

New Salem City Proceedings

NEW SALEM CITY PROCEEDINGS

REGULAR MEETING
Monday, January 12th, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

City Auditorium

These minutes are being published subject to review and revision by the New Salem City Council.

Gaebe called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Attendance

Council Mayor: Josh Gaebe
Council members present: Chad Goetzfridt, Delton Kautzman, Sheppard Olson, Perrin Goetzfridt
Absent: Corey Lausch, Bryan Moen

Others present: City Works
Robert Boehm, City Auditor
Melissa Davis, City Engineer
Todd Norton and Eric Lothspeich, Morton County Emergency Manager
Patrick Martin, Kyla Sanders, Matthew Morgan, Jessica Blend, Kami Olson, Richard Mendoza

Pledge of Allegiance Minutes

The council reviewed the December 8th regular city council minutes. P. Goetzfridt moved and C. Goetzfridt seconded to approve the minutes as presented. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Public Comment

Kyla Sanders, with NDSU Aging In the Community, attended the meeting to discuss the possibility of having a competitive 5k walk/run to raise awareness for Aging In the Community, with the generated funds going to the local food pantry. This would take place during the weekend of ND Country Fest. The council was in favor of Sanders moving forward with permitting through the local sheriff's department.

Patrick Martin came to seek approval of the 2025 Morton County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Kautzman moved and C. Goetzfridt seconded to approve the resolution as presented. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Matthew Morgan asked the council for their opinion of a citation he received for disregarding a stop sign on Hwy 31 and Hwy 10. Morgan stated in his opinion he made the safest possible execution of the intersection, by rolling through the stop sign with his truck. Mayor Gaebe assumes every time you roll through a stop sign, if there is a deputy there, they will issue a ticket because it is against the law. Gaebe stated that the citation was written in district court and the city council's opinion does not matter. P. Goetzfridt understands Morgan's point, but a stop sign is a stop sign. Gaebe stated that he does not see what the City Council can do for Morgan, the sheriff wrote a ticket for not making a complete stop and that is their job.

Water & Sewer Committee

Norton presented the final pay application from Crow River construction in the amount of \$34,000. Kautzman moved and P. Goetzfridt seconded to approve the pay application. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Norton also presented a list of items approved for purchase by USDA using the remaining grant funds from the priority 6 project. The items include a skid steer with 4-in-1 multipurpose bucket and grapple bucket, smoke kit, spare pump and motor for the lagoon transfer pump, gas powered concrete saw, and a plate compactor. P. Goetzfridt moved and Kautzman seconded to move forward with seeking bids for the purchase of these items. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Norton stated that he is retiring in 2026 and this would be his last meeting attendance with the City of New Salem. Norton introduced Eric Lothspeich to the council. Lothspeich has been working with Norton on New Salem's projects for the last 8-10 years and will be taking over for Norton, but Lothspeich will not

be attending all meetings so the council should request his presence at meetings as needed.

Auditorium Committee

Jessica Blend and Kami Olson came to the meeting to discuss the possibility of the home school group using the auditorium until 3pm on Friday's if they promise to clean up after themselves. Davis stated that they originally agreed to be out of the building by 2pm so the custodian would have time to clean up before renting parties come in for the weekend. The council was in agreement to allow them to stay until 3pm on a trial basis to see how it goes.

Davis presented an estimate for the installation of new shop lights from HZ Electric in the amount of \$8,500.00. Kautzman moved and C. Goetzfridt seconded to approve the estimate and move forward with the installation. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Police Committee

The council reviewed the December police report.

Sanitation and Garbage Committee

The council reviewed the updated sanitation agreement with Cofer Sanitation, which included a \$1.00/month rate increase to all accounts for the fee increases on transport and disposal. Kautzman moved and C. Goetzfridt seconded to approve the contract as presented. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Personnel Committee

The council reviewed the December city works report. Boehm stated that the loader is in need of 2 new front tires. The council agreed to purchase 2 Maxam tires from Napa for \$915 each.

The council discussed a letter of complaint from Lisa Wilson, no action was taken.

Old Business

Davis stated that she believes the owner of the hotel has come to an agreement with the city on the removal of the mobile homes, although the plea agreement has not yet been signed.

New Business

Davis stated that the New Salem Renaissance Zone will be expiring in June of 2026. The council was in agreement that with the current property tax exemptions the city offers to residential and commercial property owners there is really no need to renew the renaissance zone. Davis stated that the city can re-apply at a later date if they would choose to do so.

The council again discussed a public comment policy. Hearing some disapproval, Mayor Gaebe asked council members to do some thinking on the policy for possible discussion in the future.

Consent Agenda

Kautzman moved and Olson seconded to approve the consent agenda.

1. Gaming Permit Application, Booster Club 50/50 Raffle - 1/30/26 & 1/31/26

2. Depository of Public Funds

Security First Bank of North Dakota, First International Bank & Trust

3. Pledge of Securities

4. Liquor License Transfers

Golden Nugget Saloon to the Red Room - 1/31/26

Golden Nugget Saloon to the Red Room - 2/28/26

Kautzman moved and P. Goetzfridt seconded to approve the bills as presented. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Square Space.....\$192.00

.....Website Subscription

Boehm, Robert ... \$2,439.28

Davis, Melissa \$1,691.79

Gaebe, Joshua \$831.15

Goetzfridt, Chad \$369.40

Goetzfridt, Perrin ... \$300.14

Haff, Tyler \$412.96

Kazandjian, Raymond

.....\$2,119.29

Lausch, Corey \$207.79

Moen, Bryan \$300.14

Olson, Sheppard .. \$300.14

Yellow Bird, Miranda \$1,023.67

Chris Cole.....\$1,575.00

.....Delivery of Bottom Ash

COFER SANITATION \$94.61

.....garbage service

C RAM \$99.98

.....Avast Antivirus annual

subscription

Boehm, Robert ... \$2,434.95

Davis, Melissa \$1,420.36

Gaebe, Joshua \$34.63

Goetzfridt, Chad \$23.09

Goetzfridt, Perrin \$23.09

Haff, Tyler \$358.50

Kautzman, Delton.... \$23.09

Lausch, Corey \$23.09

Moen, Bryan \$23.09

Olson, Sheppard \$23.09

Yellow Bird, Miranda

.....\$987.51

MOR- GRAN- SOU ELEC-TRIC \$149.05

.....street lighting

WEST RIVER TELECOM-MUNICATIONS \$281.87

.....phones

941 PAYMENT ... \$6,367.41

NDPERS \$3,160.17

.....retirement payment

ND State Tax Commissioner \$192.14

.....state taxes-quarterly

MDU \$4,218.21

.....street lights

941 PAYMENT.... \$1,465.72

Bennett, Shane..... \$92.35

Boehm, Robert ... \$2,246.77

Davis, Melissa \$1,459.23

Haff, Tyler \$438.41

Yellow Bird, Miranda

.....\$1,093.59

CENTRAL DAKOTA FRON-TIER \$600.66

.....gas and oil

CENTRAL MECHANICAL, INC \$2,709.00

.....Boiler not firing, replace

pump motor

Cole Paper Inc.... \$3,322.36

Auditorium Floor Refinish-ing

CURTIS RUD OIL ... \$494.55

.....fuel

Energy Tech Systems

.....\$356.50

Boiler remote access patch

FARMERS LUMBER & GAMBLER \$468.71

.....aud/shop supplies

MDU \$332.79

.....Christmas lights

Melissa Davis \$320.97

Mileage to read meters, receipt

books, postage

MISSOURI WEST WATER SYSTEM..... \$16,132.15

.....water purchase

MORTON COUNTY AUDI-TOR \$3,528.00

.....police contract

NAPA..... \$3,059.42

.....equipment parts

ND DEPT OF HEALTH - MICRO..... \$27.00

.....labs

ND SURPLUS PROPERTY

.....\$20.00

.....shop and city misc-shop

chairs

NITRO-GREEN\$611.10

Fertilization & Weed Control 3 services 2026

PARK DISTRICT \$1,003.94

.....state aid

SECURITY FIRST BANK

.....\$7,835.00

.....payroll taxes

Solem Law Office .. \$968.00

Kaelberer Construction Inc.

.....\$2,154.21

.....garbage transfer

TYLER HAFF \$185.00

gas stipend, clothing allowance,

Landfill training

VESTIS..... \$1,495.33

.....rugs/paper service

WORKFORCE SAFETY & INSURANCE \$1,717.36

.....workers comp premium

Construction Bills

Interim Loan Payoff

.....\$1,908,096.35

Priority 6 Request 6

Crow River Construction

.....\$985,961.85

Priority 6 Request 6

AE2S\$32,368.77

Priority 6 Request