

REGULAR MEETING

The Fairbank City Council met in regular session on Monday December 8, 2025. Mayor Kayser called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present: R. Woods, Williams, Erickson, T. Woods, and Gruetzmacher. Absent: None. Also, present at City Hall: Hunter Robinson, Police Chief; Nick Kuker, Public Works Director; Michelle Laube, Deputy Clerk and Brittany Fuller, City Clerk.

Motion by Erickson, second by Gruetzmacher to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Gruetzmacher, second by Erickson to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: November 24th Regular City Council Minutes, Treasurer's Report for November 2025, Approval of Liquor License for the Fairbank American Legion, Setting the 1st Budget Workshop for January 12th at 5:00 PM, and the payment of bills. The bill listing will be placed at the end of the minutes. Roll call vote- Ayes: Gruetzmacher, Erickson, T. Woods, R. Woods, and Williams. Nays: None.

The Treasurers Report for the Month of November 2025: Revenues - General, \$15,391.54; Special Revenue, \$17,160.36; TIF, \$3,209.89; Capital Projects, \$31.01; Permanent Funds, \$16.36; Proprietary, \$156,730.87; and Transfers In, \$28,055.00. Disbursements - General, \$34,529.51; Special Revenue, \$13,294.17; Proprietary, \$159,969.35; Capital Projects, \$13,878.46; Debt Service, \$10,188.89; and Transfers Out, \$28,055.00. Balance on hand at close of business on November 30, 2025 was \$4,548,704.39.

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

There was no public attendance for the discussion regarding a possible electric rate increase. After the previous meeting and discussions concerning the rate increase being passed on by Butler County, the council considered whether to implement a similar increase. The council stated that the increase was beyond their control. No additional comments were received in writing or by telephone.

Motion by Gruetzmacher, second by Erickson to approve **Resolution 2025-36 – Resolution Establishing New Energy Cost Adjustment (ECA) Rate Increase**. The energy cost adjustment was set at \$0.00881 per kWh and will begin with the electric usage on January 1, 2026. Roll call vote- Ayes: Gruetzmacher, Erickson, Williams, R. Woods, and T. Woods. Nays: None.

After the last meeting, attorney Prendergast researched some information regarding the resolution approving a second amended and restated agreement establishing the Iowa Public Power Agency. She explained in an email that the Iowa Public Power Agency (IPPA) was established to jointly finance electrical transmission projects and that the City of Fairbank is an original member with a current ownership interest of approximately 1.21%. Passing the amended agreement is necessary to maintain the City's investment and future revenue, with anticipated returns beginning after project debt is retired in 2030. Motion by R. Woods, second by T. Woods to approve **Resolution 2025-35 – Resolution Approving Second Amended and Restated Agreement to Establish the Iowa Public Power Agency**. Roll call vote- Ayes: R. Woods, T. Woods, Gruetzmacher, Erickson, and Williams. Nays: None.

The council was still working on getting information for the future shelter at Veteran's Park so there were no further discussions or decisions.

There was no new information regarding any possible uses for the 657A property at 506 Patterson Street. Councilman Gruetzmacher stated that he would like to see it be used as an opportunity for an LMI (Low-to-Moderate Income) project.

Motion by R. Woods, second by Williams to approve the final draft of the personnel policy suggestions and to table creating an organization flow chart until more information can be researched. Roll call vote- Ayes: R. Woods, Williams, Erickson, T. Woods, Gruetzmacher. Nays: None.

Amy Rechkemmer with VanDaele Insurance, LLC was present to talk to the council about employee health insurance that will be renewing February 1, 2026. The renewal for the current plan option with Wellmark showed an increase of 10.75%. There was an increase in the out-of-pocket max for both single and family plans. Amy explained that the quotes from United Healthcare were even higher. Motion by T. Woods, second by Erickson to have Amy request a quote from Health Partners and to table any decisions until the next meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Gruetzmacher, second by Erickson to approve **Resolution 2025 – 37- Resolution Setting One-Time Bonus for the City of Fairbank Full-Time Employees and all Current Part-time Police Officers**. The five full-time employees will receive a \$500.00 bonus paid on January 2nd and the seven part-time officers will each receive a \$100.00 bonus also paid on January 2nd. Roll call vote- Ayes: Gruetzmacher, Erickson, T. Woods, and R. Woods. Nays: None. Abstain: Williams.

Motion by Gruetzmacher, second by T. Woods to approve not having a second meeting in December due to the Holidays. That would change if something came up where a meeting is needed. Motion carried.

Motion by Williams, second by Gruetzmacher to approve the following appointments: Heather Prendergast, City Attorney and Brittany Fuller, City Clerk. Roll call vote- Ayes: Williams, Gruetzmacher, R. Woods, Erickson, and T. Woods. Nays: None.

During the council/mayor comments, Councilman T. Woods said that he had a concerned citizen approach him regarding kids riding scooters in town. Councilwoman Erickson reminded everyone about the lighted parade happening on Wednesday the 10th. They thanked the public works department for their snow removal processes, especially given the amount that we got and all the mechanical issues they had run into. Mayor Kayser stated that he will be meeting with school administrators quarterly to discuss possible collaborations or to just keep informed. He will bring anything to the council that needs their attention.

During the department reports, Nick talked about some sewer main issues that they were dealing with that past couple of weeks, and they also had some water main issues that also turned into a leaking hydrant issue. He suggested starting a process to replace a couple of hydrants a year to help prevent running into any issues. Ken passed and received his water distribution certificate. Hunter stated the department has been focused on traffic enforcement and wanted to take the time to recognize one of the city's part-time officers, Mark Gudenkauf. Mark was able to save a life by pulling an individual out of a burning building while on a shift at his full-time job. He also said that Andrew Isley was wanting to attend Sex Crimes Training and the council agreed that it was a good idea. Chris West, Fire Chief, was present but didn't have any updates regarding the department but did state that he was going to investigate how the EMS Levy money would be distributed to the cities from the county. Mayor Kayser said that he was going to be retiring from the Fire Department later that month after 33 years of volunteer service.

Motion by Williams, second by Gruetzmacher to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 PM. Motion carried.

Mayor Kayser administered the Oaths of Office to Councilman T. Woods, Councilman Gruetzmacher, Councilwoman Erickson, and the City Clerk Brittany Fuller.

Bills for the Month of December 2025

Amazon Capital Services, Supplies	\$ 76.73
Auditor of the State, Rob Sand, FY25 Exam Filing Fee	\$ 250.00
B & K Automotive, Services	\$ 30.00
Olivia Becker, Services	\$ 60.00
Bound Tree Medical, LLC., Ambulance Supplies	\$ 436.99
Sara Brandt & Jared Meeker, Utility Deposit Refund	\$ 200.00
Lonnie Brewer, Cell Phone Reimbursement	\$ 75.00
Buchanan County, City Election 11/4/25	\$ 931.75
Buchanan County, Dispatch Fees	\$ 7,831.00
Butler County Rec, Electric	\$ 49,804.73
Casey's General Store, Gas	\$ 556.41
Clayton Energy Corporation, Natural Gas	\$ 3,917.66
Clayton Energy Corporation, Reservation	\$ 13,267.83
Community Bank of Oelwein, Interest	\$ 989.38
Danko Emergency Equipment, Equipment	\$ 1,125.00
Delta Dental of Iowa, December Premium	\$ 21.96
Fairbank American Legion, Flags	\$ 270.00
Fairbank Community Club, FY26 Member Dues	\$ 30.00
Fairbank Firemen's Fund, Training Reimbursement	\$ 534.17
Fairbank Postmaster, Utility Bills November 2025	\$ 417.80
Fairbank Postmaster, Utility Bills December 2025	\$ 207.40
City of Fairbank, Electric & Gas	\$ 4,323.76
City of Fairbank, Utility Deposit Applied	\$ 200.00
Fayette County Auditor, City Election 2025	\$ 506.34
Brittany Fuller, Cell Phone Reimbursement	\$ 75.00
Gordon Flesch Company Inc, Copier/Printer Fees	\$ 114.14
Groebner & Associates, Supplies	\$ 581.88
IA Dept Of Natural Resources, Certification	\$ 80.00
IAMU, Training	\$ 70.00
Iowa Finance Authority, Interest	\$ 13,529.75
Iowa Law Enforcement Academy, Training	\$ 25.00
Iowa One Call, Locates	\$ 21.60
Iowa Prison Industries, Clothing Allowance	\$ 393.00

Iowa Regional Utilities Assoc., Water	\$ 8,316.14
Iowa Utilities Commission, Fees	\$ 1,589.55
Ipers, Benefits	\$ 5,954.12
JQ Construction LLC, Services	\$ 9,430.00
Marty & Robyn Kane, Utility Deposit Refund	\$ 200.00
Keith Oltrogge, CPA, FY25 Annual Exam	\$ 3,700.00
Kirkwood Community College, Training	\$ 72.00
Kluesner Sanitation, LLC., December Pick-up Fees	\$ 7,777.00
Nick Kuker, Cell Phone Reimbursement	\$ 75.00
Michelle Laube, Cell Phone Reimbursement	\$ 75.00
Little Wapsie Communications, Static IP Addresses/SW Phone	\$ 64.06
Janice Martins, Supplies Reimbursement	\$ 652.00
Microbac Laboratories, Inc., Testing	\$ 455.25
Modern Building Products, Supplies	\$ 935.48
NE Security Bank, Payroll Processing Fee 11/3/25	\$ 10.00
NE Security Bank, Payroll Processing Fee 11/17/25	\$ 8.76
NE Security Bank, Utility ACH Service Charge	\$ 10.00
NSB/HSA - H S A Contributions	\$ 520.00
NSB/HSA- H S A Payroll Deductions	\$ 200.00
Oelwein Publishing, Publishings	\$ 266.70
Premier Technology, Services	\$ 187.90
Quick Med Claims, Ambulance Billing	\$ 335.84
Steve & Michelle Ritter, Easement Fee	\$ 50.00
Roberts, Stevens, Prendergast, Attorney Fees	\$ 637.50
Hunter Robinson, Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 36.40
Ken Schnor, Cell Phone Reimbursement	\$ 75.00
Evan Sebetka, Utility Deposit Refund	\$ 200.00
Speer Financial, Inc., 2025 TIF Report	\$ 375.00
Heather Steinbronn, Utility Deposit Refund	\$ 200.00
Stokes Welding, Services	\$ 93.14
Storey Kenworthy/Matt Parrott, Supplies	\$ 91.68
Stuart. C. Irby Co., Supplies	\$ 488.37
Sun Life Assurance Comp, Life Policies	\$ 89.96
Superior Welding Supply Co., Supplies	\$ 96.70
Team Laboratory Chemical Corp., Supplies	\$ 646.50
Treasurer-State of Iowa, Nov 25 Sales Tax	\$ 2,042.46
Treasurer State of Iowa, Nov 25 WT Excise Tax	\$ 2,285.50
U. S. Treasury, 941 Taxes	\$ 7,460.62
U.S. Bank, PEFA Commodity	\$ 3,909.10
UMB Bank & Trust N.A., Interest	\$ 9,888.89
UMB Bank & Trust N.A., Acceptance Fee	\$ 300.00
Verizon Wireless, Cell Phones	\$ 170.37
Visa, Microsoft Emails/Avaya Phone System/Classes	\$ 1,162.78
Wellmark, December Premium	\$ 3,025.28
Wilnat, Inc., Equipment	\$ 2,506.60
Windstream Enterprise, Gas Alarm Phone Line	\$ 68.84
The Fairbank Library Board Approved the Following Bills on December 3, 2025:	
Amazon Capital Services, Books & Supplies	\$ 899.97
Brock Berg, Services	\$ 200.00
City of Fairbank, Electric & Gas	\$ 138.46
Gordon Flesch Company Inc, Copier/Printer Fees	\$ 108.79
Kanopy, Inc., Supplies	\$ 2.00
Sam's Club Mc/Syncb, Equipment	\$ 572.99
NE Security Bank, Payroll Processing Fee 11/17/25	\$ 1.24
Storey Kenworthy/Matt Parrott, Supplies	\$ 25.87
Visa, AVAYA Phone System/Microsoft Email Accounts	\$ 52.79

Jason Kayser, Mayor

Brittany Fuller, City Clerk