

Pursuant to due call and proper notice thereof, a meeting of the Breckenridge City Council was held on January 12, 2026, at 5:00 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, Breckenridge, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor Russell Wilson; Council Members Beth Meyer, Jim Jawaski, Brooks Klinnert, Jamie Rezac, Chris Vedder and Scott Wermerskirchen. City Administrator Sydney Wiertzema and City Attorney Jason Butts.

Members Absent: None

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

With the addition of 7A – Angie Cleveland to talk about a resident living in 506 Andrews, Council Member Vedder moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Council Member Wermerskirchen and carried unanimously.

Open Discussion: None.

Motion by Council Member Wermerskirchen to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Council Member Meyer and carried unanimously. The Consent Agenda included the following:

- A. Motion to approve the minutes of the regular City Council meeting on December 15, 2025.
- B. Motion to approve the minutes of the regular Public Utilities meeting on December 15, 2025.
- C. Motion approving a Raffle Permit for the Wilkin County Ag Society.
- D. Motion approving a quote in the amount of \$35,349 for a used 2022 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Pickup for the Building Official (paid out of Capital Outlay) – Approved by the Finance Committee.
- E. Motion approving the purchase of a 10' HD Box Scraper w/Tilt in the amount of \$3,500 (paid out of Capital Outlay).

Bruce Yaggie was present to give an update of the Infinity Center. He said that it would be divided into two areas: SPARC and the Infinity Center. SPARC would be like a vibrant community hub, a community center for the twin towns and the Infinity Center would be a premier sports facility.

Phase 1 of the project is getting a sheet of ice, which would be occupied by our BW Blades. The Mycogen building will be housing the Sanford OT/PT and optical. This is 8,400 sq. ft. There is 6,000 sq. ft. of flex space. The commons/concessions area is 5,000 sq. ft. There is the hockey rink and the courts: 3 basketball, 4 shared volleyball, 2 shared batting cages, 1 shared tennis, and 4 dedicated pickle ball courts. This all equals 36,000 sq. ft. Someone also mentioned that Trade Shows were a popular thing in the area so this center is designed for that also because there would also be two wood courts and one multipurpose one. There would also be an indoor walking track.

Bruce mentioned that he had a lot of NDSU Bison turf from when they built the facility in Fargo. He would like to put down a practice field next to the building.

The vision for the Infinity Center is being designed primarily as a rental and tournament facility. The focus is on local rental leagues, local leagues, regional events, large tournaments and book use. It will drive visitors to visit our hotels and our restaurants and hopefully help in our economy. The Infinity Center brings people here. SPARCS serves the people that live here.

The expected start date is the early spring of 2026. The estimated finish date, based on Comstock's timelines is December, 2026. The ice and the courts would likely be finished in February or March of 2027. Bruce did say that they are still short about 2-3 million dollars.

City Attorney Butts and Chief of Police Karlgaard were present to talk about 506 Andrews. Last week, Chris Loehr posted a notice with a list of required repairs that must be done within 30 days. There was also an order that the tenants must move out within 14 days. Chris and Chief did a walk through and found a number of serious, health related issues. The City is working with Wilkin County Health to potentially find some new places for the residents to live.

Angie Cleveland, a public advocate for the Lakes of Great Community Action (CAPLP), was present. She said that she has a client that lives in one of the units and she has been trying to move out. She also said that the residents thought that this was going to happen in the Spring. Three of them are Breck/Wahp members. They grew up here and don't want to move away from this community but there are obstacles. That is why they live in UNICEF. She asked if the 14 days could be extended so the residents could have more time to find a place to live. Is somebody going to help them with the cost? She has one client that she can help but what about the other three? She has tried the County but hasn't gotten any help from them.

Council Member Vedder offered Resolution No. 13555-03/2026, "**A RESOLUTION ALLOWING BILLS AND CLAIMS AGAINST THE CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE, MINNESOTA,**" and moved for its adoption. Seconded by Council Member Klinnert and carried unanimously.

City Administrator Wiertzema gave an update on the Board of Appeal and Equalization Training. She let everyone know that Jamie Rezac did the training, so he and Chris Vedder are both trained.

There is an open position on the Library Board. If anyone is interested, please let Sydney or the Mayor know. Chris Vedder said that she would consider it.

Motion by Council Member Meyer to approve the 1st reading of Ordinance No. 538 – an ordinance amending Chapter 86 – Fees to the City Code. Seconded by Council Member Wermerskirchen and carried unanimously. This ordinance would make it so you can't sell low potency hemp without a license from the City. The license would be \$125.00 each.

Motion by Council Member Meyer to approve the 1st reading of Ordinance No. 539 – An ordinance amending Chapter 69 – Cannabis to the City code. Seconded by Council Member Klinnert and carried unanimously. This one is making it so you can only sell cannabis at a place that allows people that are over 21 years old.

Motion by Council Member Vedder to approve the 1st reading of Ordinance No. 540 – An ordinance amending Chapter 190 – Zoning of the City code. Seconded by Council Member Rezac and carried unanimously. This limits where in town you can sell it.

Council Committee Reports:

- A. Finance – Talked about the pickup for the Building Official which was approved.
- B. Public Works – None.
- C. Personnel – None.
- D. Police – Pedestrian crossing the west side of St. Mary school – monitoring it (Neil said that he ordered some 20 mph signs); Parking on the North side of St. Mary's – tabled until next meeting; Meeting with the Railroad after the last meeting; Rental inspections – trying to clean up more properties in town, whether it's rental or just homeowner properties that need to be looked at; Low potency hemp; Working on the misdemeanors and petty misdemeanor ordinances.
- E. Others as needed – LEC Committee; Special Assessments, Active Living, Arts Council, Library – None.

Staff Reports:

- City Administrator – Received Neil's (Director of Public Services) resignation letter. His last day will be Friday, May 29, 2026. Will bring it to Personnel to start looking for someone to fill his position; Working on a grant with Jason; Yearend reports; W-2s, Payroll reports.

Motion by Council Member Jawaski to accept Neil Crocker's resignation, with deep regrets, for Friday, May 29, 2026. Seconded by Council Member Vedder. This was a 5-1 vote to accept the resignation.

- City Attorney – Working on a grant with Sydney; 506 Andrews house.
- Director of Public Services – Working with Sydney on a \$250,000 Tap grant and a \$250,000 carbon reduction grant. Looking to get the levy system paved on the golf course with these. They were both submitted last week and we will have to do a presentation for the selection committee in the first part of February. We will extend our walk/bike path trail system from Riverbend Trail along the levee over to the walking bridge going over to Wahpeton.
- Building Official/Codes – None.
- Chief of Police – There were a lot of alcohol related issues the beginning of the month. Chief wanted to commend his staff and the Sheriff's office for handling

everything; Officer Olson has successfully completed her field training, so she is able to take calls and be on shifts by herself. Officer Cottrell is expected to complete his FTO soon. Chief said that he has the Mayor and City Administrators permission to hire a part-time officer who has successfully completed all the prerequisites. This will happen towards the end of the month; There have been some applications that have come in and the Personnel Committee will review them and decide how to move forward with them.

Mayor's Comments: The Mayor received a card from West Central Initiative thanking the City for the ongoing support and partnership.

Other Comments: Beth received a text message from Ron Fisher. He wanted to thank everyone that helped/worked/organized the Community Days, parade, festivities down at the park, and for the Bull Bash. Also, to the fire department – the bartenders weren't afraid to check IDs. He also said that we have the best drinking water in the state and a great street department! Wherever he travels, he brags about our great utility rates. He said that we are also grateful for Chief Karlgaard and his department. He is proud to be a citizen of Breckenridge, MN and he wants to thank all the departments that keep this city running.

Motion by Council Member Jawaski to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 p.m. Seconded by Council Member Vedder and carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

RUSSELL WILSON, Mayor

SYDNEY WIERTZEMA, City Administrator