

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
ZEARING CITY COUNCIL  
CITY HALL, ZEARING, IOWA  
MARCH 9, 2026**

7:00pm Mayor Beard called the meeting to order and roll call was taken; Present: Hill, Perisho, Johnson, Adams. Absent: Pascuzzi.

Perisho motioned to approve the agenda, Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Perisho motioned to amend the 2.9.26 regular minutes by correcting “Planning & Zoning Administrator” to “Zoning Administrator” and approve them as amended, Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Adams motioned to approve the 3.2.26 special meeting minutes, Perisho seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Perisho motioned to approve the claims totaling \$46,715.51, Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

| <b>CLAIMS REPORT 3.9.26</b>   |                                 |          |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| <b>VENDOR</b>                 |                                 |          |
| ACTIVE 911, INC.              | ACTIVE ALERT SUBSCRIPTION       | 486.00   |
| AG SOURCE COOP SERVICES       | TESTING SERVICES                | 29.25    |
| ALLIANT ENERGY                | ELECTRICITY/GAS                 | 4,464.22 |
| CHASE VISA                    |                                 |          |
| CITY HALL                     | COMPUTER/OFFICE SUPPLIES        | 127.72   |
| LIBRARY                       | BOOKS/DVDS/PROGRAM/SUPPLIES     | 635.91   |
| SOLID WASTE                   | POSTAGE                         | 48.80    |
| PUBLIC WORKS                  | FUEL/EQUIPMENT REPAIR/SUPPLIES  | 1235.39  |
| WATER                         | BILLING POSTAGE                 | 204.80   |
| SEWER                         | BILLING POSTAGE                 | 48.80    |
| CITY OF ZEARING               | ADD. HEALTH DEDUCTIBLE          | 34.28    |
| DENTONS DAVIS BROWN PC        | LEGAL FEES                      | 1,155.44 |
| DDM ELECTRIC INC.             | NEW LIBRARY LIGHTING            | 7,240.94 |
| GANNET IOWA LOCALIQ           | JANUARY PUBLICATIONS            | 519.04   |
| INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE      | FED/FICA TAX                    | 1,911.46 |
| IOWA REGIONAL UTILITIES ASSOC | WATER PURCHASE                  | 4,500.00 |
| IPERS COLLECTIONS             | IPERS                           | 1,326.93 |
| JERRY’S SANITATION            | SOLID WASTE CONTRACT            | 6,853.00 |
| LIQUID LOGIC                  | MONTHLY OPERATOR SERVICES       | 1,100    |
| MARLIN BEARD CONSTRUCTION     | LIBRARY ADJUST TO ADA           | 514.00   |
| MAX’S AUTO REPAIR             | FIRE DEPT. EQUIP. SERVICE       | 182.01   |
| MIDWEST ALARM SERVICE         | FIRE ALARM/EXTINGUISHER SERVICE | 726.24   |
| MINERVA VALLEY TELEPHONE      | PHONE/INTERNET/TV               | 365.30   |
| NESSA, INC.                   | HOSES FOR SNOWBLADE             | 277.76   |
| PLUNKETT’S PEST CONTROL       | PEST PREVENTION SERVICES        | 238.44   |
| SECURITY STATE BANK           | NSF CHECK FEE                   | 5.00     |
| SERVICEMASTER                 | 110 W MAIN ST WATER ISSUES      | 1,566.19 |
| STAR EQUIPMENT                | VEHICLE FILTERS                 | 64.30    |
| STORY CO. TREASURER           | SAND/SALT MIX                   | 935.30   |
| STATE OF IOWA TREASURER       | SALES&USE/WET TAX               | 612.51   |
| US BANK                       | CITY HALL COPIER CONTRACT       | 557.98   |
| WELLMARK BC/BS                | HEALTH INSURANCE                | 1,194.44 |

|                          |                         |                  |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| XEROX FINANCIAL SERVICES | LIBRARY COPIER CONTRACT | 168.66           |
| <b>SUBTOTAL</b>          |                         | <b>39,330.11</b> |
| PAYROLL                  | 2.18.26                 | 3,534.78         |
| PAYROLL                  | 3.4.26                  | 3,850.62         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             |                         | <b>39,330.11</b> |
| <b>EXPENSES BY FUND</b>  |                         |                  |
| GENERAL                  |                         | 32,539.39        |
| ROAD USE TAX             |                         | 1,213.06         |
| EMPLOYEE BENEFIT         |                         | 1,194.44         |
| WATER                    |                         | 8,652.08         |
| SEWER                    |                         | 3,116.54         |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>       |                         | <b>46,715.51</b> |

Deputy Sassman had no concerns to share and the Mayor asked if Sassman could look into an incident he had been informed of that took place at the school.

Open forum: One person spoke on spreading community involvement and awareness.

7:20pm Pascuzzi arrived.

M. Johnson president of Midwest Insurance was present again this month to go over our 4/1/2026 EMC insurance proposal (\$90,593). Our previous policy had our property vastly undervalued and therefore under covered. The previous policy had 90% coinsurance with a blanket limit of \$8,833,056, \$2,500 deductible, \$2,500 wind/hail deductible. M. Johnson went over what our coverage meant and the options the council could pick that would affect the city's premium and coverage for the coming year.

The first option was picking coinsurance and deductible. Everyone agreed the city should have 100% coverage instead of the 90% we had previously. The benefit to picking a higher deductible is that our premium would see a decrease. Adams motioned to choose the 100% Coinsurance (blanket limit of \$9,814,506) with a \$10,000 deductible, Perisho seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0. This will result in a premium savings of \$11,280.

Employee Theft with a limit \$65,000 will be raised to \$100,000 with a \$1,000 deductible. This will not affect the premium.

Perisho motioned to select the Limited Pollution Exception for Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants: \$1,000,000 each occurrence/\$2,000,000 annual aggregate for an additional \$200, Pascuzzi seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Perisho motioned to select the Violent Event Response Coverage: \$1,000,000 each event limit/\$1,000,000 aggregate limit/\$25,000 each person limit for an additional \$220, Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Adams motioned to select the \$3,000,000 Umbrella (the proposal included \$2,000,000) for an additional \$1,374, Pascuzzi seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Adams motioned to select the \$1,000,000 Cyber Coverage with a \$2,500 deductible for an additional \$1,526.62, Perisho seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

All of the city's vehicles had full coverage insurance regardless of age or what payout would be in case of an incident. The council evaluated each vehicle and made changes as deemed necessary.

Adams motioned to remove comp/collision from vehicle #1 '96 Ford pickup, Pascuzzi seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Adams motioned to remove comp/collision from vehicle #3 '03 Lo Boy Trailer CG518, Perisho seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Adams motioned to remove comp/collision from vehicle #5 '04 Ford F350 Attack Unit, Pascuzzi seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Adams motioned to remove comp/collision from vehicle #6 '12 Chevy Silverado City Truck, Pascuzzi seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Adams motioned to remove comp/collision from vehicle #9 '03 Chevy 3500, Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

M. Johnson will submit the council's chosen options/adjustments and get back to us with our final premium price. Then each year she will come back and go over our policy to make sure we are covered where we need covered and not covered for things we don't need covered.

Adams brought back the Story County 911 Service Board voting member and alternate nomination form from the fire department and EMS. Michelle Adams was named appointed member and Isaiah Texeira was named alternate member to the 911 Service Board. Perisho motioned to approve the Official Notification Voting Member and Alternate Story County 911 Service Board appointments, Johnson seconded the motion. Adams abstained from voting. Motion carried 4-0.

A necessary manhole and water intake repair at S Pearl & E Main was discussed. After receiving estimates Milam Concrete can do the repair for \$11,000, but we will need to be put on his schedule with an estimated date of July. In the meantime, we will use the time to take the estimate and apply to see if we can get a grant to help cover the repair costs. Perisho motioned to move ahead and secure the contractor for the repair, Pascuzzi seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Main St. beautification was discussed. K. Tisdale has done a wonderful job with this in previous years and the council is happy to have her continue as long as she would like to. Perisho motioned to allow her \$1,200 towards this for the coming year, Pascuzzi seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The need to update the city's website was discussed. We had two proposals to have this done. The first proposal, from C. Troester, was quoting to create our website. After our site is done, we would be responsible for it and pay for his services if needed in the future. The other, from CivicPlus, has an implementation fee as well as a yearly subscription fee based on features. This option does include constant support and hosting, but we would be paying yearly, if not more, what we would be paying the other person once. Perisho motioned to go ahead with Troester's proposal, Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-1. The opposition to the motion was not specifically the proposal, just that there are more questions for the developer. Mayor Beard is going to arrange for him to meet with the council to answer any questions they may have before starting the project.

There were a couple people who showed interest in serving on boards. Richard Schnormeier has asked to be appointed to the park board. He's retired, can help with trees, general repairs, and would like to serve his community. Perisho motioned to appoint Schnormeier to the park board, Hill seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-2.

Judy White-Rose has shown interest in the planning and zoning board. After discussion, it seemed she is more interested in community betterment/involvement. Mayor Beard asked her to come up with an idea of something she would like to get going and bring it back to the council next month. Perisho offered to

sit down and work with her on this. Perisho motioned to table this until next month, Adams seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The city truck is at Schaffer's in Ames being checked over. The dump truck repairs should be done this week.

The repairs needed to the fire house due to water damage are waiting on bids.

The repairs to the pharmacy due to water damage are completed.

There are eight delinquent accounts currently. Letters have been sent notifying of April 1<sup>st</sup> disconnection if accounts aren't brought up to date.

There were no nuisance properties reported this month.

Superintendent's report: He has been moving snow... still, locating water lines, trying to get his operator certification tests set up. The lagoon workday was snowed out, then the rain date was rained out, causing it not to happen as planned.

Clerk's report: AFR was submitted and published just after last month's meeting. Public notices notifying residents that the city missed a monthly water test in November went out recently. Bank reconciliations are finally caught up. Working on getting the FY27 budget together.

Mayor's report: Hoping to reschedule the lagoon workday for April sometime and to schedule a park workday. The park shelter renovation is almost done.

Council members' report: Perisho removed tree protectors and did some trimming. Johnson had an incident with a neighbor's dog coming after their dog, but hopefully they have fixed the issue.

Next special meeting is Monday March 30, 2026 at 6:30pm at City Hall.

Next regular meeting is Monday April 13, 2026 at 7pm at City Hall.

Perisho motioned at 8:47pm to adjourn the meeting, Pascuzzi seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

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Marlin Beard, Mayor Zearing, Iowa

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Attested:

Amy Womeldorff, Zearing City Clerk