

On January 23, 2026, a Special City Council Meeting of the Minot City Council was held in the City Council Chambers, City Hall (10 3rd Ave SW). Mayor Jantzer called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson

Members Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Mark Jantzer led the City Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION ITEMS

CONSIDER THE POUND SERVICES CONTRACT WITH SOURIS VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY (SVAS)

The motion to approve the renegotiated contract with Souris Valley Humane Society (SVAS) and authorize the Mayor to sign was initiated by City Council Member Pitner, seconded by City Council Member Olson and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner; nays: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Scott Samuelson. This motion failed.

The motion to direct staff to bring a new RFP to City Council separating out cats, dogs, and exotic animals, including in the contract financial information and access to veterinary services, was initiated by City Council Member Fuller, seconded by City Council Member Blessum and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.

The motion to move item 4.4 Strategic Plan and City Aspirations Discussions before item 4.3 Discussion on Operating Norms was initiated by City Council Member Blessum, seconded by City Council Member Pitner, and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.

There was a recess from 10:00 - 10:07 am.

MISCELLANEOUS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

2026 BUDGET PROCESS AFTER ACTION REVIEW

The motion to remove the Council President's message from the 2027 budget schedule was initiated by City Council Member Olson, seconded by City Council Member Hayes and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.

City Council directed City staff to provide expectations and rules of order on the first and second reading of the budget ordinance.

The motion to direct staff to have a public hearing at both the first reading (Sept. 14th) and second reading (Sept. 28th); and to designate September 14th as the legal public hearing was initiated by City Council Member Blessum, seconded by City Council Member Fuller and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.

David Lakefield discussed the 2026 budget process. As the Finance Director, he liked the longer-term outlook of 3 years with the expanded detail, along with how the process included evaluating operations.

2027 BUDGET SCHEDULE REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

David Lakefield, Finance Director, also listed some concerns and/or items to improve on for the 2027 budget:

- Additional years of planning over the 3-year lookout could lose quality in the numbers.
- The 3 scenarios were time consuming.
- Elaborate more on the additional line-item details.
- Inflation of budget/budget management/budget amendments.

- Evaluating requests by looking at the larger picture organization wide.
- The Finance Department is going to focus on improving the revenue projections.

The motion to include any candidates who have submitted certified petitions be included in the budget process was initiated by City Council Member Blessum, seconded by City Council Member Pitner and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.

STRATEGIC PLAN AND CITY ASPIRATIONS DISCUSSION

City Manager, Tom Joyce, discussed with the City Council how the 4 aspirations are broad and do not benefit the strategic plan. He mentioned how they might not be value added when considering if they encompass the wildly important ideas. The vision, mission, and values of the organization are used much more frequently. City Council discussed how every election cycle the Council Members should decide on a to-do list for the next two years.

The motion to strike the aspirations from the City of Minot organization was initiated by City Council Member Pitner, seconded by City Council Member Olson and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.

The motion to change the word "pride" in the mission to "care" with the acronym was initiated by City Council Member Blessum, seconded by City Council Member Samuelson and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.

There was a recess from 11:38 am - 11:48 am.

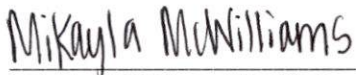
DISCUSSION ON OPERATING NORMS

City Manager, Tom Joyce, briefly discussed operating norms. Discussion was about working together with respect and dignity.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:57 am was initiated by City Council Member Pitner, seconded by City Council Member Blessum and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.

ATTEST:


Mikayla McWilliams, City Clerk

APPROVED:


Mark Jantzer, Mayor