

MINUTES  
Public Hearing –Ordinance #154 – Amended Cannabis Regulations  
December 8, 2025  
6:45 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Ressler, Council members Johnson, Sundine and Clark

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Martens, Finance Director Zwiener and City Attorney Iacovino

ABSENT: City Council Newman

Due to the Call and Notice thereof, Mayor Ressler called the Public Hearing for the proposed amendment to the Cannabis Ordinance to order on December 8, 2025, at 6:45 P.M.

City Administrator Martens presented the Proposed Amendment to the Cannabis Ordinance.

There being no public present to come before the Council, the Council took the following action:

Motion by:	JOHNSON	Seconded by:	SUNDINE
For:	ALL	Against:	NONE

Motion adjourning the Public Hearing was duly carried.

  
Anthony Martens  
City Administrator

MINUTES  
City Council Meeting  
December 9, 2024  
7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Ressler, Council members Sundine, Johnson and Clark

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Martens, City Attorney Iacovino, Finance Director Zwiener, Public Works Director Motl and Kay Fate of the Steele County Times

ABSENT: Newman

Mayor Ressler called the Regular City Council Meeting and the Truth in Taxation Meeting to order on December 8, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Ressler led the Council and others present in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Ressler called the Truth in Taxation Hearing to order. Mayor Ressler called for public input. There was none. The Truth and Taxation portion of the meeting was then closed.

Mayor Ressler presented the Consent Agenda for the Council's approval. Included in the Consent Agenda was the following:

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes of November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – Regular City Council Meeting
3. Approve Farmland Lease Agreement – Bowman
4. Approve Farmland Lease Agreement - Penkava
5. Approval of Cigarette License Renewals
6. Resolution 25-12-01 Accepting Ambulance Donation from the Steele-Waseca Coop
7. Approve the updated Employee Policy Manual
8. Approve Resignation of PT Library Employee
9. Approve Gambling Permit – Blooming Prairie Youth Club

The Council made the following motion:



Motion Adopting the 2026 General Governmental Funds Budget and adopting Resolution 25-12-02 certifying the 2026 Tax Levy as presented, was duly carried.

Mayor Ressler presented the proposed 2026 Enterprise Fund Budgets. City Administrator Martens recapped the changes from 2024. The Council took the following action:

Motion by:	JOHNSON	Seconded by:	CLARK
For:	ALL	Against:	NONE

Motion approving Resolution 25-12-03 adopting the 2026 enterprise funds budgets for the Cemetery, Sanitary Sewer, Storm Sewer, and Ambulance funds as presented, was duly carried.

Mayor Ressler presented the designated fund balance. The Council made the following motion:

Motion by:	SUNDINE	Seconded by:	JOHNSON
For:	ALL	Against:	NONE

Motion approving the designation of \$960,207.00 of the General Fund December 31, 2025 Fund Balance to be reserved for cash flow purposes for the period January 1 through June 30, 2026 as presented was duly carried.

Mayor Ressler called on City Administrator Martens for an update on the adjustments to the fee schedule. City Administrator Martens explained to the Council the changes that were made to the fee schedule. After discussion, the Council made the following motion:

Motion by:	SUNDINE	Seconded by:	JOHNSON
For:	ALL	Against:	NONE

Motion approving the Lifetime Dog License Application, fee and approve the 2026 Schedule of Fees as presented was duly carried.

Mayor Ressler called on City Administrator Martens for information on the 2025 vacation payout. City Administrator Martens informed the Council that Finance Director Zwiener was

unable to use the required amount of vacation while acting as City Administrator for nearly 6 months, then in 2024 covering for FMLA for a staff member, then acting as City Administrator again in 2025. To address the issue City Administrator Martens is proposing a payout not to exceed 50 hours. The Council took the following action:

Motion by:	SUNDINE	Seconded by:	JOHNSON
For:	ALL	Against:	NONE

Motion approving a vacation payout in excess of the 320 hour bank of up to 50 hours of vacation for the Finance Director Zwiener as presented was duly carried.

Mayor Ressler presented the Updated Cannabis Ordinance for the Council's approval. The Ordinance has been read twice and a Public Hearing was held with no attendance. The Council took the following action:

Motion by:	JOHNSON	Seconded by:	SUNDINE
For:	ALL	Against:	NONE

Motion to adopt Resolution 25-12-04 amending Chapter 154 of the City of Blooming Prairie's Cannabis ordinance and approve summary publication of the ordinance in the official paper of the City of Blooming Prairie as presented was duly carried.

Mayor Ressler called on City Administrator Martens for additional information on the phone system upgrade. City Administrator Martens informed the Council that the current phone system is analog. The current equipment is no longer available for replacement if there became issues. City Administrator Martens informed the Council that an upgrade to a VOIP system which includes internet, voicemail, automated attendant system, transfers within and out of the system, unlimited long distance and 24/7/365 support services. The cost for this upgrade is approximately \$73.00 per month or \$98.00 per department per year. The upgrade to the system will also bring the CAT cable up to date in anticipation of installing cameras on the same system. Metronet is offering a 5-year contract with no price increases over the contract period. The Council made the following motion:

Motion by:	SUNDINE	Seconded by:	CLARK
For:	ALL	Against:	NONE

Motion to approve upgrading the City of Blooming Prairie phone system and to enter into a 5-year contract with Metronet for phone/internet services as presented was duly carried.

Mayor Ressler presented the Blooming Prairie Police Department contract with the Steele County Sheriff's Office for record management. The Council took the following action:

Motion by:	JOHNSON	Seconded by:	SUNDINE
For:	ALL	Against:	NONE

Motion to approve the Records Contract for the Blooming Prairie Police Department pending review and approval from Steele County

Mayor Ressler called for Public Comment. There was no public interested in presenting.

Mayor Ressler called on Public Works Director Motl for his departmental update. Public Works Director Motl informed the Council that Dave Hoffman recently attained his Class B Wastewater Treatment Plant License. As of January 1, 2026, the city will no longer have a contracted operator.

Public Works Director Motl informed the Council that the anodes were replaced on the second tank last week and that tank is back online.

Public Works Director Motl informed the Council that the bathroom and the GaGa Ball pit are completed at Central Park. The pickleball court is complete except for the striping which will be completed in the spring.

Public Works Director Motl informed the Council that we hired Bishop Excavation to push back the compost site. Steele County will be trucking our compost out to the county dump this fall to use it as cover for a new cell.

Public Works Director Motl informed the Council that the new to the City plow truck is ready for use and stated that it is very technical compared to previous plow trucks.

Public Works Director Motl informed the Council that the first couple snowfalls caused quite a few repairs. These are complete and the equipment is ready to go.

Public Works Director Motl informed the Council that the large asphalt patch on 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue did not get completed prior to the plant closing. This will get completed first thing in the spring.

Public Works Director Motl suggested that the City look into odd/even snow removal to solve some of the plowing issues.

City Administrator Martens presented the written Library Director's written report due to the absence of Library Director Anderson. A copy of the report has been attached and made a part of these Minutes.

City Administrator Martens informed the Council that the circulation at the Blooming Prairie Branch Library is very high compared to other libraries.

Mayor Ressler called on City Administrator Martens for the City Administrator's report. City Administrator Martens has provided the Council with a report recapping his accomplishments in the last month.

Mayor Ressler called on City Attorney Iacovino who recapped last month's City business in his office.

Mayor Ressler called for Council Member's Reports. Council Member Sundine congratulated City Administrator Martens on his Minnesota Certified Municipal Clerk designation.

Council Member Sundine also thanked Finance Director Zwiener for her work as Interim City Administrator.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the Council took the following action:

Motion by:	SUNDINE	Seconded by:	JOHNSON
For:	ALL	Against:	NONE

Motion adjourning the Meeting was duly carried.



Anthony Martens  
City Administrator