

MINUTES



Common Council Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 5:30PM

City Hall, 410 E Leffler Street, Dodgeville, WI

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Mayor Barry Hottmann. Members present: Shaun Sersch, Roxanne Reynolds-Lair, Tom DeVoss, Jeff "Potsie" Weber, Mike Olson, Jerry Johnson, Julie Johnson-Solberg, Larry Tremelling.

Others Present: Jenna Vondra (Chamber Director), Carrie Portz (Library Director), Brandon Wilhelm (Police Chief), Dylan Wadzinski (DPW), Brian Cushman (EMS Chief), Evan Chambers (Town & Country Engineering), Steve DeMuth (City of Dodgeville Resident)

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes from December 16, 2025.
2. Approval of Claims from January 6, 2026.

Motion by DeVoss, Second by Johnson to approve consent agenda from January 6, 2026. Voice Vote 8-0. Motion Carried.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT *Citizen or delegation presentations, requests or comments and discussion of same, pursuant to Wis. Stat. Sec. 19.83 (2) and Sec. 19.84 (2). Ten minute limit except by consent of council. No action will be taken on any item that is not specifically listed on the agenda.*

During public comment, Dodgeville resident Steve DeMuth presented several concerns to the council including the city's website and how it was somewhat difficult to navigate and find specific things on the city's website such as meeting minutes, boards/commission member information, etc. DeMuth stated that he had spoken with library director Carrie Portz, and that there is potential trainings to be held in 2026 for community members on how to navigate the city's website. Also during public comment, DeMuth spoke about the numerous change orders that were approved by council for the Dodgeville Admin building, and why there were so many. DeMuth also brought up his concerns about the self-storage agenda item from the 12/16/25 council meeting. Lastly, DeMuth inquired about the truck stop property in Dodgeville. Mayor Hottmann stated that developer agreements have not been finalized for this property and that nothing is confirmed for this property, however, there will be a discussion of this at the next council meeting on January 20th, where a closed session will be held.

Also during public comment, council member Reynolds-Lair brought up the issue of snow plowing downtown. Reynolds-Lair mentioned that she had had a handful of concerns expressed to her by residents about sidewalks downtown not being shoveled, driveways not being shoveled, etc. Mayor Hottmann noted that this was an agenda item for the January 6th council meeting, but also noted that Street

Foreman Donald Reddell has added more salt to the downtown area to help with these issues/concerns.

V. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

3. Police Report

During the police report, Chief Wilhelm noted that there were 290 calls for service for the month of December. Wilhelm noted that in comparing 2025 to previous years, there was a 22% increase in calls for 2025 compared to 2024. Wilhelm stated that more defined numbers for the 2025 year will be shared at a future council meeting, once year-end totals are compiled. Also during the police report, Wilhelm noted that there are a few meetings scheduled for the month of January, including Ordinance Committee and Emergency Government. Lastly, Wilhelm noted that January 9th was the application deadline for full time officers, and that there had been double the amount of applications submitted from the prior application deadline. Finally, Wilhelm noted that both new squad cars purchased for the Dodgeville Police Department were up and running.

4. Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Report

During the Deputy Clerk/Treasurer report, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Wolfe noted that 2025 tax payments were still being collected. Wolfe also noted that pet licensing for 2026 were due March 31st and that communication would be sent out to pet owners sometime in January, since there was no insert sent out with tax bills due to short time turnaround from when tax bills were received to when they had to be mailed to property owners. Wolfe also noted that she would begin preparing for year end and upcoming audit. Lastly, Wolfe noted that Christmas tree pick up would be held on Friday, January 9th and Friday, January 23rd, weather dependent. Finally, Wolfe noted that as of the December closeout of taxes, 34% of city taxes had been collected.

5. Mayor Report

During the Mayor report, Mayor Hottmann informed council and others present that a new bank was coming to Dodgeville, and would be located next to O'Reilly auto parts. Mayor Hottmann noted that the architect presented this at the last Design Review meeting. Estimated completion of this will be June/July 2026.

6. Chamber Update

During the Chamber update, Chamber Director Jenna Vondra informed council members of current projects that chamber is working on including their relocation guide, which is currently at the printers, as well as their tourism guide. Vondra noted that the Chamber Investor reception is planned for early 2026 at Hi-Point Steakhouse. Vondra also mentioned upcoming events including WI Grilled Cheese Championship, Ladies in Leadership, Great Outdoors Campaign, design of a billboard in Galena, IL, which will highlight events such as the WI Grilled Cheese and other events. Vondra also noted that the Hidden Valley magazine 2026 issue will be highlighting Iowa County. Lastly, Vondra stated that she will be attending a Governors Conference in Milwaukee, at which she has been nominated for an award.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

VII. NEW BUSINESS

7. Discussion and possible action to approve appointment of Audrey Qualley to Historic Preservation Commission to fill current vacancy.

Motion by Weber, second by Reynolds-Lair to approve appointment of Audrey Qualley to Historic Preservation Commission. Voice Vote 8-0. Motion carried.

8. Discussion and possible action on how change orders will be handled with the library moving forward.

Motion by Devoss, second by Olson to allow library building committee to approve change orders up to \$30,000, and for anything over \$30,000 to be approved by council. Roll call vote 8-0. Motion carried.

9. Discussion and possible action to approve repairs by JF Ahern for the Dodgeville Administration building.

Motion by Sersch, second by Weber to approve repairs by JF Ahern for the Dodgeville Administration building. Roll Call vote 7-1 (Olson voted No). Motion carried.

10. Discussion and possible action on a proposal from RES for water quality trading relating to phosphorus compliance requirements by the DNR.

Motion by Olson, second by Reynolds-Lair to move discussion of proposal from RES for water quality trading relating to phosphorus compliance requirements by the DNR to be discussed at Public Works committee and allow questions to be asked. Roll call vote 8-0. Motion carried.

11. Discussion and possible action to approve a contract with Language Line Services Inc., for EMS

Motion by Sersch, second by Weber to approve contract with Language Line Services Inc for EMS pending changes approved by Eric (City Attorney) in final contract. Roll call vote 8-0. Motion carried.

12. Discussion and possible action to approve new printer contracts with Gordon Flesch.

Motion by Johnson-Solberg, second by Olson to approve new printer contract with Gordon Flesch, barring that once lease is complete, a review of whether two printers are needed will be done. Roll call vote 8-0. Motion carried.

13. Discussion and possible action to begin the discussion of an arrangement with the school district for snow removal assistance with downtown cleanup.

During this discussion, several items were brought up about this possible arrangement including the potential for utilizing kids from Dodgeville Schools to help with snow removal, what type of insurance would be needed, who will manage this, times of snow removal, etc. This was a discussion only topic. No motions were made.

14. Discussion and possible action to approve F550 plow truck purchase and accessories which was part of the borrowing package for 2025.

Motion by Sersch, second by Johnson to approve F550 plow truck purchase and accessories, using remaining funds to cover this expense from budgeted cemetery road paving dollars. Roll call vote 8-0. Motion carried.

15. Discussion and possible action to approve Resolution No. 2026-01 to approve the submission of an application for an Idle Sites Grant from Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation.

Motion by Sersch, second by Weber to approve Resolution No. 2026-01 for Idle Sites Grant as amended by Eric (City Attorney). Roll call vote 8-0. Motion carried.

VIII. ADJOURN

16. Motion to Adjourn

Motion by Weber, second by Johnson to adjourn

Time: 7:17pm