

GRAND MEADOW COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA  
JANUARY 13, 2026 @ 6:00 PM  
GRAND MEADOW CITY HALL

Present: Mayor Tim Fenton, Councilor Blayne Stejskal, Councilor Thomas Oehlke, Councilor Caden Fruth, City Administrator James Christian, GMAAS Director Lori Brogan, GMFD Chief Joe Gehling  
Also Present: Sherry Thorson, Gretchen Lovejoy Mensink, Linda Kreutzman  
Absent: Councilor Isaac Tangen

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Fenton called the meeting to order at 6 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CONSENT AGENDA: Stejskal motioned to approve the Consent agenda, Fruth 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously.

- A. Approve additions & corrections to agenda
- B. Approve minutes - December regular meeting
- C. Approve General Fund bills \$229,966.47
- D. Approve posting place for notice of meetings – City Hall
- E. Approve designated services
  - i. Bank – First Farmers and Merchants
  - ii. Investment Services – 4M Fund – PTMA Financial
  - iii. Newspaper – Mower County Independent
  - iv. Legal Services – Hoversten Law
  - v. Auditing Services – Smith and Schafer
  - vi. Engineering Services – Bolton and Menk

3. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: Fruth motioned to approve the Committee Assignments, Oehlke 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously.

- A. Mayor Pro Tem [B. Stejskal]
- B. Library [C. Fruth]
- C. Fire [B. Stejskal]
- D. Ambulance [B. Stejskal]
- E. Police [I. Tangen]
- F. Public Works [T. Oehlke]
- G. EDA (x2) [T. Fenton, I. Tangen]
- H. Planning and Zoning [T. Oehlke]
- I. Parks [C. Fruth]

4. OPEN FORUM – Linda Kreutzman asked where she could find the agendas on the City website; Christian directed her to the tab under “Government/Departments,” where the agendas and approved minutes are available.

5. 2026 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY FIREWORKS / USA 250<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION: Al Stier was on hand to discuss the 2026 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks display. Stier has obtained his license from the state and is in the process of planning the display. Fireworks will be shot off between the ball diamonds on the south end of town. Discussion was held regarding financing the display (in prior years, the City would donate \$1k, the fire dept \$1k, and the Lions Club \$1500). No decision was made regarding a donation for 2026. Christian mentioned that since it is the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of the United States in 2026, some sort of celebration beyond the fireworks should be held. Discussion revolved around Meadowfest activities the weekend beforehand, and some options for locations. Christian stated he would investigate putting a committee together with community members.

6. REPORTS

- A. Library – Fruth motioned to approve the appointment of Morgan Rask to the Library Board, Oehlke 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Ambulance – Report Provided. Discussion was held regarding billing and schedule of reimbursement to the City.

C. Maintenance – Report Provided. Discussion was held regarding the sanitary sewer pipe issue on 3<sup>rd</sup> Lane; Christian reported that staff was looking into excavating and repairing rather than lining it.

D. Police – Report Provided. Christian asked for a motion to approve posting the Police Chief job in preparation for Jim Richardson’s retirement in spring of 2026. Stejskal motioned to approve posting the position, Oehlke 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously.

E. Fire – Report Provided. Gehling noted that call volume for 2025 was up approximately 50% over 2024, mostly due to lift assists at the assisted care facility.

F. Clerk – Christian noted that the clerk had been busy closing out the year in preparation for the audit. Discussion was held on bulk water billing timing; no decision was made.

G. City Administrator- Report provided. Christian asked for a motion to approve the Community Center Accessibility Project, hiring Kramer Contracting to do the remodeling for a total of \$17,237, of which \$9590.90 would be covered by a grant from the MN Secretary of State’s Office. Fruth motioned to approve the contract, Oehlke 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS

A. None.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

A. 216 5<sup>th</sup> St NE – Utility Bill Adjustment: Christian explained that the resident at 216 5<sup>th</sup> St NE had an outdoor leak at the hose bib and requested that the sewer portion of the bill be averaged, as the excess water did not enter the sanitary sewer. Oehlke motioned to approve the adjustment, Stejskal 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Resolution 2026-001 – Resolution Accepting Donation: Fruth motioned to approve a donation of \$500 from Catholic Financial to the library, Oehlke 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously.

9. ADJOURN: Fruth motioned to adjourn the meeting, Oehlke 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.