



**City of Nelson**  
**Council Meeting Minutes**  
January 5, 2026 @ 7:00pm  
Nelson City Hall

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Sylvia Green called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Attendance**

The following persons were present: Mayor Sylvia Green, Councilman Nathan Hamby, Councilman Matt Malone, Councilwoman Kristeen MacNeill, Councilwoman India Riehl, Finance Manager Miranda McDowell, City Clerk Kelsey Riehl and City Attorney Jeff Rusbridge. (Councilmember Ms. Elisa Marathas was not in attendance)

**2. Invocation**

Mayor Green led the invocation.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Nathan Hamby led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. Agenda Approval**

Mr. Nathan Hamby made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mrs. Kristeen MacNeill, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

**5. Swearing in of New Officials - Attorney Jeff Rusbridge swore in the following Officials:**

Mayor – Mrs. Sylvia Green  
Councilmember – Mr. Matthew Malone  
Councilmember – Ms. India Riehl

**6. Public Appearance-**

Mrs. Melissa Lawler – Update for the Council that her neighbor is moving.

**7. Approval of Minutes**

a. December 1, 2025 Council Meeting Minutes – Mrs., Kristeen MacNeill made a motion to approve the December 5, 2024 minutes, Seconded by Mr. Nathan Hamby, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

**8. Department Reports**

a. Police Report – Cherokee Co Sheriffs Dept., Lt. Brooke Anderson introduced Lt. Mark Patterson. She stated he will be the new Lt. over the Ballground Precinct.

b. Mayor's Report – Mayor Green stated the City Christmas Event was a huge success. It was the largest turnout to date since she has been in office. She stated the city was able to collect approx \$7k in donations which was used to purchase lots of gifts that were raffled off for local kids. She thanked the donors that made the event possible: Martin Marietta Quarry, Amicalola EMC, Blue Ridge Marble & Granite, Ricky Bryan

Properties, Todd Holbrook and several other donors. She updated the Council on the status of the city projects: Infrastructure is nearing the end and will wrap up fairly soon. Park Project has just started.

c. Finance Report – Mrs. Miranda McDowell went over the current bank balances and where the city is with the current FY26 budget.

#### **9. Unfinished Business**

a. FY25 Audit Report – Mrs. Kelsey Riehl stated the FY25 Audit was completed in December. There were no findings to report.

#### **10. New Business**

a. Yearly Appointments:

Mayor Pro-Tem – Mrs. Kristeen MacNeill

Municipal Judge – Mr. Darrell Caudill

City Attorney – Mr. Jeff Rusbridge

City Solicitor – Mr. Jeff Rusbridge

City Building Inspector – Bureau Veritas

Finance Manager – Mrs. Miranda McDowell

City Clerk - Mrs. Kelsey Riehl

Check Signers – Mrs. Sylvia Green, Mr. Matt Malone, Mrs. Kristeen MacNeill, Mr.

Nathan Hamby, Ms. Elisa Marathas, Ms. India Riehl and Mrs. Kelsey Riehl

Mr. Nathan Hamby made a motion to approve the 2026 appointments, Seconded by Mrs. Kristeen MacNeill, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

b. Qualifying Fees – Mrs. Kelsey Riehl stated the qualifying fees have been \$25 for Mayor & \$25 for Council seats. Mr. Nathan Hamby made a motion to keep the qualifying Fees at \$25 for both the mayor's seat and the Councilmembers seats, Seconded by Mrs. Kristeen MacNeill, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

c. Check Signers – Mrs. Sylvia Green, Mr. Matt Malonme, Mrs. Kristeen MacNeill, Mr. Nathan Hamby, Ms. Elisa Marathas, Ms. India Riehl and Mrs. Kelsey Riehl. Mr. Nathan Hamby made a motion to approve the check signers, Seconded by Mrs. Kristeen MacNeill, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

d. Council Meeting Dates 2026 – Mr. Nathan Hamby made a motion to approve the 2026 Council Meeting Dates Schedule, Seconded by Mr. Matt Malone, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

e. City Observed Holidays 2026 –

Mr. Nathan Hamby made a motion to approve the City Observed Holiday Schedule for 2026, Seconded by Mrs. Kristeen MacNeill, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

f. Copy Machine Quotes – Mrs. Kelsey Riehl stated the city received 3 quotes for a new or used copy machine along with quotes for a service contract if needed. The Council and Mayor discussed. Mr. Nathan Hamby made a motion to approve the purchase of a used Xerox AltaLink 8135 with a purchase price up to \$6,200.00, and approval of a 1-year service contract with the option to renew on a yearly basis, Seconded by Mrs. Kristeen MacNeill, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

#### **11. Executive Session – Personnel**

Mr. Nathan Hamby made a motion to adjourn to executive session, Seconded by Mr. Matt Malone, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

Mr. Nathan Hamby made a motion to end executive session, Seconded by Mrs. Kristeen MacNeill, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

**12. Adjourn**

Mr. Nathan Hamby made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Mr. Matt Malone, All in favor, Vote unanimous...

Mayor Sylvia Green adjourned the meeting.

Minutes submitted by Kelsey Riehl

Minutes approved by City Council  
2-9-26



*K. Riehl*