BELLE PLAINE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 17, 2026

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Vice Mayor Otto led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CALL TO ORDER. 2.1. Roll Call.

The Belle Plaine City Council met in Regular Session on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 6:00 PM in the council chambers of City Hall, 218 North Meridian Street, Belle Plaine, MN. Vice Mayor Otto called the meeting to order with Councilmembers James Evans, Brady Hartmann and Rex Stacey present.

Also present were City Administrator Meyer, Finance Director Jirik, Community Development Director Smith Strack, City Engineer Duncan, Public Works Superintendent Otto, Assistant Recording Secretary Bonnie Vinkemeier and Police Sergeant Vycital. Wanda Savage served as the video recording operator.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

MOTION by Councilmember Evans, second by Councilmember Hartmann, to approve the Agenda as presented. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

4. PUBLIC FORUM.
******Anyone wishing to address the Council must sign up before the meeting and then have a seat in the audience. The signup sheet is removed 5 minutes before the start of the meeting. Maximum of three (3) minutes per speaker. No official action will be taken.*

Sage Faraday, 404 East Court Street, inquired on the Police Department and City's policies on ICE and if no policy what the process is to create policy.

Kathy Farmer, 131 South Chestnut Street, spoke on the actions of ICE in the community urging the City Council to make a statement.

Tracy Hein, 315 South Cedar Street, requested the process to have the new Minnesota flag removed from City properties and replace with the old flag.

Jacob Ternes, 905 S. Walnut Street, spoke on the ICE presence at his home on six different occasions. Ternes requested help and guidelines from Council.

5.0. RECOGNITION OF SERVICE
Lee Petersen – Planning and Zoning Commission
Alternate February 2018 – June 2019
Commissioner June 2019 – January 2026

Vice Mayor Otto presented Lee Petersen a plaque for her years of service.

6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA.
6.1. Regular Session Minutes of February 2, 2026.
6.2. Work Session Minutes of February 2, 2026.
6.3. Closed Session Minutes of February 2, 2026.
6.4. Approve Temporary On Sale Liquor License for an Event on April 25, 2026 for Our Lady of the Prairie Church at 200 E. Church Street.
6.5. Resolution 26-027 Accepting the Resignation of Mayor Ryan Ladd and Declaring Vacancy Effective February 17, 2026.
6.6. Resolution 26-028 Modifying Authorized Signatures as First National Bank Minnesota.

6.7. Resolution 26-029 Accept Donation of $30.00 from Victor and Michelle Garcia for the Belle Plaine Youth Sport Grant Program.

MOTION by Councilmember Otto, second by Councilmember Stacey, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: 6.1. Regular Session Minutes of February 2, 2026; 6.2. Work Session Minutes of February 2, 2026; 6.3. Closed Session Minutes of February 2, 2026; 6.4. Approve Temporary On Sale Liquor License for an Event on April 25, 2026 for Our Lady of the Prairie Church at 200 E. Church Street; 6.5. Resolution 26-027 Accepting the Resignation of Mayor Ryan Ladd and Declaring Vacancy Effective February 17, 2026; 6.6. Resolution 26-028 Modifying Authorized Signatures as First National Bank Minnesota and 6.7. Resolution 26-029 Accept Donation of $30.00 from Victor and Michelle Garcia for the Belle Plaine Youth Sport Grant Program. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

7. DEPARTMENT REPORTS.
7.1. Community Services Department. (Report Only)

Community Services Director Koller highlighted the Community Services report.

7.2. Ambulance Department. (Report Only)

Ambulance Director Burton was not present. The Council acknowledged the Ambulance Report.

7.3. Police Department.

Police Sergeant Vycital highlighted the Police Report.

7.4. Fire Department.

Fire Chief Otto was absent. The Council acknowledged the Fire Department Report.

7.5. Community Development Department.

Community Development Director Smith Strack highlighted the Community Development Report.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS.
8.1. Preliminary Plat St. John Church. The City Council will hold a public hearing on a preliminary plat for St. John Church. The proposed plat combines three parcels owned by St. John Church.

Community Development Director Smith Strack reviewed the Preliminary Plat for St. John Church with a brief slideshow.

Council asked clarifying questions.

Vice Mayor Otto opened the public hearing at 6:22 PM.

No one spoke.

MOTION by Councilmember Evans, second by Councilmember Hartmann, to close the public hearing. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

8.1.1. Resolution 26-023 Resolution Approving a Preliminary Plat for St. John Church.

MOTION by Councilmember Evans, second by Councilmember Hartmann, to approve Resolution 26-023 Resolution Approving a Preliminary Plat for St. John Church. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

9. BUSINESS.
9.1. Presentation of Claims.
9.1.1. Pay Request No. 8, Rochon Corporation, for the Belle Plaine Library Addition Project.

MOTION by Councilmember Hartmann, second by Councilmember Stacey to approve the reviewed claims as presented in the amount of $214,724.20. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

9.2. Resolution 26-021 Resolution Giving Preliminary Approval to the Issuance and Sale of A Revenue Refunding Note or Other Obligations, and Scheduling A Public Hearing on Refinancing Certain Projects for The Lutheran Home: Belle Plaine, LLC, and Kingsway Ministries, LLC, and Providing Host Approval to the Issuance of Revenue Refunding Notes by the Cities of Henderson and Green Isle.

Finance Director Jirik provided a brief overview of the Conduit Bond process for the Lutheran Home.

MOTION by Councilmember Hartmann, second by Councilmember Stacey, to approve Resolution 26-021 Resolution Giving Preliminary Approval to the Issuance and Sale of A Revenue Refunding Note or Other Obligations, and Scheduling A Public Hearing on Refinancing Certain Projects for The Lutheran Home: Belle Plaine, LLC, and Kingsway Ministries, LLC, and Providing Host Approval to the Issuance of Revenue Refunding Notes by the Cities of Henderson and Green Isle. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

9.3. Resolution 26-024 Approving a Final Plat for St. John Church.

Community Development Director Smith Strack reviewed the Final Plat for St. John Church with a brief slideshow.

MOTION by Councilmember Evans, second by Councilmember Hartmann, to approve Resolution 26-024 Approving a Final Plat for St. John Church. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

9.4. Resolution 26-025 Approving Minor Subdivision 919 Church Street West.

Community Development Director Smith Strack reviewed the Minor Subdivision at 919 Church Street West with a brief slideshow.

The Council asked clarifying questions.

MOTION by Councilmember Stacey, second by Councilmember Evans, to approve Resolution 26-025 Approving Minor Subdivision 919 Church Street West. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

9.5. Resolution 26-026 Approving Plans and Specifications and Authorizing Advertisement for Bids for the 2026 Improvement Project.

City Administrator Meyer and City Engineer reviewed the 2026 Improvement Project.

Council asked clarifying questions.

MOTION by Councilmember Stacey, second by Councilmember Hartmann, to approve Resolution 26-026 Approving Plans and Specifications and Authorizing Advertisement for Bids for the 2026 Improvement Project. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

9.6. Authorize Staff to Advertise to Seek Bids for the 2026 Pavement Maintenance Project.

City Administrator Meyer and City Engineer Duncan reviewed the 2026 Pavement Maintenance Project.

The Council and staff held discussion.

MOTION by Councilmember Hartmann, second by Councilmember Stacey, to approve Authorize Staff to Advertise to Seek Bids for the 2026 Pavement Maintenance Project. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

10. ADMINISTRATION.
10.1. Upcoming Tentative Meetings.

1. Design, Monday, March 2, 5:00 PM.
2. City Council, Monday, March 2, 6:15 PM.
3. Work Session, Monday, March 2, 6:30 PM.

The Council was reminded of the upcoming tentative meetings as listed.

11. ADJOURN.

MOTION by Councilmember Evans, second by Councilmember Hartmann, to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 PM. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee Eyrich
Recording Secretary