

Councilmember Williams spoke to the city's paying the full amount, as it reduces pay to the employees. Attorney Sandstrom explains that the city paying fully will then have the amount paid for leave to be a taxable benefit to the employee. Attorney Sandstrom directed to re-draft policy and bring back in March for approval.

2026 ANNUAL FEE SCHEDULE (updated)

Councilmember Williams explains the fee for Fire Department inspection is \$50 for the Ice Arena and Cell Tower and City Hall is exempt.

PARK GATE KEY COST - PRESENTED AND REVIEW BY ANGI OF APM. She provided that review of the gate and lock that APM could provide a latch versus the chain system in use now. Council preferred just the chain be used. Several quotes were provided based on the number of keys and new paddle lock. Council determined that 20 keys that cannot be duplicated would be acceptable along with a weather resistant paddle lock. APM will fill the order in the next few weeks.

STAFF REPORTS

City Engineer SEH, Inc., John Parotti presented WA CO striping is typically done every other year, however it was done both in 2024 and 2025. He estimates the cost of \$61 and he asks for direction. He recommends for the cost to just do it. Council concurred.

ROW Permit for CenterPoint gas main replacement project near River Road and Redwing due to corrosion. This is different because this permit will need DNR review however if they do the work under pavement then there is no DNR review. Engineer Parotti notes pavement work requires repairs for any damage to pavement and warrant for a year. He wants Council to know as this will be done in a different manner.

Councilmember Williams asked about line to house replacement. Yes, per City engineer and explained the process of boring for spot locations. CenterPoint assured Engineer Parotti that residents will know of any driveway issues.

Councilmember Pierson feels boulevard work is best with no flora and fauna and need DNR permit. Mayor Roettger is ok with roadway work, therefore will have pavement disturbance.

City Engineer communicate with Centerpoint to issue the ROW Permit.

He noted that the River Level is 675.7

He also noted he is very conservative in communications regarding OML concerns.

Councilmember Freesmeier asked if it is dryer than typical, and he responded yet and noted the frost depth dropped 1/13/26 at 30 inches, to 1/31/26 to 60 inches of frost in paved surfaces. Yards have snow cover and likely shallower.

Councilmember Williams asked about gravel on 24th Street. Parotti does not believe it was done by former contractor. The current contractor felt better plowing would help alleviate problems.

Building inspector, Stensland Inspection

3 permits current permits for the month as presented by the mayor.

CITY ATTORNEY - Nothing further

CITY CLERK-CINDIE J. REITER

- CenturyLink – Request for actual check expect to be received by mid-December-not yet received at end of January. Called again.
- Possible tear-down/rebuild-on hold for updated septic info.
- Elections for 2026 – Primary Tuesday August 11 and Tuesday November 3rd.
- Approximately \$9,500 invoices for zoning and/or other projects for contracted services were billed in December for 2025 project with 2 payments received for reimbursement
- Key & Lock options provided – previously addressed in the meeting by APM Locksmith
- STS – paint interior of city hall scheduled to begin March 12. Clerk requested what type of paint and preference of color. It was noted that satin would be best and some color similar to alabaster.

Standing Committee – updates

Fire District –Williams provided that there was \$175K electrical damage Insurance claim. Much has been repaired but they are still working on it.

Cable Commission: nothing

Planning: nothing

WMO- Grahek WMO payments made

VALLEY BRANCH: Pierson, nothing

REPORTS:

Councilmember Williams spoke about Flock Company lawsuits. He also talked about the need of tree canopy. He does not see a need due to wires coming down on trees.

He noted there was a 4 wheeler that went through the ice on the river but they got it out.

Councilmember Williams noted he called out for the sanding truck, as hockey tournament was scheduled.

He inquired about computer tablets loaned to Councilmember Beth, it was noted by the mayor that both are broken.

Clerk noted she asked how to get rid of them at a prior meeting. Williams suggested looking into state consortium pricing

Inquiry on Spring Clean Up (re: Recycle Grant) Councilmember Freesmeier not yes and he will check with the hauler.

Meeting adjourned at 8:53


Jay Roettger, Mayor

Attested to by:


Cindie J. Reiter, City Clerk

