Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICES

vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.
APPROVED: Mark Jantzer, Mayor; ATTEST: Mikayla McWilliams, City Clerk - PURSUANT TO NDCC 40-01-09.1, THESE MINUTES PUBLISHED SUBJECT TO THE COUNCIL'S REVIEW AND REVISION

(February 23, 2026)

On February 2, 2026, a Special City Council Meeting of the Minot City Council was held in the City Council Chambers, City Hall (10 3rd Ave SW). Mayor Jantzer called the meeting to order at 04:30 PM.
Members Present: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson
Members Absent: None
Mayor Mark Jantzer led the City Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.
EXECUTIVE SESSION: POTENTIAL LAND PURCHASE (UNADDRESSED MULBERRY LOOP NE)
The next item on our agenda is an executive session regarding a potential land purchase.
Mayor Jantzer mentioned that before the Council decides whether to enter executive session, the Council needs to address a conflict of interest question.
Under NDCC 44 04 22, if a member of a governing body has a direct and substantial personal or financial interest in a matter before the body, that member must disclose it. They may not participate or vote unless the majority of the remaining members agree to allow it.
In this case, the potential land purchase involves property the City is considering for a regional detention pond. Negotiations have been ongoing since June 2024. City Engineer Lance Meyer provided the City Council with background information on the project. City Council Member Michael Hayes disclosed his conflict of interest.
The motion to acknowledge the conflict of interest and agree that Council Member Hayes should abstain from participating or voting on this matter was initiated by City Council Member Pitner, seconded by City Council Member Blessum and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None. Council Member Hayes abstained from the vote due to conflict of interest.
EXECUTIVE SESSION: POTENTIAL LAND PURCHASE (UNADDRESSED MULBERRY LOOP NE)
Mayor Jantzer stated the legal authority for closing this portion of the meeting is North Dakota Century Code Sections 44 04 19.1(9) and 44 04 19.2. The purpose is to discuss negotiating strategy or provide negotiating instructions to our attorney and negotiators. Discussing this in open session would harm the City's bargaining position.
The motion to move the City Council into executive session was initiated by City Council Member Pitner, seconded by City Council Member Olson and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None. Council Member Hayes abstained from the vote due to conflict of interest.
The executive session will be recorded. Members are reminded that discussion must stay within the announced topic. Any final action will occur after we reconvene in open session, unless the law specifically requires action during the executive session. Because this session is held under NDCC 44 04 19.1, providing negotiating instructions is permitted during the closed session.
We will now relocate to the City Council conference room. Members of the public may remain here in Council Chambers. We expect to return to open session at approximately 5:20 pm.
The minutes will show that the executives session began at 5:02 pm and was attended by the Mayor, City Council Members (excluding Council Member Hayes due to the conflict of interest), City Manager, City Clerk, City Attorney, and Finance Director.
The motion to adjourn the executive session and return to the open portion of the City Council meeting was initiated by City Council Member Pitner seconded by City Council Member Fuller and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.
The minutes will show that the executive session was adjourned at 5:28 pm. The City Council has returned to the dais in the Council Chambers, and we are now back in open session.
There was no potential action following executive session
The motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 pm was initiated by City Council Member Pitner, seconded by City Council Member Blessum and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.
APPROVED: Mark Jantzer, Mayor; ATTEST: Mikayla McWilliams, City Clerk - PURSUANT TO NDCC 40-01-09.1, THESE MINUTES PUBLISHED SUBJECT TO THE COUNCIL'S REVIEW AND REVISION

(February 23, 2026)

On January 23, 2026, a Special City Council Meeting of the Minot City Council was held in the City Council Chambers, City Hall (10 3rd Ave SW). Mayor Jantzer called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.
Members Present: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson
Members Absent: None
Mayor Mark Jantzer led the City Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.
CONSIDER THE POUND SERVICES CONTRACT WITH SOURIS VALLEY HUMANE SOCIETY (SVAS)
The motion to approve the renegotiated contract with Souris Valley Humane Society (SVAS) and authorize the Mayor to sign was initiated by City Council Member Pitner, seconded by City Council Member Olson and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner; nays: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Scott Samuelson. This motion failed.
The motion to direct staff to bring a new RFP to City Council separating out cats, dogs, and exotic animals, including in the contract financial information and access to veterinary services, was initiated by City Council Member Fuller, seconded by City Council Member Blessum and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.
The motion to move item 4.4 Strategic Plan and City Aspirations Discussions before item 4.3 Discussion on Operating Norms was initiated by City Council Member Blessum, seconded by City Council Member Pitner, and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.
There was a recess from 10:00 - 10:07 am.
2026 BUDGET PROCESS AFTER ACTION REVIEW
The motion to remove the Council President's message from the 2027 budget schedule was initiated by City Council Member Olson, seconded by City Council Member Hayes and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.
City Council directed City staff to provide expectations and rules of order on the first and second reading of the budget ordinance.
The motion to direct staff to have a public hearing at both the first reading (Sept. 14th) and second reading (Sept. 28th); and to designate September 14th as the legal public hearing was initiated by City Council Member Blessum, seconded by City Council Member Fuller and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.
David Lakefield discussed the 2026 budget process. As the Finance Director, he liked the longer-term outlook of 3 years with the expanded detail, along with how the process included evaluating operations.
2027 BUDGET SCHEDULE REVIEW AND DISCUSSION
David Lakefield, Finance Director, also listed some concerns and/or items to improve on for the 2027 budget:
Additional years of planning over the 3-year lookout could lose quality in the numbers.
The 3 scenarios were time consuming.
Elaborate more on the additional line-item details.
Inflation of budget/budget management/budget amendments.
Evaluating requests by looking at the larger picture organization wide.
The Finance Department is going to focus on improving the revenue projections.
The motion to include any candidates who have submitted certified petitions be included in the budget process was initiated by City Council Member Blessum, seconded by City Council Member Pitner and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.
STRATEGIC PLAN AND CITY ASPIRATIONS DISCUSSION
City Manager, Tom Joyce, discussed with the City Council how the 4 aspirations are broad and do not benefit the strategic plan. He mentioned how they might not be value added when considering if they encompass the wildly important ideas. The vision, mission, and values of the organization are used much more frequently. City Council discussed how every election cycle the Council Members should decide on a to-do list for the next two years.
The motion to strike the aspirations from the City of Minot organization was initiated by City Council Member Pitner, seconded by City Council Member Olson and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.
The motion to change the word "pride" in the mission to "care" with the acronym was initiated by City Council Member Blessum, seconded by City Council Member Samuelson and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.
There was a recess from 11:38 am - 11:48 am.
DISCUSSION ON OPERATING NORMS
City Manager, Tom Joyce, briefly discussed operating norms. Discussion was about working together with respect and dignity.
The motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:57 am was initiated by City Council Member Pitner, seconded by City Council Member Blessum and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Mike Blessum, Rob Fuller, Mike Hayes, Mark Jantzer, Lisa Olson, Paul Pitner, Scott Samuelson; nays: None.
APPROVED: Mark Jantzer, Mayor; ATTEST: Mikayla McWilliams, City Clerk - PURSUANT TO NDCC 40-01-09.1, THESE MINUTES PUBLISHED SUBJECT TO THE COUNCIL'S REVIEW AND REVISION

(February 23, 2026)

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS
1 Impudent talk
5 Come into conflict
10 Horse hoof sound
11 Daryl of "Splash"
13 Taj Mahal city
14 News recap
15 Is important
17 Sch. support group
18 Mariners' home
19 For each
20 Hosp. parts
21 Impudent
22 Church topper
25 URL separator
26 Scots' caps
27 Relaxing resort
28 Western Indian
29 Terrier type
33 One — time
34 Rags
35 "The Bathers" painter
37 Son of Seth
38 Batting feat
39 Thinker Descartes
40 Undoes a dele
41 River of Hades

DOWN
1 Swindles
2 Pond growth
3 In a way, informally
4 Flecks
5 Boorish fellows
6 Minor mistake
7 Plus
8 Stir-fry veggie
9 Milliners
12 Warm spot
16 To be, in France
21 Serving aids
22 William and Mary's house
23 Spiels
24 Parent's warning
25 Dalmatian feature
27 Frightens
29 High-stepping aid
30 Basic belief
31 Bitter humor
32 English county
36 Unclose, to poets

A	P	A	T	O	W	■	S	P	A	M
N	A	G	A	N	O	■	C	O	C	O
K	R	A	K	E	N	■	E	T	A	L
L	E	V	E	L	■	A	N	O	D	E
E	D	E	N	■	F	L	A	M	E	S
■	■	■	I	S	E	E	■	A	M	T
■	C	E	N	T	E	R	I	C	E	■
S	O	N	■	A	L	T	S	■	■	■
O	I	L	E	R	S	■	O	M	A	R
P	L	A	N	S	■	C	L	O	S	E
H	I	R	T	■	S	H	A	R	K	S
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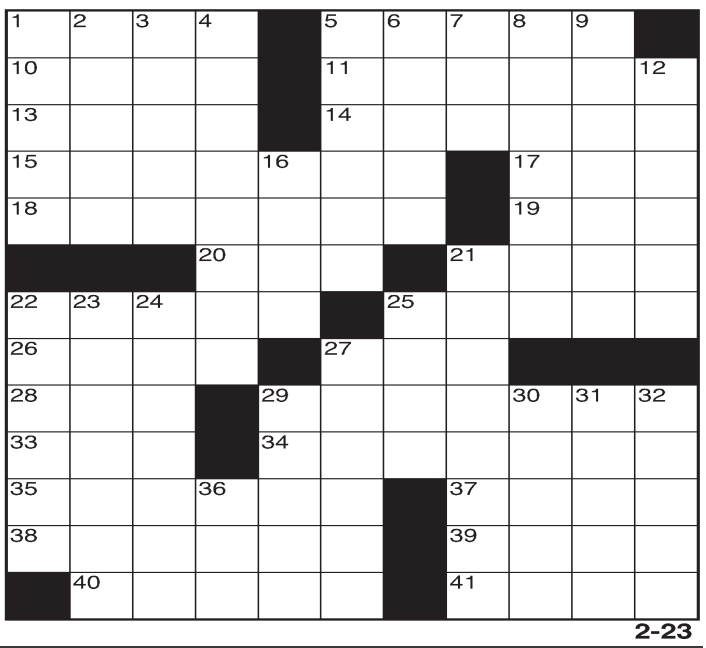
Saturday's answer



2-23

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