

**CITY OF SPRINGFIELD
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
March 11, 2026 – 5PM
SPRINGFIELD AREA COMMUNITY CENTER**

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call/Adopt Agenda

The March 11, 2026 City Council was called to order at 5:00 pm by Mayor Lowell Helget. Council Members present include Josh Anderson, Shelley Frantz, Jeanette Pidde, and Nick Klisch, and Mayor Lowell Helget. Others present include City Manager Amber Dale, City Attorney Paul Muske, City Clerk Justtina Erickson, Linda Roiger, Greg Roiger, Kathy Smith, John Nicholson, and Brown County Commissioner Brian Braun.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Motion by Josh Anderson, second by Shelley Frantz to adopt agenda. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0. Passed

2. Public Hearing

3. Citizens' Forum

Motion by Josh Anderson, second by Shelley Frantz to suspend public comment procedure. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0. Passed

Brown County Commissioner Brian Braun spoke on behalf of Divine Providence Nursing Home in Sleepy Eye looking for a letter of support to include with a USDA Community Facilities Grant. Braun described the work that needs to be done to the building including foundation work, water mitigation, and new windows.

Motion by Josh Anderson, second by Shelley Frantz to offer letter of support to Divine Providence Nursing Home for the USDA Community Facilities Grant. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0. Passed

4. Consent Agenda

Motion by Shelley Frantz, second by Josh Anderson to approve Consent Agenda. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0. Passed

a. Minutes

i. City Council – January 28, 2026 Minutes

- ii. EDA – January 13, 2026 EDA Minutes
 - iii. Community Facilities – December 9, 2025 CFB Minutes
 - iv. PUC – December 23, 2025 & January 27, 2026 Minutes
 - v. Zoning – September 8, 2025 Minutes
- b. Reports
 - i. Gambling Report – August to December 2025
 - ii. Council Report – March 11th, 2026
- c. Financial
 - i. Auditing Claims & Investment Worksheet
 - ii. Motion to Approve Muske, Muske & Suhrhoff Monthly Retainer Fee \$3,500.00
 - iii. Motion to Approve Resolution 26-031101 Certifying Unpaid Ambulance Service Accounts to Collections
 - iv. July to December 2025 Rec Comp Final Expenses - \$23,915.69
- d. Licenses & Permits
 - i. Motion to Approve Temporary Liquor License for St. Raphael Church on June 5, 2026 & September 13, 2026 (pending completed paperwork)
 - ii. Motion to Approve Gambling Permits for St. Raphael Church on June 5, 2026, September 13, 2026, & October 31, 2026
- e. Communications - None
- f. Miscellaneous/Other
 - i. Motion to Approve AVI Service Agreement
 - ii. Motion to Approve City Sponsored Pieschel Grant Application Requests
 - 1. Community Center - \$5,000
 - 2. Library - \$10,000
 - 3. Fire - \$6,550
 - iii. CVB new board members
 - iv. Request by Riverside Rodeo Committee to use Riverside Park for Rodeo and Band 9 pm-Midnight Friday of Riverside Days
 - v. DNR Electronic License System Registration & Titling Agent Contract
 - vi. Resolution 26-031106 Surplus Property

5. Old Business

a. Ordinance 459 - Adopting Library Bylaws

Motion by Josh Anderson, second by Nick Klisch to approve Ordinance 459 – Adopting Library Bylaws. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0. Passed.

b. Hazardous Buildings

i. 301 N Washington – Resolution 26-031104 Delaying Enforcement

Dale informed Council of the request from Brown County Veteran Services to delay enforcement for 301 N Washington.

Motion by Josh Anderson, second by Jeanette Pidde to approve Resolution 26-031104 Delaying Enforcement at 301 N Washington. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0. Passed.

ii. 207 N Jefferson – Resolution 26-031105 Delaying Enforcement

Motion by Nick Klisch, second by Josh Anderson to approve Resolution 26-031105 Delaying Enforcement at 207 N Jefferson Ave. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0. Passed.

iii. 512 N Cass

Dale explained this property was inspected by Brown County assessor and the value lowered as was uninhabitable. Motion by Lowell Helget, second by Nick Klisch to proceed with Hazardous Building Enforcement at 512 N Cass. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0. Passed.

iv. 508 N Cass

Dale explained this property is the same owner as 512 N Cass. City Attorney Muske noted because this property is occupied, courts may be reluctant with enforcement. Motion by Nick Klisch, second by Jeanette Pidde to proceed with Hazardous Building Enforcement at 508 N Cass. Yes 3, No 2 (Anderson and Frantz), Abstained 0. Passed.

c. Resolution 26-031102 Compost Site Rules

Pidde recommended adjustment to compost site rules. Motion by Jeanette Pidde, second by Nick Klisch to approve Resolution 26-031102 Compost Site Rules as amended. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0. Passed.

d. 1st Reading of Ordinance Amending Section 18.04 subd. 5 and 18.15 Subd 14 of the City Code

Dale explained the purpose of the ordinance is to give guidance on zero lot line properties where there are currently none. This would also allow the Zoning Administrator expanded authority to grant approval for administrative replating. This will be voted on at future meeting.

e. Motion to Approve Minnesota Department of Education Grant - Contract Amendment Increasing Grant Award to \$500,000

Dale informed Council the Community Center and Library received \$169,000 additional grant funds from the Department of Education Grant that was previously awarded. These funds will be used for new shelving at the Library and staining the woodwork at the Community Center. Motion by Josh Anderson, second by Nick Klisch to Approve Minnesota Department of Education Grant – Contract Amendment Increasing Grant Award to \$500,000. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0. Passed.

f. Motion to Approve Quote for plating of Wildridge Addition Outlot A - \$3050

Dale explained the agreement for the property owners along Clark St and one property owner on Hoyt Ave to purchase the remaining land near the now completed pond. The proposed plats will include utility and overflow easements, as the pond outlet is buried in this area. The purchase of this land would include the cost associated with the plating. Motion by Nick Klisch, second by Jeanette Pidde to Approve Quote for Platting of Wildridge Addition Outlot A - \$3050.00. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0. Passed.

6. New Business

a. Resolution 26-031103 Authorizing Signers

Dale explained the EDA is working on a Tier 2 Cities Grant and possibly putting a house at 217 Central St. This document is needed for the Tier 2 Grant. Motion by Nick Klisch, second by Shelley Frantz to Approve Resolution 26-031103 Authorizing Signers. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0. Passed.

b. Discussion: Ordinance Allowing Chickens

Dale discussed the request to bring to council an ordinance to allow chickens in city limits. Some of Council's concerns included, the amount of staff time needed for enforcement, the potential lack of knowledge of care, and the current issues of animal enforcement the City faces. No action taken.

7. Mayor/City Council/Staff Reports

Dale gave an update on the DNR grant for Ash trees. The grant is for only boulevard trees and preferences will be given to lower income first. Quotes must be from ISA/TCIA certified arborists.

8. Adjournment

Motion by Shelley Frantz, second by Jeanette Pidde to adjourn at 5:45 PM. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0. Passed.

Lowell Helget, Mayor

Attest:

Justtina Erickson, City Clerk