

# HAZEN CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

April 20, 2026  
 Hazen City Hall  
 Present: President Schiferl, Commissioner Folkerts, Commissioner Haack (telephonically), Commissioner Stern and Commissioner Wiedrich.  
 Others Present: PW Director Brousseau, Editor Arens, Chief Wolff, Tim Williams (virtual), Darrell Wurl, Jerod Klabunde & Aiden Kelly (Moore Eng), Myra Savelkoul, Antoniette Heier, Attorney Donovan, Robert Johnson, Elizabeth Johnson, Kyle Larson, Kent Vernon, Connie Langowski, Buster Langowski, Bob Fitzgerald, Pam Fitzgerald, Victor Entzel, Wayne Rahn, Debbie Rahn, Leatisze Grosz, Wayne Hoffner, Sue Wegner, Jordan Wegner, Christie Huber Obenauer, and Auditor Erhardt.  
 President Schiferl called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.  
 President Schiferl led the pledge of allegiance and said the prayer.  
 Minutes: Commissioner Wiedrich moved to suspend the reading and approve the minutes of the April 6th and 7th meetings, as presented, second by Commissioner Folkerts. Motion unanimously approved.  
 Agenda: Commissioner Folkerts moved to approve the agenda, as presented with the addition of item 12A, second by Commissioner Stern. Motion unanimously approved.  
**CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY AND ENGINEER**  
 Expedition Estates Discussion: President Schiferl opened discussion regarding Expedition Estates by informing the board, and public, that commission minutes establish the last action by the commission, prior to the April 6th meeting, was a motion in October 2024 stating, "Commissioner Folkerts moved to approve issuance of occupancy certificates for homes within the paved access road area and that no additional building permits will be issued until full pavement of the loop is completed, second by Commissioner Haack. Upon discussion, President Obenauer asked when paving could start in the spring and Mr. Klabunde indicated that it would highly likely be in May. Commissioner Stern asked if this included repairs of the sewer prior to any building permits being issued and President Obenauer stated it was not part of the current motion. Mr. Klabunde indicated that the sewer issue could be resolved yet this year pending determination of the process necessary to make the repairs. On roll call vote: Folkerts, "Aye", Haack, "Aye", Stern, "Aye", Obenauer, "Aye", motion carried." Buster Langowski presented written points of discussion to the commission relating to his work as the HCD director and as a resident on Otter Creek Loop. Mr. Langowski discussed the lack of suitable property for housing within the city and the grants offered by HCD to incentive new home construction, which supported the construction of five of the thirteen homes in the development, along with renaissance zone incentives. Mr. Langowski agreed that the issues in the development have been a long, drawn-out affair with repairs taking years and that the lack of communication may have been frustrating. Mr. Langowski spoke of the estimated costs for the repairs and who should be responsible for these costs. Mr. Langowski addressed the moratorium which, in his opinion, penalizes future growth at a time when the city should be looking for as much growth as possible to meet anticipated needs as industry expands. Mr. Langowski also spoke about the revenue from property tax and sales tax to assist the city and school. Finally, Mr. Langowski encouraged the board to look at some type of agreement that would lift the moratorium and plan accordingly for future growth. Commissioner Wiedrich, referring to a letter from Shawn Hoffner, indicated the road in the subdivision is not the issue and the sewer is, and this is a concern as new homes are added to the development. Mr. Langowski spoke of the engineer seeking a solution to the issue and Commissioner Wiedrich indicated this resolutions to the issue have been addressed with the developer and were, or should have been, part of the settlement of the lawsuit. Mr. Langowski believed the lawsuit settlement only addressed water/sewer issues of the loop. President Schiferl commented that the lack of communication for more than a year was a concern with Commissioner Folkerts commenting that the development would benefit the city but that the communication must be two-sided. Kent Vernon, resident, asked about the original design and Jerod Klabunde, Moore Engineering, stated the design was acceptable and the issue is not one of capacity but a matter of compaction when the infrastructure was installed and its effect on pipe on 11th Ave SW. Bob Fitzgerald, resident, asked about the ability to excavate one area to make the repairs and Mr. Klabunde stated it involves a total of five hundred (500) feet of pipe and that the engineers are still researching options for the repairs either by excavation or trenchless by contacting specialty contractors. Wayne Hoffner addressed the commission, as a res-

ident of Hazen for twenty-three (23) years, and on behalf of his wife who is a realtor. Mr. Hoffner asked the commission to seek a reasonable agreement to benefit the community and the school through property and sales tax. Mr. Hoffner's family gives back to the community and understands frustration with communication with the developer but there should be a way to find a solution that doesn't snowball the lost income and opportunities to the city. Commissioner Folkerts spoke about the back and forth with the developer and how, at the last meeting, there was talk about allowing permits but the developer seemed unwilling to commit to making the repairs and that it wouldn't be fair for the city to assess repair costs to the city or even to the current residents of the development. Myra Savelkoul said that HCD is considering setting aside funds for the repairs and Mr. Hoffner stated a final realistic estimated cost is needed to proceed. Commissioner Wiedrich indicated it is the responsibility of the developer to determine the costs and find the answers to resolve the issue in compliance with recognized standards. President Schiferl agreed, a good step forward, is to refine the final estimated cost for a suitable repair. Tim Williams, Williams Building Company, addressed correspondence to the commission stating he cannot fund repairs without the ability to construct and sell property and agreed that more detailed costs are needed to move forward. Mr. Vernon commented that the goal here should be to have the city and developer in the best light and to get off dead center, quit finger pointing and come to an agreement. Commissioner Haack stated he is not comfortable in special assessing costs of repairs to the city and this would have to be assessed to all the lots in the subdivision. Mr. Klabunde stated there are 2500 feet of lines in the subdivision with 80% completed and that most were repaired by open trench work and the last section to be repaired is very deep. Moore Engineering is still seeking options for open trench or pipe bursting (trenchless) options to make the repairs with Mr. Williams indicating he is also reaching out to contractors in his area for options. Consensus of the commission is to get better cost information and to look at some kind of agreement to proceed in this matter. Commissioner Stern suggested the developer could get a bond to ensure payment would be made to move forward and stated he is not aware of other factors that may be affecting the developer. No further action taken.  
 Engineer's Report: Jerod Klabunde, Moore Engineering, stated again that the engineers are still seeking options for the repairs in Expedition Estates. Regarding the sewer project, manhole rehab should be completed within the next week, and asphalt patching is tentatively scheduled for late May or early June. Mr. Klabunde will have quotes for additional asphalt repairs of areas reviewed recently and will present them at the May meeting. Mr. Klabunde referred to photos of the shared use trail, taken by Commissioner Wiedrich, relating to lengthwise cracks in the concrete and asked if these may be caused by the skid-steer operating on the path in fall or spring when the ground is not completely frozen. Mr. Klabunde said this could be a contributing factor, but the main issue is the fact that, when constructed, these paths very rarely use rebar to reinforce the concrete which allows movement as weather conditions change. Commissioner Wiedrich encouraged public works to use the JD broom/blower when the ground is not frozen, and Mr. Klabunde said the soil in the city is very expansive and everything tends to move. The commission would like estimates from local contractors to repair the raised portions at the next meeting. Mr. Klabunde would like to review the Capital Improvement Plan in July and stated that grants are not available for street repairs unless it involves underground infrastructure.  
**APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS AND BUILDING PERMITS**  
 Fireworks Sales Application – Memory Fireworks: The commission reviewed an application to sell fireworks presented by Mr. Knutson, Memory Fireworks. No action will be taken on the application until the fire chief has been consulted.  
**REPORTS**  
 Water/Sewer/Garbage: Commissioner Stern had nothing to report at this time.  
 Street/Cemetery: Commissioner Haack had nothing to report at this time.  
 Finance/Busing/Library: Commissioner Folkerts informed the board that one of the doors on the transit building had been damaged and the director received an estimate to repair from Midwest Doors. Commissioner Folkerts moved to authorize the repairs by Midwest Doors at a cost not to exceed \$3374.00, second by Commissioner Wiedrich. Upon discussion, Commissioner Stern was advised that there was no damage to the vehicle striking the door. On roll call vote: Folkerts, "Aye", Wiedrich, "Aye", Haack, "Aye", Stern, "Aye", Schiferl, "Aye", motion carried.

Police/Fire/Forestry: Chief Wolff informed the commission that the cameras have been installed in the vehicles and that the department is looking at contracting IT support and will bring information to the commission at a future meeting. Commissioner Wiedrich reported continuing issues near 701 Therapy and a "near miss" with a pedestrian crossing the street. The commission discussed the process to install the signs and Commissioner Folkerts spoke about the change of use and the need for signs. Commissioner Folkerts moved to install four-way stop signs at the intersection of 1st Ave & 1st Street SW, second by Commissioner Wiedrich. Upon discussion, Commissioner Stern commented on the frustration of stopping at each intersection in town and suggested reviewing areas for signs that could safely be removed. Commissioner Haack said a heavier police presence will be required when the new signs are installed until residents/travelers are familiar with the change. On roll call vote: Folkerts, "Aye", Wiedrich, "Aye", Haack, "Aye", Stern, "Aye", Schiferl, "Aye", motion carried. Commissioner Wiedrich asked about relocating the stop signs near the hospital and was informed this will be completed when frost is out of the ground.  
 HCD: Antoinette Heier, HCD Director, informed the commission that the Nail Salon hopes to be open by the end of April or early part of May and family members are enrolled in school in Hazen. Ms. Heier, and others, attended the Tourism Conference & Economic Development and said that at next week's HCD meeting they will be looking at creating/awarding 50/50 business grants to local businesses for startup, improvement, day-care provider, and storefront improvement.  
 President: President Schiferl had nothing to report at this time.  
**OLD BUSINESS**  
 NDIRF Public Sewer Backup/Water Main Break Coverage: The commission again discussed purchasing sewer backup/water main break endorsement from ND Insurance Reserve Fund and was advised that, of those responding, 50% of municipalities have opted for the endorsement. Commissioner Haack moved to purchase the endorsement with a \$10,000/occurrence level, second by Commissioner Wiedrich. Upon discussion, Commissioner Wiedrich commented that he doesn't think the endorsement is necessary based on the minimal potential for use and President Schiferl supports the purchase whole heartedly considering conditions of 11th Ave with the option to discontinue the endorsement if it seems unwarranted. Commissioner Stern commented that he would prefer the city create a reserve fund in the 2027 budget based on the annual coverage cost. On roll call vote: Haack, "Aye", Wiedrich, "Nay", Folkerts, "Nay", Stern, "Nay", Schiferl, "Aye", motion defeated.  
**NEW BUSINESS**  
 Special Assessment Committee Appointment: The commission was informed that Alice Grinsteiner has expressed an interest in filling the vacant seat on the special assessment committee. Commissioner Wiedrich moved to approve the appointment of Ms. Grinsteiner to the SAC, second by Commissioner Folkerts. Upon discussion, Commissioner Wiedrich expressed disappointment in the process of advertising for board positions, commenting that he was not aware there was still a vacancy on the board, and suggested the city utilize social media more in the future. Motion unanimously approved.  
**PUBLIC COMMENTS**  
 No public comments were received.  
 Approval of Bills and Financial Statements: Commissioner Wiedrich moved to approve the bills and financial statements, as presented, second by Commissioner Stern. Prepaid and bills approved for payment are as follows: CVB, 7060.66; Marco Technologies LLC, 352.36; MDU, 4692.47; Roughrider Electric Coop, 5176.34; USA Blue Book, 170.41; API Garage Door Inc, 557.00; D&E Supply, 249.18; DTA, 240.00; Donovan & Kaffar PLLP, 1650.00; Environmental Equip, 76.78; Evolv Inc, 39.95; Fitterer Oil LLC, 629.55; Fuelman Fleet, 703.29; Health Equity, 6.50; J.P. Cooke Co, 88.95; Mandate Automotive, 2849.24; Mercer Co Historical Society, 25.00; Millennium Express, 12.00; NAPA, 336.34; Peter Grossman, 16.50; Railroad Mgt Co III LLC, 458.76; Stamps.com, 22.49; The Hub, 1024.41; US Postal Service, 425.75; USA Blue Book, 358.32. On roll call vote: Wiedrich, "Aye", Stern, "Aye", Folkerts, "Aye", Haack, "Aye", Schiferl, "Aye", motion carried.  
 There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 PM CT. The next regular meeting of the commission is scheduled for Monday, May 4, 2026, at 5:30 PM CT in the Commission Room of the Hazen City Hall.  
 Approved: Jesse Schiferl, President  
 Attest: Monte J. Erhardt, Auditor

(05-14-2026)

# CITY OF STANTON MEETIN MINUTES

March 09, 2026  
 Mayor Saylor called the city regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the City Hall with the following members present: Neumiller, Cole, Kelly and Babb. Absent were council members, Cole and Neumiller. Absent was Auditor Braithwaite. Present was Public Works Supervisor, Chapman. Also present were D. Chapman, J. Summers, K. Petti, J. Grannis, C. Erickson, R. Boyko, R. Vigesaa, J. Garrett, E. Brost, and T. Brost.  
 Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Babb approving the minutes of February 9th, 2026 City Council regular meetings. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.  
 Moved by Kelly, seconded by Babb approving the January 2026 Financial Reports submitted by Auditor Braithwaite. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.  
 Moved by Babb, seconded by Neumiller approving the second reading of Ordinance 26-01 for disconnection of service to 30 days after due date. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.  
 Moved by Babb, seconded by Cole approving the second reading of Ordinance 26-02 for Floodplain Management. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.  
 After further discussion and questions regarding Floodplain management, Mayor Saylor made a motion to rescind the second reading approval of Ordinance 26-02. Moved by Babb, seconded by Cole approving the rescind of the second reading for Ordinance 26-02 until further discussion. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.  
 Moved by Cole, seconded by Kelly approving the second reading of Ordinance 26-03 for Seasonal Prohibited Parking of trailers, campers and similar from October 1st – April 15th. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.  
 Moved by Babb, seconded by Neumiller approving to rezone Block 3, Lots 1-24 Miller 1st Addition from MH to Commercial submitted by Boyko Inc. Boyko explained that he planned to put up commercial storage units and install new water and sewer infrastructure. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.  
 Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Babb approving the Liquor Permit 26-01 submitted by The River Run for the event on March 28, 2026. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.  
 Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Kelly approving the Liquor License 2026 renewal submitted by The River Run for the event on March 28, 2026. Roll call vote: All members

voted aye, carried.  
 Council held a discussion on the proposed bid from T. Binder for the remodel of the Civic Center sink area. Mayor Saylor wanted to invite Binder to discuss further the bid and work.  
 A discussion was held regarding summer help. E. and T Brost asked the age limit to work as it was currently set for 18 and older. Council members wanted to look into what the ND State Age requirement is officially. Council will contact Brost with further information.  
 Council reviewed the delinquent accounts. If no payments received prior, the disconnection of water is scheduled for March 16th at 10:00am.  
 R. Boyko informed the council on the proposed small data center in the near future at Dakota Transload. Boyko will provide updates to council when he has more information. No action taken.  
 D. Chapman with the Stanton Civic Club updated the council that the new digital sign will be put in early this Spring by the Civic Center. Moved by Cole, seconded by Neumiller approving the quote presented by N. Chapman to purchase new wheels for the table storage carts located at the civic center. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.  
 Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Kelly approving the payment of the following bills submitted:  
 Frankin Templeton \$1102.94, Hazen Star \$677.61, Steffes Agency Inc \$8920.00, City of Stanton \$344.83, ND Dept of Health \$27.00, Dakota Dust-Tex \$139.45, Ferguson \$1357.36, WRT \$545.42, Braithwaite \$19.72, Hazen Hardware Hank \$2.67, Circle Sanitation Inc \$4571.50, Aflac \$1004.04, Southwest Water Authority \$5433.85, City of Stanton \$3967.90, Banyon Data Systems \$3385.00, Donovan & Kaffar, PPLP \$150.00, Wages \$2411.71, JD Financial \$44.25, Solem Law Office \$1648.75, Southwest Water Authority \$5130.63, Roughrider Electric \$36,522.57, US Treasury \$1963.00, ND Clerks Association \$100.00, Fitterer Oil, LLC \$1170.40, WAPA \$4478.20, BCBS of ND \$5806.10, Mutual of Omaha \$25.20, Aflac \$1004.40, US Treasury \$2411.71, Modern Marketing \$285.31. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.  
 Being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.  
 Mayor: Tom Saylor  
 Office Secretary: Tricia Leinius

(05-14-2026)

# CITY OF STANTON MEETIN MINUTES

April 13, 2026  
 Mayor Saylor called the city regular meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. at the City Hall with the following members present: Neumiller, Cole, and Kelly. Absent were council members, Absent was council member, Babb. Present were Auditor Braithwaite and Public Works Supervisor, Chapman. Also present were Summers, Thernes, Thieling, Binder, and Owens.  
 Moved by Kelly, seconded by Cole approving the minutes of March 9th, 2026 City Council regular meeting. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.  
 Moved by Kelly, seconded by Cole approving the minutes of March 25th, 2026 City Council special meeting. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.  
 Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Cole approving the February 2026 Financial Reports submitted by Auditor Braithwaite. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.  
 Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Kelly approving the 2026 first quarter security pledge with Union State Bank. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.  
 Moved by Cole, seconded by Kelly approving the building permit #26-01 submitted by L. Tuck to replace the exiting deck in his front yard located on his property on Block 10, N 15' lot 4, Lot 5, 6. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.  
 Thieling read her protest letter to the council regarding the unpaid bills on her properties located on Block 5 which were certified to the County last year as specials. Council took no action in her requests as the City's attorney needed to be present on this matter. Binder explained to the council that the quote presented earlier for the Civic Center kitchen only included the parts and supplies for the remodeling. His hours will be submitted as a city employee. He also advised that the prices may have changed as well. Mayor Saylor suggested to table off this project until further review other incoming expenses as this wasn't budgeted for this year.  
 Owens with Summit Counseling Services held a discussion with the council regarding the unpaid bills. She asked if the ser charge could be waived. Auditor Braithwaite explained that there was no ser charge and explained that the amount Owens was

referred to was actually the current charges. Owens will review her bills again as she may have misread. She also informed the council that they were working on some kind of partnership, and if this doesn't work, Summit will be closed.  
 Thernes asked if there was issue with some of the streetlights. Chapman stated that the lights were updated to LED, but there were electrical issues with some of these. He will be in contact with Frontier to get these fixed. A discussion was held about hiring summer helpers. Deadline to apply is April 30th. The council will review the applications and go from there.  
 Chapman presented the council with a few quotes including the quote for a new loader with trade in of the current loader from Butler and a new broom and parts from RDO. Council will review the quotes and will visit more at a later date. No action taken.  
 Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Kelly approving the payment of the following bills submitted: Edling Electric \$ 1498.70, Circle Sanitations \$4571.50, Cardmember Service \$1492.76, Wages \$7280.05, Rud Oil & Gas \$1111.83, Dakota Dust-Tex \$139.45, Dakota Pump & Control \$528.50, Industrial Chem Labs \$149.70, Wages \$6902.78, Franklin Templeton \$1059.60, WRT \$541.35, J. Brown \$150.00, NAPA \$125.43, REC \$22972.80, Donovan & Kaffar, PPLP \$150.00, Jerry Electric \$13980.00, Solem Law Office \$533.75, Colonial Research Chem Corp \$243.44, John Deere Financial \$322.24, Titan Machinery \$1435.08, Krause's \$2.50, City of Stanton \$412.11, ND Dept of Health \$27.00, Wages \$7855.85, City of Stanton \$3813.52, Southwest Water Authority \$3553.78, Mutual of Omaha \$25.20, Aflac \$1004.04, BCBS of North Dakota \$7120.00, Cardmember Service \$1358.70, WAPA \$5002.80, ND State Tax Commissioner \$178.84, US Treasury \$2069.55, REC \$27106.46, US Treasury \$ 2257.95, R Olson \$ 275.00. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.  
 Being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.  
 Mayor: Tom Saylor  
 Office Secretary: Tricia Leinius

(05-14-2026)