

October 28, 2025

A special meeting of the Common Council of the City of Eagle River was called to order at 4:45PM by Mayor Deb Brown.

Roll Call: Dan Dumas, Kim Schaffer, Vic Washelesky. Jerry Burkett arrived at 4:55PM. Also in attendance: Becky Bolte, Robin Ginner, Cory Hoffmann, Tyler Salvinski, Brad Adamovich, Tony Sable, Kyle Anderson, Rob Hom, Michael Anderson, Steve Burr.

2026 Budget Workshop:

- a) 2025 Capital Improvement Plan: Ginner presented the 2026 Capital Improvement Budget and the Capital Improvement Plan for 2026-2030. Ginner discussed each item in the Capital Improvement Budget and gave an overview of the 2026-3030 plan.

The Comprehensive Plan for the City is required to be updated every 10 years and takes about a year to update. *Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Washelesky to approve North Central WI Regional Planning Commission Comprehensive Plan Proposal, \$10,000. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*

Ginner and Course Superintendent Anderson presented quotes for a new Bunker Rake and new Tee Mower. Anderson reports the existing equipment is at end of life and that he has old Tee mower and other old pieces of equipment that he would like to dispose of by auction or trade in. *Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to approve the purchasing of a new Bunker Rake and Tee Mower not to exceed \$80,000 total and allow Anderson to put old Tee mower and other small obsolete equipment to auction/trade in to offset costs. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*

DPW Foreman Adamovich presented the need for a Street Sweeper and Equipment Trailer. The city has two street sweepers now, 20 and 30 years old. Adamovich would like to trade in/auction the 30-year-old sweeper. The existing equipment trailer is undersized and needs to be updated to facilitate the size of our equipment.

Motion by Washelesky, 2nd by Dumas to approve the DPW purchase of an Elgin NP Dual Broom Mechanical Street Sweeper as quoted from MacQueen, \$289,484.05. Carried on a roll call vote, all.

Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Washelesky, to approve up to \$12,140 for the DPW purchase of a trailer that meets the needs of the department and authorizes the sale of the undersized trailer. Carried on a roll call vote, all.

Motion by Dumas, 2nd by Schaffer to approve the 2026 Capital Improvement Plan as listed, totaling \$891,974. Carried on a roll call vote, all.

Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Schaffer to seek borrowing for 2026 Capital Improvements as presented, \$881,431.60. Carried on roll call vote, all.

- b) Preliminary IT/Phone/Internet Upgrade Proposals for 2026: Ginner presented a spreadsheet of cost estimates for upgrades from multiple companies. State and League of WI Municipalities have grants coming available in 2026.
- c) 2026 Walter E Olson Memorial Library Budget request - \$65,168: Schaffer opened discussion on City of Eagle River checkout numbers vs. Eagle River area checkouts and if there is a clear differential of City and Eagle River area users. *Motion by Washelesky, 2nd by Dumas to approve 2026 library budget request to Walter E Olson Memorial Library in an amount of \$65,168. Carried on a roll call vote. Ayes: Washelesky, Dumas, Burkett Nays: Schaffer*

- d) 2026 ULERCLC Budget request: Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to approve 2026 United Lower Eagle River Chain of Lakes Commission budget request of \$2,020.22. Carried on a roll call vote, all.
- e) 2026 Eagle River Union Airport Budget request – \$25,000: Hom presented request, stating the request was decreasing from 2025 due in part to the financial boost from an increase in jet fuel sales. *Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Schaffer to approve 2026 Eagle River Union Airport Budget Request of \$25,000. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*
- f) 2026 Joint Municipal Fire Department Budget Request: \$50,486: Michael Anderson and Steve Burr presented budget to the Council. Burr presented the paid on call program and its effectiveness. Discussion on payroll increase. *Motion by Washelesky, 2nd by Dumas to approve the 2026 Joint Municipal Fire Department Budget Request in the amount of \$50,486. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*
- g) 2026 Security Health Insurance Quote for employee coverage – 0% increase from 2025: *Motion by Washelesky, 2nd by Schaffer to approve Security Health Insurance Quote for 2026 including Diversified Benefit Services for HRA administration and HRA employee reimbursement schedule of \$1700 Single/\$3400 Family as dictated by the IRS. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*
- h) 2026 COPS Grant Application for hiring of a new officer: Salvinski presented that the grant pays 2/3 of the payroll for a new officer hire for three years. The grant requires the creation of a new position and maintaining position after the three years. *Motion by Dumas, 2nd by Schaffer to approve submission of the Police Department 2026 COPS Grant Application for hiring of a new officer. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*
- i) 2026 City of Eagle River Staff Payroll Plan: Ginner provided a spreadsheet for the 2026 staff payroll plan, including historical increases from the past two years and calculations for different wage increases ranging from 1.5% up to 3%. *Motion by Dumas, 2nd by Burkett to approve 2026 City of Eagle River Staff Payroll Plan with a 2.5% increase. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*
- j) Resolution #1064- 2026 Fee Structure Ginner presented Public Works Fee Schedule. Discussion on presented increases and additions. *Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Dumas to approve Resolution 1064, 2026 Public Works Fee Schedule. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*

Ginner presented the need to cap Zoning Permit Structure Fees at \$1,000. *Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Schaffer to approve a \$1,000 cap on Zoning Permit Structure Fees. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*

Bolte presented no change in license fees, keeping the current 2025 Licensing Fee Schedule.

- k) 2026 Insurance Quotes: MPIC - Property \$70,941, League Mutual Insurance – Liability/Auto \$58,521, League of Wisconsin Municipalities Mutual Insurance – Workers Compensation \$31,643. *Motion by Schaffer, 2nd by Washelesky to approve the 2026 Property, Liability/Auto, and Workers Compensation quotes as presented. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*
- l) 2026 Ambulance Subsidy: Aspirus has not submitted their annual subsidy request.
- m) 2026 Golf Course Budget and 2026 Greens Fees Schedule: Discussion on Golf Course budget line item for annual appropriation to the City of Eagle River, presented at \$100,000.

- n) *Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Washelesky to set appropriation at \$75,000 plus 50% of any amount over \$1,000,000 in golf course gross revenue. Carried on a roll call vote, all.*

Motion by Washelesky, 2nd by Dumas to approve the 2026 Golf Course Budget as presented. Carried on a roll call vote, all.

Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Dumas to keep the 2025 Greens Fees Schedule for 2026. Carried on a roll call vote, all.

- o) Mayor Brown and Council reviewed the proposed 2026 budget draft copy with discussion. Ginner to adjust line items as discussed.
- p) City Staff instructed to pursue bids for year-end borrowing.

Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Washelesky to adjourn to Closed Session at 7:20PM according to Wisconsin State Statute: 19.85 (1) (c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility: a) Police Chief Salary b) Law Enforcement Clerk Wages c) Golf Course Personnel Positions, wages and bonus schedules. Carried on a roll call vote, all.

Motion by Burkett, 2nd by Washelesky to reconvene in Open Session at 8:02PM according to Wisconsin State Statute 19.85(2) with possible action on closed session agenda items. Carried on a roll call vote, all.

Burkett expressed concern about making motion and the minuting of such motion when topic is specific employee payroll item, citing confidentiality concerns of individuals. Burkett stated he would not approve any motion because of the confidentiality concern.

Motion by Dumas, 2nd by Washelesky to approve Police Chief 2026 Salary as follows: Effective 1/1/2026 – 6/30/2026 \$90,000/year salary, 7/1/2026 – 12/31/2026 \$92,500/year salary, 1/1/2027 \$95,000 plus the standard city cost of living raise. To approve an increase to the hourly rate of pay for the Law Enforcement Clerk by \$1.02/hour effective 1-1-2026. To approve 2025 end of year bonus of \$1500 to Matt Buettell and Matt Moelter. To give Matt Moelter the title of Assistant Golf Pro and approve an increase of the hourly rate of pay for the Assistant Golf Pro by \$3.00/hour effective 1-1-2026. Carried on a roll call vote, Ayes: Dumas, Washelesky, Schaffer Nays: Burkett

Motion by Washelesky, 2nd by Dumas to adjourn at 8:07PM. Carried.

Becky J Bolte - Clerk