

REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in a budget workshop at 5:30 PM and then regular session following at 6:00 PM on Monday January 26, 2026. Members present: R. Woods, Williams, Erickson, T. Woods, and Gruetzmacher. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Nick Kuker, Public Works; Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk; and Brittany Fuller, City Clerk.

During the budget workshop, the council discussed potential FY2027 budget numbers with some of the other general fund departments including pool, parks, and streets.

Mayor Kayser called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by T. Woods, second by Erickson to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Williams, second by T. Woods to open the public hearing on the rezoning request for the property located at 605 West Main Street Lot 7, 8, 9, and 10 from R-1 to R-2. Motion carried. There were no comments received. Kaleb Bentley was present and explained again the plan to build a two-unit zero entry condo that is planned to be geared towards anyone seeking a retirement home to purchase. Jean Richards was present to express her concern about the water pressure on West Main Street and what adding more connections would do to her pressure in her home and the neighborhood. It was said that the main line should be big enough to handle current and future changes like everywhere else in town. That will have to be looked into as the project moves forward and she was thanked for bringing it forward. Motion by Gruetzmacher, second by Erickson to close the public hearing at 6:05 PM. Motion carried.

Motion by Williams, second by Erickson to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: January 12th Regular Meeting Minutes and setting the 3rd budget workshop for February 9th at 5:30 PM. Motion carried.

There was no one present for the informal public comment section.

Chris West, Fairbank Fire Chief, attended the meeting to again discuss the Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP). Chief West reported that he had received responses from Karla regarding questions he previously raised and stated that the program is generally comparable to a 401(k) plan for fire and ambulance volunteers, with the city retaining ownership until the participant's retirement. Chief West further stated that approximately 46 fire departments have enrolled in the program. Attorney Prendergast advised that participation in the program could have significant implications for the department's status as a volunteer department and emphasized that any approved documentation must clearly state that the program applies to volunteers and not employees. Councilwoman Erickson expressed concern that the process felt rushed but indicated support for the concept as a benefit for volunteer fire department members. Motion by Gruetzmacher, second by R. Woods, to approve moving forward with the plan process, with disclosures added to confirm that the benefit applies to volunteer members and not employees. A resolution will be drafted, and additional information will be discussed at the next meeting. Roll call vote- Ayes: Gruetzmacher, R. Woods, Williams, T. Woods, and Erickson. Nays: none.

The Council again discussed vehicle insurance valuation options related to the ICAP renewal. Following discussion at the previous meeting and further review, the Council indicated an interest to move forward with switching to an actual cash value basis reflecting the current market value of each vehicle. This matter will be discussed with Adam Kerns, the city's insurance representative, and additional discussion will take place at future meetings.

Motion by Gruetzmacher, second by Williams to obtain quotes for the Veteran's Park Shelter now that the specifications and drawings are complete. Roll call vote- Ayes: Gruetzmacher, Williams, Erickson, and T. Woods. Abstain: R. Woods. Nays: None.

The council discussed the continued evaluation of options for the 657A property located at 506 Patterson Street. The possibility of developing a Homes for Iowa home on the property was discussed, and the Council expressed interest in this option. Discussion included whether the city would take on all associated risks or if they'd want to seek a developer to complete the project. No action was taken, as additional research and information are required before proceeding.

The Council revisited discussions regarding the proposed personnel manual flow chart for the city, which had been previously tabled. It was explained that the development and interpretation of a flow chart is subject to interpretation of the city code and how it is applied. The code directs that the Council appoints and therefore oversees many positions. Attorney Prendergast advised that the Council serves as the legislative body and that adoption of an organizational flow chart would be a political decision rather

than a legal one, to be determined by the elected council as to whether adoption is appropriate or necessary as a policy. She further stated that the flow chart could potentially create legal issues related to employment matters or could also help prevent them in certain circumstances. Councilwoman Erickson stated that there have been no issues with current operations. Motion by Gruetzmacher, second by R. Woods, to table the proposed personnel manual flow chart indefinitely unless brought back for future consideration. Motion carried.

An ordinance needed to be read regarding amending the official zoning map after the public hearing had been completed for the rezoning of 605 West Main Street Lot 7, 8, 9, and 10 from R-1 to R-2. Motion by Williams, second by T. Woods to approve the first reading of Ordinance 377 – Ordinance Amending Official Zoning Map. Roll call vote- Ayes: Williams, T. Woods, R. Woods, Erickson, and Gruetzmacher. Nays: None.

Motion by T. Woods, second by R. Woods to waive the second and third readings of Ordinance 377 – Ordinance Amending Official Zoning Map regarding rezoning 605 West Main Street Lot 7, 8, 9, and 10 from R-1 to R-2. Roll call vote- Ayes: T. Woods, Williams, R. Woods, Gruetzmacher, and Erickson. Nays: None.

Motion by Williams, second by Gruetzmacher to adopt Ordinance 377. Roll call vote- Ayes: Williams, Gruetzmacher, T. Woods, Erickson, and R. Woods. Nays: None.

The Council discussed a new lease agreement from LeAnne Siggelkov regarding the flood dike on her property. Attorney Prendergast reported that she had reviewed the proposed lease and updated the Council on the terms of the agreement. Council members stated that continued use of the dike is important due to its role in managing water flow.

Motion by T. Woods, second by Williams, to approve **Resolution 2026-03 - Resolution Authorizing Mayor to Enter into Siggelkov Lease**. Roll call vote- Ayes: T. Woods, Williams, Erickson, R. Woods, and Gruetzmacher. Nays: None.

Motion by Gruetzmacher, second by T. Woods to approve the Davis Lawn Care 2026 Lawn Treatment Program for \$4,731.00. Roll call vote- Ayes: Gruetzmacher, T. Woods, Erickson, Williams, and R. Woods. Nays: None.

There was no one present for the quail discussion.

Motion by Williams, second by T. Woods to approve the city committee appointments. Motion carried.

During the council/mayor comments, Councilman Gruetzmacher wanted to inquire about if someone could be hired to rake the ball diamonds this summer. Age and driving the lawn mower are things to consider and that will be researched. Councilman Williams wanted to state that the new broom on the skid loader does a great job with the sidewalks and expressed compliments to the city guys on their snow removal especially compared to all other towns that he has been through. Mayor Kayser stated that he was drafting up a simple form for the employees to fill out to help with conversations during the budget season regarding raises. He wants to meet with each employee one on one and review the forms in hopes of helping wage conversations during budget season smoother.

During the department reports, Chris West said that they had three new members join in January and they will be coming to council for approval after their six-month probation period. Nick reported that he and Lonnie got their pool certifications renewed and that Ken was going the next day. He also said that Nick Vandegriff from IAMU visited to help review different gas operations. Lakeside Drive was also scheduled to be scoped that Thursday and that they were able to get some offices cleaned up at City Hall. Chief Robinson said that he had nothing major to report and said that he had just sent out his monthly report for December.

Motion by Williams, second by T. Woods to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 PM. Motion carried.

Jason Kayser, Mayor

Brittany Fuller, City Clerk

Olivia Becker	\$ 1,907.29	Nicholas Kuker	\$ 86,605.17
Chancellor Beierschmitt	\$ 40.00	Michelle Laube	\$ 47,090.42
Kylie Belinsky	\$ 1,076.68	Abby Mann	\$ 228.60
Angela Berg	\$ 21,463.00	Jaylin May	\$ 12.10
Lonnie Brewer	\$ 65,419.66	Ella Morarend	\$ 2,270.64
Brian Delagardelle	\$ 16,565.81	Aidan Oldfather	\$ 4,112.36
Tristan Dilley	\$ 4,792.34	Norah Oldfather	\$ 1,832.76
Dakota Drish	\$ 11,516.29	Olivia Oldfather	\$ 5,648.80
Tamara Erickson	\$ 1,150.00	Hunter Robinson	\$ 13,788.48
Dayton Etringer	\$ 204.44	Carver Schares	\$ 743.34
Izabella Farley	\$ 1,940.40	Weston Schares	\$ 2,826.98
Kinzley Farley	\$ 142.74	Caleb Schneider	\$ 2,550.24
Mitchell Franck	\$ 13,700.84	Taylor Schneider	\$ 2,097.26
Brandon French	\$ 4,724.20	Kenneth Schnor	\$ 47,248.88
Susan Frost	\$ 4,337.25	Gracie Sebetka	\$ 2,003.10
Brittany Fuller	\$ 63,890.52	Therese Steggall	\$ 411.50
Jayden Griese	\$ 115.08	Alyssa Stuber	\$ 351.91
Michael Gruetzmacher	\$ 1,100.00	Elly Stuber	\$ 1,919.61
Mark Gudenkauf	\$ 38,810.16	Haley Stuber	\$ 3,236.76
Erin Hill	\$ 6,498.75	Lydia Stuber	\$ 2,758.73
Andrew Isley	\$ 1,809.98	Kalle Voy	\$ 1,283.26
Maren Jones	\$ 3,061.80	Andrew Williams	\$ 1,200.00
Kennedy Kane	\$ 2,455.32	David Wilson	\$ 1,884.00
Jason Kayser	\$ 3,600.00	Ronald Woods	\$ 1,100.00
Chloe Kleinheksel	\$ 4,255.95	Tyler Woods	\$ 1,100.00
Cody Kleitsch	\$ 40.00		