

The regular monthly City Council meeting was held on December 1, 2025, with Mayor Jake Wentland, Council Member Jessy Lashinski, Council Member Terri Trettel, Council Member Travis Bartkowicz, and City Clerk Jude Stodolka present. Treasurer Molly Sobania was absent. Also in attendance were Joe Sobania, Fire Chief Brad Psyck, Jordie Stay, Sara and Josh Seelen. Roll call was approved.

A motion was made to approve the roll call by Jessy Lashinski. Seconded by Travis Bartkowicz.

The November minutes were approved. A motion was made by Jessy Lashinski to approve the minutes. Seconded by Travis Bartkowicz.

Bills to be paid were accepted with no additional new bills. A motion was made to accept bills to be paid by Jessy Lashinski. Seconded by Travis Bartkowicz.

The Treasurer's report was approved. The expenses for the pavilion and playground will continue to come out of the general fund. Fire Chief Brad Psyck will open a six month CD in the amount of \$26,000.00 from Pine Country Bank of Royalton. The amount of \$26,000.00 will be taken out of the Fire Department account. A motion to approve the CD was made by Terri Trettel. Seconded by Jessy Lashinski. The Treasurer's report was approved by Terri Trettel. Seconded by Travis Bartkowicz.

## DEPARTMENT UPDATES

**FIRE:** Fire Chief Brad Psyck informed the city council that two new firefighters will be taking one and two classes. Brad Psyck was voted in as the 2026 Bowlus Fire Chief by the Bowlus firefighters. There are currently a total of 22 Bowlus firefighters.

**UTILITIES:** Utility Administrator Sara Seelen is working with Larson Abstract regarding the purchase of Maxwell Arends property. The property has a water meter located in an area that is not accessible to have the water meter read. A letter will be mailed to the new owner addressing the issue stating it will need to be corrected within six months of the purchase of the property.

**WATER:** Water/Sewer Superintendent Joe Sobania reported that Nelson Sanitation has cleaned the lift stations.

**COMMUNITY CENTER:** Jordie Stay delivered \$900.00 in rentals to the city council. Jordie suggested the fluorescent lights in the community center hall be converted to LED lights. Paul Schultz will be contacted to convert the lights for estimate.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Equalization meeting will be held as an open meeting on April 10, 2026. A motion to approve the open meeting was made by Terri Trettel. Seconded by Jessy

Lashinski. The 2026 Levy will remain at 12%. A motion was made by Terri Trettel to approve the Levy. Seconded by Travis Bartkowicz.

A Special Meeting was held on December 17, 2025, with Council Member Travis Bartkowicz, Council Member Terri Trettel, Council Member Jessy Lashinski and City Clerk Jude Stodolka present. An interview with Nikki Lahr was held for the vacated position of Bowlus City Clerk. Nikki Lahr will assume the City Clerk position effective January 2, 2026 through December 31, 2026. A motion was made by Terri Trettel to approve hiring Nikki Lahr as City Clerk at an hourly wage of \$30.00. Seconded by Jessy Lashinski. As City Clerk, Nikki Lahr will be a signer on the checking account and other bank documents, including CDs at Pine Country Bank of Royalton and will receive a debit card for purchasing office supplies, effective January 2, 2026. A motion was made by Jessy Lashinski to approve Nikki Lahr as signee at Pine Country Bank of Royalton and debit cardholder. Seconded by Terri Trettel. The Bowlus City Council appointed Travis Bartkowicz as Bowlus City Mayor. Travis Bartkowicz was sworn in as Mayor, with the oath of office, effective January 2, 2026. The appointment will fulfill the vacated mayor position through December 31, 2026. Travis Bartkowicz will be a signee at the Pine Country Bank of Royalton and will receive a debit card to purchase supplies. A motion was made by Jessy Lashinski to approve Travis Bartkowicz as bank signee and debit cardholder. Seconded by Terri Trettel. A discussion was made regarding the appointment of a committee to review employee timesheets. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Terri Trettel. Seconded by Jessy Lashinski. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Jude Stodolka  
City Clerk