

City of Preston  
 Regular City Council Meeting  
 February 9, 2026

Mayor, Tyler Sieverding called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.  
 The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

ROLL CALL: Present: Matt Gerardy, Matt Petersen, Leesa Budde, Adam Reuter  
 Absent: Dylan Meyer

OTHERS PRESENT: Sheryl Ganzer, City Administrator/Clerk, Tracey Lee, Deputy Clerk, Chad Gruver, Police Chief.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented by L. Budde, seconded by M. Gerardy.  
 Motion carried.

CITIZEN/PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Councilmember – Dylan Meyer entered the meeting at 6:03 pm.

CONSENT AGENDA: Including minutes of the last meeting, financial reports, payment approval of paid and unpaid claims, utility reports, monthly police report, gas water heater rebate - \$25 – Roger Kilburg, gas furnace rebate - \$100 – Ryan Sparlin. Petersen questioned invoice for water main repair, would like explanation of hiring out labor. A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by D. Meyer, seconded by A. Reuter. Motion carried – with the explanation on invoice be presented at next meeting.

Payee	Description	Amount
AT&T MOBILITY	PD PHONE SERVICE	282.87
PRESTON TELEPHONE COMPANY	JANUARY 2026 PHONE SERVICE	891.26
CARDMEMBER SERVICE	WORDPRESS WEBSTIE HOSTING	118.73
VC3 INC.	ITnBox SUPPORT	923.28
ADVANTAGE ADMINISTRATORS	HRA ADMINISTRATION SERVICE	42.00
CITY OF MAQUOKETA	COMMUNICATIONS FY 25/26	31,647.70
FIRE SERVICE TRAINING BUREAU	REG: WILLEY FARRELL GERARDY, LANDON	600.00
RUCHOTZKE, LANDON	911 BOARD MEETING MILLAGE REIMB	21.00
RUCHOTZKE, LANDON	HOTEL/MEALS/MILLAGE STATE FIRE SCHOOL	859.50
RIES PEST CONTROL	REFILL RODENT BAIT BOXES FIRE STATION	117.70
UNPLUGGED WIRELESS COMM	H1904 MOTO 05 DUAL HED KIT	566.50
AT&T MOBILITY	CELL SERVICE - FD	102.22
KIRBY WATER CONDITIONING	2 50# SOLAR SALT	28.71
USCELLULAR	FIRE DEPT CELL PHONE	29.58
PRESTON MUNICIPAL UTIL.	JANUARY 2026 UTILITIES	13,267.83
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	6 CHRISTMAS LIGHT BULBS	3.00
HWY 64 DIESEL	WELD PIPE TO SNOWPLOW	130.00
WELLMARK BC/ BS	FEBRUARY 2026 HEALTH INSURANCE	10,198.53
IOWA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION	206 DUES	65.00
PRESTON MUNICIPAL UTIL.	DECEMBER 2025 UTILITIES	392.60
PRESTON TELEPHONE CO	DECEMBER 2025 PHONE SERVICE	82.47
BREDEKAMP, CAROLINE	9 BOOKS	132.78
THE PENWORTHY COMPANY	8 BOOKS	166.75
QUILL CORPORATION	2026 CALENDAR	159.12
ANDERSON, KEN	DOWNTOWN INSENTIVE GRANT	5,000.00

LYNCH DALLAS P.C.	FEES KILBURG LAND LLC	653.51
CARDMEMBER SERVICE	1 COUNCIL TABLE	227.69
PRESTON TIMES	01/12/26 CLAIMS	228.74
QUILL CORPORATION	CASE OF PAPER 8.5X11	123.68
STOREY KENWORTHY	TAX FORMS 2025	90.30
MAQUOKETA STATE BANK	JANUARY 2026 MAINTENACE FEE	46.76
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SWIFFER/TOILET BRUSH	650.58
MOELLER, PAUL	SIDEWALK REIMBURSEMENT	1,230.00
CARDMEMBER SERVICE	ADV H2O WORK SHOP TRAINING-TIM	180.00
TREASURER/SALES & USE TAX	WATER EXCISE TAX	1,286.33
CHEM RIGHT LABORATORIES INC.	WATER SAMPLE LAB FEE	28.00
EASTERN IOWA PLUMBING	WATER MAIN BREAK SOUTH ST LABOR	1,082.50
PRESTON READY MIX CORP.	1' CLEAN WATER MAIN BREAK SOUTH ST	95.22
TOTAL COMFORT H & C	HANGING HEATER LIGHT PLANT	3,770.42
MAQUOKETA VALLEY ELEC COOP	SECURITY LIGHT DEC 2025	9.31
IOWA UTILITIES COMMISSION	ELECTRIC INSPECTION SERVICES	2,199.01
WPPI	JANUARY 2026 POWER PURCHASE	47,970.35
ALLIANT ENERGY	ADMIN FEE QTR 1 2026	3,000.00
CULLIGAN OF CLINTON	LIGHT PLANT WATER CONDITIONING	37.85
COMPASS	1000 #10 REGULAR ENVELOPES	923.29
RIVER VALLEY ENERGY	2000 GAL DIESEL @ 2.49 /GAL	4,980.00
ADVANTAGE ADMINISTRATORS	PSF-T. LEE	2,339.33
ADVANTAGE ADMINISTRATORS	PSF-T. LEE	0.01
CLAYTON ENERGY CORPORATION	DECEMBER 2025 COMMODITY INVOICE	22,544.29
CLAYTON ENERGY CORPORATION	JANUARY 2026 RESERVATION INVOICE	24,658.95
PEFA INC.	JANUARY 2026 PEFA COMMODITY INVOICE	26,329.23
KILBURG, ROGER & PAT	GAS WATER HEATER REBATE	25.00
SULLIVAN, JACQUELINE & RYAN	GAS FURNACE REBATE	100.00
MADISON NATIONAL LIFE INS CO INC	FEBRUARY 2026 LIFE INS	372.63
O'CONNOR, BROOKS & CO PC	2025 AUDIT SERVICES	9,415.00
TREASURER/SALES & USE TAX	LOCAL OPTION TAX	4,483.99
CLINTON CO AREA SOLID WASTE	2026 LICENSE FEE	2,989.01
ACCESS SYSTEMS	LEASE PMT SHARP COPIER	146.17
CASELLE LLC	CLOUD HOSTING SUBSCRIP 02/26-06/26	1,500.00
ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY	10 DEF FLUID	350.88
		229,897.16

GROSS WAGES DEC 2025 73,749.32

APPROVED EXPENDITURES BY FUND

GENERAL FUND	210394.52
DEBT SERVICE FUND	0
ROAD USE TAX FUND	11216.69
INSURANCE RESERVE	0
CUSTOMER DEPOSITS	0
WATER FUND	6658.59
SEWER FUND	28917.69
ELECTRIC FUND	48197.91
GAS FUND	49928.32

GARBAGE FUND	13051.69
STORM WATER FUND	0
JAN 2025 REVENUES	
GENERAL FUND	348,022.67
ROAD USE TAX FUND	266,537.89
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT TAX	133,400.59
EMERGENCY	44,170.53
TIF	64,990.85
CUSTOMER DEPOSITS	32,869.35
DEBT SERVICE FUND	-129,086.85
WATER FUND	891,591.00
SEWER FUND	594,991.80
STORM WATER FUND	100,910.65
ELECTRIC FUND	909,025.69
GAS FUND	673,198.64
GARBAGE FUND	88,857.31

**SETTING PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED TAX RATE LEVY:** Ganzer proposed a second scenario for consideration increasing the Debt Service levy to the amount of the total GO Debt obligation and lowering the Special Levies and offsetting the GL loss by utilizing in lieu of taxes money from the utilities which will still keep the final tax rate about the same for FY27. Ganer also presented what the new tax rate would cost in comparison to the current year for a home valued at \$200,000 with and without taking into consideration an increase in property assessed value.

A motion was made by A. Reuter to set the public hearing date of March 23, 2026, for the FY2027 Proposed Tax Rate Levy. Second, by D. Meyer. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION 2025-13 – SETTING MILEAGE RATE FOR 2026:** Resolution is passed every year to set the mileage rate that IRS sets. A .225 cent increase from .70 to .725 cents per mile. Motion to approve was made by L. Budde, seconded A. Reuter, Motion carried.

**CODIFICATION, Review of Ordinance additions and changes:** Council reviewed existing and optional ordinances and decided to keep the 2 existing ordinances regarding Junk Yards and Adult Entertainment and adding suggested ordinance of Storage Containers and Solar Power. Ganzer was asked to follow up on adding a section related to Food Trucks and review the Outdoor wood burning stove requirements regarding stack height be addressed after a complaint had been received.

**FEMA GRANT WRITING FOR FIRE DEPT:** Ganzer explained that Chief Ruchotzke requested council approval to hire a grant writer for a flat charge of \$1500 that would potentially fund the entire costs of air packs valued between \$100,000- \$120,000 which are currently being saved for in the Capital Fund. He would like to spend the writing cost out of that fund. Council addressed the air packs just purchased and wants to ensure that this is good money spent. All agreed to leave it up to the Fire Department to decide. A motion to approve the grant writing was made at the discretion of the Fire Department Officers by D. Meyer, seconded by L. Budde. Motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Harvest Heights Lots – As previously discussed the request of other siding material options was presented to buyer, which response was that brick would be added to the front of the buildings. Ganzer welcomed the buyer to proceed with presenting an offer to purchase and building permits when prepared to do so.

Urban Renewal Plan Amendment Update – The schedule has been pushed out until the next meeting to start the proceedings and set the Public Hearing at the Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

Newly Acquired Building discussion – Sieverding explained that Marc Ruding will be at the next meeting to review the goal summary from the workshop that was held. Prioritizing projects including the new building will be a part of that meeting.

Driveway Entrance request – A property owner in the industrial park approached the City requesting to widen the driveway entrance. The council would like to review what the ordinance says regarding driveways and who is responsible to better answer their request.

Gas Market Pricing Update – An email was received from Clayton Energy, the City’s gas purchaser, addressing the potential for a substantial increase in February’s price of natural gas. The increase is a result of the cold January Winter Storms in the south that caused gas supplies to freeze off similar to what happened in 2021. February prices will be elevated due to high price indexes, which the gas purchaser has no control over. We do have storage and hedged gas that helps in addition to warmer projected temperatures.

Summer Help – Council provided thoughts on posting position for summer help for 2026. Last year’s employee will not be returning. Petersen asked that the other department heads provide information on the projects being accomplished by hiring extra help.

Budget Workshop – Ganzer explained that we are still seeking quotes and will re-schedule Budget Workshop following the next meeting.

Petersen reported that the Fire Department committee would like to address the efforts to improve the ISO rating. Points needed can be earned if hydrant testing and identifying water flow for each hydrant by painting by colors corresponding to with flow. Tim will be asked to work with the Fire Department in these efforts.

Council updates – would like department heads to provide updates of what’s going on w/in their departments at future meetings and address the section of West Street that needs fill.

ADJOURNMENT: With no other business to be discussed, Sieverding asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by D. Meyer, seconded by A. Reuter. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.



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Tyler Sieverding, Mayor

ATTEST:



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Sheryl Ganzer, City Administrator/Clerk