



**Public Hearing and Regular City Council Meeting  
February 10, 2026, at 6:00 pm  
Sturgeon Lake City Hall**

The following council members were present at the hall: Mayor Scott Helfman, Councilmember Todd Booker, Councilmember Nick Dagle, Councilmember Ken Grey, and Councilmember Mark Noyes

The following council members were absent:

The following city employees were present at the hall: City Clerk/Treasurer Sandra Osterdyk and Fire Chief Al Cekalla

The following city staff members were absent: none

Members of the public who were present: Vern Anderson, Renee Dagle, Tony Bakhtiari, Joseph Pelawa, and Scott Williams

**Call to order:** Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, Mayor Helfman called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Hearing for Ordinance #100: Adopting Subdivision Regulations**

**Special Guests and Visitor Comments**

Vern Anderson brought up that the 10-day posting rule was not followed, as published in the North Pine County News on February 5, 2026, which only gave five days for posting. Also, no draft ordinance was shared before the meeting. He asked that the meeting be rescheduled.

Scott Williams stated that this is an extreme ordinance, including the 1,000 feet of water and sewer connections, accessibility fees, shut-off mains, and stubs not connected.

The council discussed the moratorium extension, which ends on February 18, 2026, and decided to reschedule the Public Hearing for Wednesday, March 4, 2026, to allow for proper posting in the North Pine County News. The City Clerk/Treasurer will submit this to the newspaper for publication and post it at the local bank, the post office, and the front of City Hall.

Councilmember N. Dagle motioned to reschedule the Public Hearing meeting, seconded by Councilmember M. Noyes. The motion was carried out by roll call, with five members voting in favor and one voting against, K. Grey.

**Adjournment**

Councilmember N. Dagle motioned to adjourn the Public Hearing meeting, seconded by Councilmember T. Booker. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:16 pm.

**Call to order:** Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, Mayor Helfman called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 6:16 p.m.

**Fire Department Report**

**Fire Department Report:** Fire Chief Cekalla shared that the department SOP and By-Laws are being updated. In the past month, they responded to 4 fire calls and 4 first-responder calls. He completed the six-month financial review, and everything looked okay.

The energy audit is currently under review, and they hope to have it finalized before the next meeting.

Mayor Helfman informed the council that Rasmussen Cleaning has withdrawn snow removal quotes.

### Approval of Minutes

The minutes for December 16, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting, January 21, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting, and January 28, 2026, City Council Special Meeting were submitted for approval.

Councilmember K. Grey motioned to approve the minutes for December 16, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting, January 21, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting, and January 28, 2026, City Council Special Meeting minutes, seconded by Councilmember N. Dagele. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

### Financial Report

**Claims Paid:** The Clerk/Treasurer presented the claims paid to the council. Any questions the council had about the Claims Paid were answered satisfactorily by the Clerk/Treasurer.

Councilmember N. Dagele made a motion to approve the Claims Paid, seconded by Councilmember T. Booker. The motion was carried with all members present voting in favor.

**Unpaid Claims:** The Clerk/Treasurer presented the Unpaid Claims to the council. Any questions the council had about the Unpaid Claims were answered satisfactorily by the Clerk/Treasurer.

Councilmember N. Dagele made a motion to approve the Unpaid Claims, seconded by Councilmember T. Booker. The motion was carried with all members present voting in favor.

**Financial Report/Review:** The Clerk/Treasurer presented the Financial Report/Review. Any questions the council had were answered satisfactorily by the Clerk/Treasurer.

Councilmember N. Dagele made a motion to approve the Financial Report/Review, seconded by Councilmember T. Booker. The motion was carried with all members present voting in favor.

### Reports of Departments

**Park Committee:** The holiday lights have been taken down. Lightbulbs will be replaced as they wear out. The City Clerk/Treasurer mentioned that the Lions Club's donation for the disability swing covers the majority of the cost, but there is a shortage of about \$300.00. The council discussed and agreed to cover the additional cost from the park budget.

**Public Works:** Pine County was out looking to open storm drains in the city.

**Roads:** Everything looks good.

**Solid Waste:** Nothing new at this time.

**Storage Facility:** The customer who had the unit but never used it chose to walk away rather than pay the fee to bring their account current.

**Water/Sewer Operator:** Cleaning the exterior of the water tower is scheduled for 2026. Look to add more gravel around town in the spring.

**Zoning:** One new building permit was submitted to construct a pole building on Deer Drive. Have asked for clarification as they get closer to starting construction on the east side.

**City Clerk/Treasurer:** Pine County Animal Welfare Society (PCAWS) has asked whether the city will donate the use of the city hall for two pet clinic dates. The council discussed presenting this to the Lions Club for consideration of whether they will donate the hall rental fee. The City Clerk/Treasurer will get the necessary paperwork submitted on behalf of PCAWS for the next Lions Club meeting. All month-end, quarter-end, and year-end reports have been completed on

time. There are a few still left that are due in February and March and will be completed, and then the focus will shift to starting audit preparation. Pine County reached out before the meeting to see whether the city would be interested in purchasing 9002 Royal Avenue when it is available for auction later this year. The council discussed this and agreed not to pursue the purchase of the property but to ask Pine County to notify interested purchasers of the blight issues and state requirements to connect the conditions, with penalties for non-compliance.

Councilmember N. Dagele made a motion for the city not to pursue the purchase of 9002 Royal Avenue, but to ask Pine County to notify interested purchasers of the blight issues and state requirements to connect the conditions, seconded by Councilmember M. Noyes. The motion was carried out by roll call, with five members voting in favor and one voting against, N. Dagele.

**Mayor:** Already discussed.

### New Business

2025/2026 Voting Operations, Technology & Election Resources Account Funds.  
The council discussed the \$74.86 allocated to the City of Sturgeon Lake from state funds for the election voter account and decided to defer it back to Pine County.

Councilmember N. Dagele made a motion to defer the 2025/2026 Voting Operations, Technology & Election Resources Account Funds to Pine County, seconded by Councilmember T. Booker. The motion was carried by roll-call vote, with all members present voting in favor.

### Old Business

The issue of people going onto city property near the lot lines to property owners at Cathedral Pines continues. The city parcels are open to the public to use. Councilmember N. Dagele reached out to the DNR to check if they would be interested in the property. The DNR could implement stricter enforcement.

Councilmember K. Grey made a motion to table the discussion with the DNR for infinity, seconded by Councilmember M. Noyes. The motion was carried out by roll-call vote, with five members in favor and one member present voting against, N. Dagele.

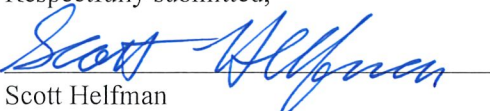
### Announcements


City Hall closure on Monday, February 16, 2026, in observance of Presidents' Day.  
City Council Public Hearing on Subdivisions will be on Wednesday, March 4, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.  
The next Regular City Council Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

### Adjournment

Councilmember K. Grey made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilmember N. Dagele. The motion carried, with all members present voting in favor. The meeting adjourns at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Scott Helfman  
Sturgeon Lake Mayor

  
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Sandra Osterdyk  
Sturgeon Lake City Clerk/Treasurer