjourn. Fritel second. Votes, all aye. m/c/a.

Next council meeting will be held on February 02, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

Samuel Adams, Mayor

Anita Porter, Auditor