

March 10, 2026

A meeting of the Common Council of the City of Eagle River was called to order at 6:00PM by Mayor Deb Brown.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Tyler Salvinski and was recited by all present.

Roll Call: Kim Schaffer, Dan Dumas, and Jerry Burkett. Also in attendance: Robin Ginner, Becky Bolte, Cory Hoffmann, Brad Adamovich, Tyler Salvinski and Mike Sanborn. Absent Vic Washelesky

Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Schaffer to approve the agenda in any order. Carried, all.

Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Dumas to approve the minutes of 2-10-2026 Finance Committee and Common Council meetings. Carried, all.

a) Approval for a subcontractor to operate the concession stand at Silver Lake Beach, at no cost to the City of Eagle River: Ginner stated the Council had previously approved concession stand usage, but it never materialized. Mary Wick presented that she would like to sell pre-packaged items only (chips, soda, candy bars, ice cream, etc.) at the beach concession stand and would be the one to open and close the stand. Wick reported Chris Welcenbach would be running the stand. Wick stated having an adult set of extra eyes available at the beach was a great asset with the beach being unable to find staffing for lifeguards. *Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Burkett to approve subcontractor Mary Wick/Chris Welcenbach to operate the concession stand at Silver Lake Beach. City of Eagle River to absorb any additional utility costs. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*

b) MSA Monthly Updates: Phil Kriesel presented a written update including bid results for Sanitary Sewer Televising, Cleaning and Repair Services.

c) Eagle River Light & Water: *Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to approve the presented Aqualis bid for annual cleaning/televising of the sanitary sewer system, \$30,450 annually and going forward, with additional charges for repairs as needed and authorized skipping the 2026 cleaning/televising of the sanitary sewer system to allow ERLW to rebuild reserves. Carried a roll call vote, all*

Sanborn provided an update on sludge disposal. Multiple private fields are being investigated for possible sludge spreading, however the DNR has multiple requirements that must be true/met before the land(s) could be used. Hauling to Medford was an option but cost prohibitive with 500,000 gallons currently costing \$115,000 plus an estimated \$100,000 in transport costs. Best option would be to purchase our own property that meets all requirements for spreading.

d) Eagle River Department of Public Works:

Elm Drive Stump Dump – No other feasible alternative options have been secured, Ginner's composting requests went unanswered. Ginner recommended closing the Elm Drive Stump Dump to all private use and reconsidering the yard waste dumpster at the Public Works Shop on Bluebird. DPW Foreman Brad Adamovich presented purchasing of a dumpster to be housed and cameras at the DPW Shop on Bluebird for City of Eagle River resident usage for yard waste. *Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Schaffer authorizing the purchase of a dumpster system to place at the Public Works Shop, 1020 Bluebird, for City of Eagle River residents use, for the disposal of yard waste, at a cost of up to \$2,000.00. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*

Motion by Dumas, 2nd by Schaffer to close the Elm Drive Yard Waste Facility permanently to the public. Carried, all

Request for reconsideration of three-way stop at Sheridan and Silver Lake Roads: Ginner provided citizen comments with 83% supporting the installation of a three-way stop at Sheridan and Silver Lake Rd. Phil Kriesel of MSA submitted a statement that MSA was unaware of additional accidents in their February 18, 2026 opinion that the area did not meet the criteria for installation. Kriesel stated the City is the final authority on the installation and offered their services for an engineering review of the intersection if Council believed it

would be warranted. Citizens that spoke in favor of stop sign installation: Jean Mraz -519 Hirzel, Steve Lucareli – 435 Sheridan, those who opposed: Eric Mallow -617 Hirzel, Mark Hella – 620 Bond St, and Kurt Schels -non City of Eagle River resident. Vic Washelesky submitted a written update that was read by Ginner into record, opposing the installation due to the following reasons: Chief Salvinski reporting no other accidents in the past 3-5 years, stating the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices spells out the warrants for all-way stop intersections which the intersection doesn't meet any of the qualifications, reported reviewing a study of technical papers regarding residential all-way stop intersections that concluded: all way stops do not prevent speeding, stop compliance is poor at unwarranted all-way stop intersections, and pedestrian safety is decreased at unwarranted all-way stops. Washelesky favors radar speed signs and additional speed enforcement on Silver Lake Road. Schaffer stated Chief Dobbs did not report accidents and Schaffer questioned that additional enforcement had been done. Discussion on safety, enforcement, and alternatives. Burkett stated we have a traffic problem not a stop sign problem and turned the floor over to Police Chief Salvinski. Salvinski recommended placing radar speed signs and additional traffic/speed enforcement. In light of the presented 83% of respondents favoring the installation; *Motion by Dumas to allow Police Chief ample time to start a traffic enforcement program including radar speed signs. Two calls for second, motion dies. Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Schaffer to install one additional stop sign at the intersection of Silver Lake Rd and Sheridan, going west from Silver Lake Beach, to stop the trucks going into town and to add speed enforcement as discussed. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*

e) Eagle River Golf Course: Ginner presented that last season's tenant at the golf course restaurant, Blaze Champeny, has a past due sum owed to the City of Eagle River for garbage service totaling \$1,143.83. Discussion about the money still owed to the City of Eagle River by Blaze Champeny, DBA Turkey's Clubhouse, including unpaid expenses for cleaning. *Motion by Burkett to pursue Blaze Champeny, DBA Turkey's Clubhouse, for an amount of \$1,500.00 which includes the \$1,143.83 in Republic Services bills for garbage service and ½ of the bill from Central Steam Cleaning and send Champeny to small claims to get the payment. Motion 2nd by Schaffer for discussion. Carried on a roll call vote, all. Ayes: Burkett, Schaffer, Dumas Nays: None*

f) Eagle River Fire Department: Jim Randall, Fire Chief, gave an update including data showing a large influx of calls, especially medical calls, due to the large influx of people in the area. Randall encouraged the Joint Ambulance Commission to meet to discuss best ways to address issues. Burkett requested the Ambulance Commission meeting with Aspirus be scheduled.

g) Eagle River Police Department: Salvinski and Moran provided a written report of activity for February. Salvinski added he has received three applicants for officer job opening and that he is waiting for the COPS Grant to open to hire a second officer.

h) City Administrator's monthly update on activities of all departments: Ginner provided a written report. Ginner added that panic buttons have been installed. Ginner also added that the Assembly Bill that she provided testimony against in Madison, that would have restricted our extraterritorial jurisdiction, has died in committee.

i) Planning Commission:

i. Lions Club request for final approval for municipal bathrooms at Gremban Park: Mike Sanborn of the Eagle River Lions Club presented plans for bathrooms at Gremban Park behind City Hall. Sanborn reported the following deviations from the presented plan: Gable ends will have siding – not block, Venting may change, Lions have received a request for possibly clear block for visibility for the PD to monitor when someone has tripped the motions sensors to turn on the lights with use, bathrooms will have magnetic locking doors with locking timers, the orientation of the restrooms would have the doors facing east as recommended by Police Chief Salvinski so doors would be visible by cameras located on the existing garage, stainless steel fixtures, and Sanborn reported Muskyland Plumbing would be installing all the plumbing. Schaffer presented a recommendation for approval from the Planning Commission, reporting that no objections were heard at the Planning Commission meeting. This plan is very similar to the two stall public restroom at Riverview Park and

neighbors on Third St have been approached with Sanborn receiving all positive responses to the addition of the restrooms. Council had previously approved water and electric service direct from city hall, and the sewer would come from 3rd Street at the expense of the Lions Club. *Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Dumas to accept the recommendation of Planning Commission and grant approval to the Lions Club for their municipal bathroom construction plan at Gremban Park behind City Hall. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*

ii. Comprehensive Plan: Schaffer presented Planning Commission recommendation. North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission Planner (NCWRPC) is assisting with this process, and the city has until 2027 to complete the comprehensive plan update. Draft Comprehensive Plan Chapters 1-3, Demographics / Agricultural, Natural and Cultural Resources / Housing were reviewed at the March 5, 2026, Planning Commission meeting. Later chapters are much more extensive. Schaffer reported there was a much higher level of statistical data being presented by NCWRPC draft plan and that the Planning Commission will continue to work through each of the chapters throughout the year.

j) Street Closing/display of goods/event food trucks/temporary sign/amplification permits:

Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to approve Street Closing/Amplifying Device/Temporary Signs/Display of Goods permit to WDCD Eagle River Snocross National, Derby Track – 1311 N Railroad, Setup 3/11 and 3/12, Racing 3/13 and 3/14/2026, Racing 8AM-10PM, Street closure at South end of Pleasure Island Rd starting 9:00AM on 3/11 in accordance with map provided, Directional and informational signs on Derby Complex property, Snowmobiles, merchandise, snowmobile racing, food and beverage sales. Laura Campbell contact. Carried, all.

Motion by Dumas, 2nd by Schaffer to approve the following Eagle River Area Chamber of Commerce 2026 Events as presented Kim Emerson/Dawn Giese contact.

1. *Memorial Day Arts and Crafts Show and Sidewalk Sales – May 24, 6AM-6PM*
2. *Up North Beer Fest – June 13, 11AM-7PM*
3. *4th of July Parade – July 4, 9AM-1PM*
4. *4th of July Party in the Street – July 4, 7AM - 5PM*
5. *Burger Bash – July 18, 6AM-6PM*
6. *National Championship Musky Open – Aug 20 to 22, 4PM-10PM - Aug 23, 10AM-4PM*
7. *Eagle River Car and Truck Show – August 29, 5AM-5PM*
8. *Labor Day Arts and Crafts Show and Sidewalk Sales – September 6, 6AM – 6PM*
9. *Sep Timber Ride – September 12, 5AM – 5PM*
10. *Cranberry Fest – Farmers Market & Antique Sale – Downtown - October 3, 6AM-9PM*
11. *Cranberry Fest – Vilas County Fair Grounds – October 1-4, 6AM – 6PM*
12. *Hallowfest – October 31, 9AM – 4PM*
13. *Wi-Does Wine Walk – November 21, 9AM – 6PM Use of Square facility.*
14. *Christmas Kick-Off - December 5, 12PM – 8PM*

Carried, all.

Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Dumas to grant Eagle River Chamber of Commerce 2026 request to waive direct sellers permit fees. Carried on a roll call vote, all.

Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Schaffer to approve Display of Goods/Temporary Sign permit to Great Headwaters Trails Foundation Inc. Sip-n-Suds Shop and Stroll – June 20, 2026, Beer and Wine Walk, 10AM – 6PM, Downtown, Signs/merchandise in front of businesses, Use of the Square facility, Laura VanValkenburg contact, contingent on Clerk receiving current certificate of liability insurance. Carried, all.

k) Parade Permit: *Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Burkett to approve Parade Permit Eagle River Area Chamber of Commerce, July 4, 11:00AM with route as staging as presented. Carried, all.*

l) Picnic licenses:

Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to approve the following picnic licenses as presented, including approval Chamber of Commerce agent reassignment as approved by the Chief of Police:

Eagle River Lions Club – Jerry Robish Agent

1. Temporary Class “B” Beer – Sausage Fest at Riverview Park, September 6, 2026, 11AM – 4PM, Three Beer trailers on premises

Great Headwaters Trails Foundation, Inc. – Kim Emerson Agent

1. Temporary Class “B” Beer and “Class B” Wine – Sip-n-Suds Shop and Stroll, June 20, 2026, 10AM – 6PM at participating downtown businesses to be determined, use of The Square facility

Eagle River Area Chamber of Commerce 2026 – Kim Emerson Agent

1. Temporary Class “B” Beer - Memorial Day Arts & Crafts – May 24, 9AM – 5PM, Downtown beer trailer at corner of Wall and Main, signs marking dedicated area of consumption with wristbands
2. Temporary Class “B” Beer - National Championship Musky Open – August 20 – 23, 2026 – Beer tent at Vilas County Fairgrounds and fairground event property
3. Temporary Class “B” Beer – Labor Day Arts & Crafts Show – Sept 6, 2026, 9AM – 5PM, Downtown beer trailer at corner of Wall and Main, signs marking dedicated area of consumption with wristbands
4. Temporary Class “B” Beer and “Class B” Wine – Cranberry Fest – October 3-4, 2026, 9AM – 5PM, Beer and Wine Garden tent at the Vilas County Fairgrounds and fairground event property
5. Temporary “Class B” Wine – Wi-Does Wine Walk -November 21, 2026, 10AM – 6PM participating downtown businesses to be determined, use of the Square facility

Motion carried, all.

m) Operators Licenses: Motion by Dumas, 2nd by Schaffer to approve Regular Operators Licenses to: Kellee Gallion, Adam Bloom, and Pamela Gleich and Temporary Operators Licenses to: Jacki Green and Kathleen Holperin. Carried, all.

n) Direct Sellers Permit: Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Schaffer to approve one week Direct Sellers Permit to Tree-Ripe Fruit, 810 Railroad, 3/14/2026, Retail sale of produce; California nuts, Florida Strawberries, New Mexico pistachios, rental vehicle to be determined for the retail sale of products, Tanner Spaude seller. Carried, all.

o) Taxi Licenses: Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to approve Taxi Business License to Eagle River Taxi, Kurt Schels, contingent on meeting all ordinance requirements as approved by the Police Chief before issuance. Carried, all.

Motion by Dumas, 2nd by Schaffer to approve Eagle River Taxi - Taxi Drivers License to Michael Gray, Kurt Schels, Virginia Evans, Neal Klausegger, and Rebecca Bauer. Carried, all.

p) Ordinance No. 602 Amending Section 2-171 of the Municipal Code of the City of Eagle River Regarding the Board of Review: Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Dumas to adopt Ordinance No. 602 Amending Section 2-171 of the Municipal Code of the City of Eagle River Regarding the Board of Review and appointment of alternates. Carried on a roll call vote, all.

q) Approval of Public Records Fee Policy: Ginner presented and stated the policy was a direct reflection of the Wisconsin DOJ fee policy. Citizen Kathryn Craffey spoke on her concerns of City of Eagle River transparency and Open Meeting Law compliance, citing examples with Room Tax Committee and transparency of TID financial management. Burkett requested a list for the past year of all record requests and monthly going forward. Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Schaffer to approve Public Records Fee Policy as presented. Carried on a roll call vote, all.

r) Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to have the city pay \$2,933.14 owed in taxes covering seventeen 2022 W2 corrections and have the city pay any other accumulated costs associated with the correction as recommended by the Finance Committee. Carried on a roll call vote, all.

s) Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to postpone decision regarding participation in the National Flood Insurance Program until more information is available. Carried, all.

t) Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Dumas to approve payment of the bills for the city and the golf course as recommended by the Finance Committee. Carried on a roll call vote, all.

u) Motion by Dumas, 2nd by Burkett to approve the usage of ACH invoice payments to Kwik-Trip for Police Department fuel as recommended by the Finance Committee. Carried on a roll call vote. Ayes: Dumas, Burkett
Nays: Schaffer

Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Burkett to adjourn at 7:45PM. Carried, all.

Becky J Bolte - Clerk