

EMMONS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: March 9, 2026

Time: 7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order by the Mayor, Dave Bosma at 7:00 pm

ATTENDANCE:

Council Members: Jerome Wuerflein, Neal Honsey Absent: Paul Lair, Eleanor Bauman

City Clerk: Lorry Zasada, ISG: Bryan Petzel

Approval of the meeting Agenda: Motion made by Wuerflein to accept the agenda, seconded by Honsey, motion carried 3/0

Approval of Minutes from previous meetings – Feb 9th

Motion made by Honsey to accept the minutes from the previous meeting, seconded by Wuerflein, motion carried 3/0

Financial Reports were reviewed.

Reconciled Checking Balance: \$158,377.41; Savings & CDs Balance: \$ 1,390,102.94

Receipts: \$360,434 - UB \$34,635 Int \$2,265; Donations \$8,500; Rec't from 4M Fund \$120,000, Donations \$6,000, Matured EFD CD \$97,534, XFR to 4M Fund \$97,500.

Disbursements: \$360,565 (General \$12,136; Water \$3,086.94; Sewer \$3,895; Garbage \$1,873; EFD \$219,574; XFR from 4M Fund \$120,000

Motion made by Wuerflein to accept the financial reports as stated, seconded by Honsey6, motion carried 3/0.

Bills Due:

Total Claims: \$ 253,874.19 Motion made by Wuerflein to pay the bills, seconded by Bauman, motion carried 3/0.

OLD BUSINESS:

ISG – Update

- PPL Application was submitted. Current interest rate is 2.73% should drop in April. Affordability rate is 1.75%. City will apply for National Reserve Funds. Per conference call with Terry Louwagie at the USDA, the city will require interim financing with Rural Water. Motion made by Wuerflein, seconded by Honsey to apply for the National Reserve Funds, carried 3/0
- Wuerflein suggested that the city put all the Water projects on hold. This will cause the city to miss the deadline for the special State funding that was available this year. Things to consider are the current Treatment Plant is not large enough for an additional filter, would have to be expanded. Wuerflein wants the council to consider rehab vs new. Current IUP due end of March and a PPL amendment by end of May.
- A few residents were dissatisfied with the proposed location in the current plan, south east area of the school grounds. Since the project is now delayed, a new site west of Ridge or Park Street are to be considered for the tower, wells and new plant. The PER & ER reports previously submitted to the USDA will have to be rewritten and resubmitted.

- City will be required over the next 5 years to drill new wells as the current well is compromised. Estimate for 2 new wells only is \$1.8MM which is under the total city affordability, meaning the city would have to fund this on their own. Rehab of the current water tower and plant is estimated at \$1,713,000 (today's dollars) which will need to be completed between 2028-2035.
- Council deferred making any decision until full council is present. Special Meeting scheduled for March 24th at 9:30 a.m.

Update 250 Year Celebration

- Saturday, June 27th activities to include Corn Hole, Fire Dept Contest, Car Show (with entry fee), Tractor Show, History tour of the Town with a guide, Bouncy House for kids, Legion will provide food and beverage, and Music at 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday, June 28th – Church Services at the Veteran’s Memorial
- 3 Port-a-Potties will be setup around town
- American Legion has donated \$1500 towards celebration expenses
 - Motion made by Wuerflein, to match funds for the celebration of \$1500, seconded by Honsey, motion carried 3/0

NEW BUSINESS:

Upgrade Postage Meter to an auto-feed model with sealer. City will save money on self-sealing envelopes. Extra cost of the lease will be a net \$0 expense increase. Motion made by Honsey to accept, seconded by Wuerflein to upgrade the postage meter, motion carried 3/0

Adopt RES 2026-03 Freeborn County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Motion was made by Wuerflein, seconded by Honsey to adopt the Freeborn County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion carried 3/0

City Cleanup Day – May 9th

Motion made by Wuerflein, seconded by Honsey to contract with Thompson Sanitation for city wide clean-up day scheduled for May 9th beginning at 6:00 a.m. Motion carried 3/0

Properties that need to be cleaned up

Several properties in town need to be cleaned up. City will reach out to Albert Lea Police Dept. regarding Ordinance enforcement and fining offenders. The mayor will schedule the annual inspection of chicken coops in town.

ADJOURNMENT – motion made by Wuerflein to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Honsey, motion carried 3/0. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m. Next regular council meeting to be held Monday, April 13th, 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Submitted by:

Lorry Zasada
Clerk/Treasurer