

**BELLE PLAINE CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
FEBRUARY 17, 2026**

1. CALL TO ORDER. 1.1. ROLL CALL.

A Work Session of the Belle Plaine City Council met on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 6:52 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.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

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

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS.

3.1. Assessment Policy.

Finance Director Jirik reviewed the City's Assessment Policy.

Council and staff held discussion and gave direction for another work session to review with specific examples of what it would look like for homeowners and City taxes.

3.2. Discussion: Public Safety Meetings.

City Administrator Meyer explained an email from Chief Stier was forwarded out to Council regarding canceling all future Public Safety Meetings.

It was the consensus of the Council to table discussion at this time.

3.3. Discussion: Vacancy.

City Administrator Meyer reviewed the requirements for filling the vacancy of the Mayor and how options effect elections.

Council held discussion.

It was the consensus of the Council to move forward with appointing James Evans as Mayor for the remainder of the term. A meeting will be held on Friday, February 20 at 3 PM to appoint and declare a vacancy for his Council position. Letters of interest will be accepted for Evans Council seat closing on February 27 and holding interview the first week of March for appointment at the second meeting in March.

3.4. Goals.

City Administrator Meyer explained goals that were submitted were compiled in the memo.

It was the consensus of the Council to table discussion at this time.

3.5. Ways to Save.

No Ways to Save were brought forward. It was the consensus of the Council that additional ways to save would come forward while addressing the goals.

4. ADJOURN.

MOTION by Councilmember Evans, second by Councilmember Hartmann, to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 PM. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee Eyrich
Recording Secretary