

**City of Bowlus**  
**April 6, 2026**  
**Public Hearing for Adaptation of Land Usage, Ordinance and Zoning Maps**  
**And City Council Meeting Minutes**

Mayor Travis Bartkowicz called the Public hearing for adoption of Land Usage Ordinance and Zoning Maps to order at 5:31 p.m. Council Members Jessy Lashinski and Terri Trettel, Interim Treasurer Amber Brenny, and Interim Clerk Nicky Lahr were present. Also present were Joe Sobania, Sarah Seelen, Brad Psyck, Laura Montag, Scott Saehr and Cory Sobania. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Scott Saehr presented the proposed Title 15 Land Usage Ordinance. The full red-line document was available for viewing upon request. No public input was received at the meeting or prior. Several clarifications were made to the document, including the addition of a cannabis ordinance. The Council decided to table the final vote and asked for a clean copy to review for the May Council meeting.

Terri made a motion to close the public hearing. Jessy seconded it and the motion passed unanimously.

**Guests:** Cory Sobania applied for a building permit for a new garage, and a permit for an addition to his house. Both were issued and a \$50 fee was collected for each.

**Consent Agenda:** Terri made a motion to approve the consent agenda, including the March financials and the March minutes. Jessy seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Amber gave an update on MN paid leave, stating that the City qualified as a "small employer", reducing the rates. She also reported that the Fire Department CD matures on 4/21/26. Fire Chief, Brad, requested that this would be renewed for another 6 months, and include the \$63,803.64 that was left from their prior CD. Nicky will arrange this within the acceptable timeframe. Amber also shared that a donation was received from the Fire and First Response for 1/3 share of the AED annual subscription in the amount of \$200 each.

**Fire Department Report:** Brad is working with Jason Murray with David Drown Associates for the Fire Truck bond. He will draft a resolution for the July meeting. Brad asked that we pay for a third party to administer the [Sam.Gov](http://Sam.Gov) account, for a 5-year contract. The payment is \$2,000 and will be split between the City and the Fire Department. Nicky will make the payment with the Bank Card. Brad also mentioned that he repaired the heater at the community center, and needs reimbursement.

**Utility Department Report:** Sarah gave the utility report, and stated that she read the meters and will be sending out bills. She also agreed to print and mail out the letters to citizens that the Council drafted. Nicky will get her the digital file. She asked Nicky to post the clean-up poster in front of City Hall.

**Public Works Report:** Joe gave the Water/Sewer report. He will need to replace the raw water meter, and was able to obtain 2 quotes for this. Jessy made a motion to go with Furguson Waterworks. Jessy seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Joe also mentioned that Landwehr would like to buy water from the City. He would need to purchase a hydrant meter to accurately bill for the use. He plans to look into prices for this, and has an initial estimate of \$2020. Joe also stated that he will need to do sewer jetting in the near future, and will be getting quotes for that as well.

**Community Center Report**

Laura Montag turned in \$1,250 from the Community Center. She informed the Council of an uneven cement slab and a chipped step at the Center. Laura stated that she brought a ladder from home to wash windows. The Council approved the purchase of a ladder for the facility, and Terri will pick that up for her. Nicky was asked to get a quote from Sytek for internet services at the facility.

**Clerk's Report:** Nicky confirmed that Sytek updated the outgoing messages for the phone system, and now when called, you have the option to speak with the Clerk, the Mayor, or Laura for the Community Center. PERA has been set up for Joe, along with the 3 year history, and the exclusion reporting will be done soon. The cleanup poster has been made and Sarah will distribute those as needed. The annual liquor license renewals were received and applications will be distributed. Nicky shared with the Council that it was very difficult to try to do duplicate books alongside Amber, as directed. She asked if she could instead review Amber's entries. The Council agreed to this.

**Old Business:** Jessy made a motion to establish a public works fund account and to transfer the small city funds into the account from 2025 and going forward. Terri seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The Council reviewed and approved the final draft of the letter to be sent to all citizens. Sarah will get a copy from Nicky and mail them out.

**New Business:** Jessy made a motion to establish Bollig as the City's official engineering firm. Terri seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Mayor/Council updates:** Travis spoke with Sourcewell and determined that we had not applied for any grants this year, making the City eligible. Travis and Nicky will be meeting with Sourcewell representatives to learn more about these opportunities.

Jessy made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. Terri seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

**Looking forward:** City Wide Cleanup will be on May 2nd. Bowlus Day will be July 5th. The next City Council Meeting will be on May 4th at 6:00 pm.



Nicky Lahr  
Interim City Clerk