MINUTES
Northome City Council
Meeting Minutes
February 11th, 2026
6:00 pm
Northome City Hall

Staff Present: Pete Bender (Public Works), Angel Stradtmann (Bar Manager), Tess Skiles (Clerk), ~~Lynn Hunt (Bartender)~~
Others Present: Jerry Bolin (Karvakko), Stephen Frisco (MnDOT), Patrick Morris (MnDOT), Patti Matila (Deerwood Bank), Connie White (Northome Grocery), Lynn Hunt (Bartender)
Present: Karen Olson, Jamie Skoe, Danci Lindley, Merritt Montgomery, Cole VanBuesekom
Not Present: None

The Public Hearing was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Karen Olson. The hearing and council meeting were recorded.

*Patti Matila got answers to her questions regarding how the HWY 46 project will affect Deerwood Bank prior to the public hearing.
*Connie White discussed the Northome Grocery with Patrick and Stephen. Stephen let the council know that land management will be working with other individual parcel owners who will be affected by the project.
*Reminder that the city will be responsible for utilities, MnDOT will be responsible for 100% of the HWY 46 construction and new standard lighting—city responsible for anything extra regarding lighting, as well as maintenance.
*Stephen will let the council know the expected time frames for when the 60% review and 90% review will be presented. Layout presented is the 30% stage.
*Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Open Forum- None.

Agenda Items.....

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance before the public hearing.

2. Motion made by Councilor Skoe to accept the February 11th, 2026, Agenda. Seconded by Councilor Lindley. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion Carried.

3. Motion made by Councilor Montgomery to approve the January 14th, 2026, meeting minutes. Seconded by Councilor VanBeusekom. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion carried.
   *Motion made by Councilor Lindley to approve the February 4th, 2026, working session minutes. Seconded by Councilor Skoe. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Abstain: Montgomery. Motion carried.

4. Stephen Frisco and Patrick Morris (MnDOT)
   *Stephen will let the council know the construction timeline for the HWY 46 project and the planned detours and traffic management when those plans are put in place.

5. Karvakko
*A change order from Gladden Construction was put in place due to a landowner removing the obstructing trees on their property, and another landowner choosing not to remove the tree on their property. This is not currently an obstruction, but could be one in the future.
*Motion made by Councilor VanBeusekom to approve the change order from Gladden Construction. Seconded by Councilor Montgomery. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion carried.
*Motion made by Councilor VanBeusekom to approve the pay application from Gladden Construction for $9,913.25. Seconded by Councilor Montgomery. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion carried.
*Still some work to be done in the spring on the Obstruction removal project.
*Jerry presented the final campground plans. See attached for the engineer estimate. The overall project estimate will be a little over the $125,000 that the city received from Blandin for this project. Jerry will be doing his best to help negotiate this when quotes are solicited.
*Jerry was given the go-ahead to begin the quote process.
*Quotes for the Lift Station #5 project were due on Friday. Two quotes were received, and Todovach Electric was over budget by about $12,000, and MN Pump Works was over budget by about $6,700. Jerry will work on finding more funding opportunities. In the case that isn't possible, the options for the city would be to pay the extra $10-$12K, or to only do a generator and pay back to USDA about $15,000 with interest. Money needed to be spent by the end of 2025, but USDA has been updated on this process and is giving more time to get the project done, since the city is actively working on it, with Jerry's help.

6. Angel Stradtmann (Bar Manager)
*January went well, up $7,200 in sales from last year.
*Super Bowl party went well.
*Bingo is going well, and there are enough callers to be scheduled out to the end of April.
*Horse/Pig races are doing well on meat raffle nights.
*Chad's Meat Wagon is still doing well when coming to Northome on meat raffle nights and will continue to do so.
* Dollar driver's license drinks now come as a report every morning, and a "walk-out" report for any unpaid tabs gets generated every morning as well.
*Angel got a cigarette report for 2025 and a cigarette discount report for 2025.
*One of the TVs broke on Super Bowl Sunday, so a new one was ordered for about $300 and will be picked up on Thursday.
*Much discussion was had about the new bar manager and lead bartender positions.
*Motion made by Councilor VanBeusekom to post a full-time bar manager position at a range of $19-$21/hour, and a part-time lead bartender position at a range of $14-$16/hour, contingent on experience, and with the potential of a pay increase upon future evaluation. Seconded by Councilor Montgomery. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion carried.
*It was agreed that a bar manager would need at a minimum, 1 month of training.
*Discussed the possibility of a manager-only position: no bartending.

7. Pete Bender (Public Works)
*The gallons pumped this year were 5,458,200 – about the same as 2024 – with a water loss of about 12.5%. The goal is to be at 10% or below of water loss.
*Dept. of Health water survey report received, and there are no deficiencies or contaminants.
*It's recommended to have the water tower cleaned every 3-5 years; the city is about due.
*Pete will need to get the Bobcat serviced.

8. Administrative
   *Motion made by Councilor Lindley to approve Ordinance No. 56 Fixing the Salaries of the Mayor and Members of the Council of the City of Northome. Seconded by Councilor Skoe. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, VanBeusekom. Voting No: Montgomery. Motion carried.
   *Jerry is looking into the surrounding area's private hangar leases to report back to the city so the council can get an idea of what to charge Ryan Good in his land lease for his future private hangar. Jerry also mentioned that it is ideal to have the Airport Layout Plan in place prior to construction of the hangar, but not necessarily required.
   *Discussed delinquent utility bills. The clerk will do her best to get better payment plans going to get the balances paid off. Some residents are difficult to contact or unavailable at this time. More discussion to be had at a later date.

9. Financials:
   *Motion made by Councilor VanBeusekom to approve the city's monthly financial reports. Seconded by Councilor Skoe. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion carried.
   *Motion made by Councilor Skoe to approve claim #'s 11,772-11,817 and Expenditures. Seconded by Councilor Lindley. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

10. Motion made by Councilor Montgomery to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilor Skoe. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

These are the official minutes of the February 11th, 2026, Northome City Council Meeting.

Karen Olson
Mayor

Attest: Jess Skrien
City Clerk/Treasurer

25-045 Northome Campground Bathroom Facilities					
Engineer's Estimate					
ITEM NO.	**ITEM DESCRIPTION**	**UNIT**	**UNIT PRICE**	**TOTAL**	**TOTAL PRICE**
2021.501	MOBILIZATION	LUMP SUM	$ 2,500.00	1	$ 2,500.00
2105.607	SALVAGE & REPLACE AGGREGATE BASE	CU YD	$ 10.00	66	$ 660.00
2105.607	AGGREGATE BASE CLASS 5	TON	$ 50.00	31	$ 1,550.00
2506.502	CASTING ASSEMBLY - MANHOLE	EACH	$ 1,125.00	1	$ 1,125.00
2521.518	4" CONCRETE WALK	SQ FT	$ 10.00	460	$ 4,600.00
2521.518	6" CONCRETE WALK	SQ FT	$ 12.00	100	$ 1,200.00
2573.503	SILT FENCE, TYPE HI	LIN FT	$ 3.00	370	$ 1,110.00
2575.501	TURF ESTABLISHMENT	LUMP SUM	$ 2,000.00	1	$ 2,000.00
2574.507	BOULEVARD TOPSOIL BORROW	CU YD	$ 50.00	19	$ 950.00
2600/2611	6" SADDLE	EACH	$ 250.00	1	$ 250.00
2600/2611	CONNECT TO EXISTING WATER MAIN	EACH	$ 1,800.00	1	$ 1,800.00
2600/2611	1" CORPORATION STOP	EACH	$ 200.00	1	$ 200.00
2600/2611	1" CURB STOP & BOX	EACH	$ 700.00	1	$ 700.00
2600/2611	1" WATER SERVICE	LIN FT	$ 35.00	71	$ 2,485.00
2600/2621	4" CLEANOUT ASSEMBLY	EACH	$ 400.00	1	$ 400.00
2600/2621	CONNECT TO EXISTING SANITARY SEWER	EACH	$ 750.00	1	$ 750.00
2600/2621	CONSTRUCT SANITARY MANHOLE	LIN FT	$ 550.00	11.68	$ 6,424.00
2600/2621	4" SANITARY SERVICE PIPE	LIN FT	$ 45.00	51	$ 2,295.00
2600/2621	8" SANITARY SEWER PIPE	LIN FT	$ 50.00	8	$ 400.00
SP-1	BATHHOUSE BUILDING	LUMP SUM	$ 72,000.00	1	$ 72,000.00
			Subtotal		$ 103,399.00
			Contingencies (5%)		$ 5,169.95
			TOTAL		**$ 108,568.95**

northome@paulbunyan.net

From: Rosene, Josephine <JRosene@lmc.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2026 9:44 AM
To: Morgan Skiles
Subject: RE: Research Question Submission

Good morning, Tess,

Thank you for contacting the League of Minnesota Cities with your inquiry.

Minn. Stat. § 415.11 states that the governing body of any city may by ordinance fix their own salaries as members of such governing body. As such, any change in salary that takes effect after the next succeeding municipal election would apply to all council members.

I hope this helps! Please let me know if you have additional questions or if I can provide further assistance. Thank you and have a wonderful day.

Best,

Josie Rosene (she/her) | Staff Attorney
Phone: (651) 281-1205
jrosene@lmc.org

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This response is intended to convey general information and should not be taken as legal advice or as a substitute for competent legal guidance. Consult your city attorney for advice regarding specific situations.

Resident ID	Total Due	Date of Last Payment	Last Payment Amount
1154861	$373.79	11/10/25	($875.69)
1154931	$472.93	2/9/2026	($100.00)
1154935	$638.46	01/07/26	($100.00)
1154937	$329.76	11/10/25	($185.03)
1154944	$262.29	09/22/25	($180.00)
1154945	$684.50	11/10/25	($200.00)
	$2,761.73		**($6,708.67)**