

Bellechester City Council Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2025 @ 6:00 PM

Call the meeting to order at 6:00. Meeting is recorded, and the recordings belong to the City of Bellechester.

Pledge to the flag

Mayor Jody Gordon opened the regular city council meeting at 6:00.

Roll call was taken: The council in attendance: Mayor Jody Gordon, Council member Rich Majerus, Mark Gerken, Jacob Gilsdorf, and Nick Keller as well as City Clerk Lisa Redepinning and City Engineer Matt Mohs and Treasurer Kyle McKeown. Dan Poncelet and Joe Poncelet were also present.

Approve or Amend of Agenda – Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Nick Keller to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Minutes of the October 15, 2025 meeting were reviewed and motion was made by Nick Keller with a second by Rich Majerus to approve the minutes with noted changes. Motion carried.

Bills were reviewed with a motion by Mark Gerken with a second by Jacob Gilsdorf to approve and pay the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Utility Rate Discussion/Update Household count – discussion on rates. Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Nick Keller to approve a rate increase of \$1.00 for each water and sewer funds starting in 2026. Motion carried.
- Finalize Snowplowing – A quote that was received was distributed to council to review. There was discussion on what was received as bids by council as well as plowing strategies in town. Motion was made by Mark Gerken with a 2nd by Rich Majerus to hire Brian Gordon & Bil Robertson as the contractor to plow for 2025-2026 snow season. Motion carried with Mayor Gordon abstaining.
- Update on Consideration of Requested Use of Remaining Grant Funds – Matt discussed with RD on the status of this. The loan closing process is scheduled for the beginning of January. Purchases for the remaining funds needs to be done by end of December.

New business:

- Approve Special Assessments – Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Nick Keller to approve the special assessment list to Goodhue and Wabasha County. Motion carried.
- Approve Building Permit Administration with Goodhue County for 2026 – Motion was made by Rich Majerus with a 2nd by Jake Gilsdorf to approve the Building Permit Administration with Goodhue County. Motion carried.
- Set Final Levy – Motion was made by Nick Keller with a 2nd by Mark Gerken to keep the levy set at 0% increase that was approved in November. Motion carried.
- 2026 Bituminous Maintenance Work – Council declined to participate.

Engineer Report – Lead service line proposal will come in December from Matt. It will follow the 50% loan 50% grant payment structure. Construction is anticipated for next fall.

Clerk Report –

Treasurer Report – Sending out letters.

Water/Wastewater/Facility Report – Increases will be done to bills before 1st quarter billing will be sent. Snow fencing will be done. Animal damage to ponds will fixed on an ongoing basis. Hydrants were flushed and took less on the north side.

Rich Majerus left the meeting at 7:06.

Mayor Concerns: Chili Feed benefiting the trap teams on 12/7 at Community Center 3-5.

Council Concerns: None

Adjourn

Motion was made by Mark Gerken with a second by Jake Gisdorf to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:14. Motion carried.

Submitted by Lisa Redepenning – City Clerk