

**City of Pillager**  
**City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**January 13, 2026**

Mayor Adam Sparrow called this regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance being said.

Members present by roll call: Mayor Adam Sparrow, Council Members Rob Freelove, Joe Klein and Wade Mortenson.

Absent: Leroy Smith

Staff present: Lori Blumke, Guy Efraimson, Justin Rogers and Tom Youngblom

Visitors present: Katie and Brandon Burgau, Rick Gillson, Mark Klema, Larry Paschelke and Mary Sandelands

Mayor Sparrow opened the regular council meeting and began by asking if there are any additions or deletions to the agenda. Hearing none. Motion by Council Klein, seconded by Council Mortenson to accept the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Mortenson, second by Council Freelove to accept the consent agenda with the following items:

1. Minutes of December 9th, 2025 Truth in Taxation/Regular Meeting
2. December 2025 Cash Control Statement
3. December 2025 Expenses
4. Financial Monthly Analysis

The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Visitor Forum**

Larry Paschelke was in attendance to speak about the Highway 210/River Street intersection and the upcoming roundabout plans.

#### **Bollig Engineering – Mark Klema**

Motion by Council Klein, seconded by Council Mortenson to set a public hearing for Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. for the Small Cities Development Program (SCDP) and USDA Rural Development (RD) Infrastructure Improvement Grant Application. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Public Works Report**

Guy Efraimson reported that some Christmas lights have been taken down in the park and will be working on the others. Justin reviewed the quotes received for lift station 1 and 2 control panel upgrades and SCADA alarm system for all five lift stations. After discussing the quotes and financing options, motion by Council Klein, seconded by Council Mortenson to accept the quote from Preferred Controls for 2 new lift station control panels and SCADA alarm system with financing to be determined. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Old Business**

Brandon and Katie Burgau were in attendance to update council regarding the construction and cleanup of their basement from a sewer backup and the related costs. After discussion, motion by Council Freelove, seconded by Council Mortenson to cover the cost of the Service Master bill and both hotel stays. Voting in favor of: Mayor Sparrow, Council Members Freelove and Mortenson. Voting against: Council Member Klein. The motion carried. The Burgau's will provide council with a list of materials for the reconstruction process by the next meeting.

#### **New Business**

Council Freelove and Mayor Sparrow reviewed the interview process that has been completed for the Deputy Clerk position. A candidate has been chosen and a counter offer placed.

Motion by Council Freelove, seconded by Council Mortenson to hire the candidate and accept her counter offer with health benefits for her and her children at 32 hours per week at \$16.50 per hour. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Klein, seconded by Council Mortenson to approve the temporary easement agreement with the Department of Transportation for the roundabout construction. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Mortenson, seconded by Council Klein to approve monthly bills as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Klein, seconded by Council Mortenson to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.



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**Adam Sparrow - Mayor**



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**Lori Blumke - City Clerk**