

**CITY OF WILLERNIE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 18, 2026**

PRESENT: Baglio, Soderlund, Siver, Cook, De Jong, Consultant-Gary Brown, Attorney-Tori Kelm, Martin Cochran and Clerk-Vickie Keating.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Soderlund moved to accept the agenda, Baglio seconded the motion and the agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 2026 MINUTES

Soderlund moved to approve the January minutes as pre-read, Siver seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no residents present at the February meeting for public comments.

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF

The Washington County Officer was not present at the February meeting.

MAHTOMEDI TIRE COUNTRY – MARTIN COCHRAN

Mr. Cochran is requesting a business license from the City to open a tire business at 302 Stillwater Rd.

Mr. Cochran, from the Mahtomedi-White Bear Lake area, plans to paint, clean up, and make the building appealing for tire sales. A container will hold approximately 350 tires that will be picked up monthly and it will be placed on the side of the building.

There will be no oil changes or hazard waste on site.

The cage for storage is approximately 12 x 12 x 14 and it will be emptied monthly. If that many tires are not sold in a month, Mr. Cochran can request a smaller container.

A motion to approve a business license for Mahtomedi Tire was made by Baglio. De Jong seconded the motion and the motion passed.

KEN REPORT

Ken was not present due to the snowstorm.

PARKING ORDINANCE

Gary noted some updates to the parking ordinance since its previous review.

Tori reviewed other ordinances and proposed changes that have been high lighted and Gary incorporated the changes.

Gary told the council the core definition remained unchanged. Willernie is reviewing at the right of way for traffic.

The new definition is at the top of page 5 and Tori's suggestions were incorporated in the definition.

The public hearing will be held in March on the parking ordinance.

GAMBLING UPDATE

De Jong reached out to different associations in the area to check on the donations. De Jong suggested an audit of the funds received from Bayport Legion just to incorporate someone with expertise in the area of funding.

WILLERNIE UPDATE

Baglio provided an explanation of the problems affecting the lift station. There was also a meeting with Mary Winfield from Birchwood, Diane Baglio, Kristine Cook, Gail Cederberg, John Chlebeck, Michael Sund, John Manship and Ken Johnson to discuss the future of the lift station in Willernie.

The impeller is scheduled for rebuilding, and a new seal will be fitted because residents have flushed objects that have led to the motor malfunctioning. The repairs will cost around seven thousand dollars, so a letter will be sent to the residents in the area that caused the problems with the lift station.

The packets containing the rental licenses have been dispatched and should reach the office by March 5th. Up to now, only two applications have been received.

Baglio inquired whether De Jong planned to finish installing the Ring doorbell. De Jong will discuss this with Ken and report back to the council.

A resident contacted Soderlund about boats getting close to the swimming area at Willernie Beach. Motorboats often ignore swimmer safety, so residents want signs to keep boats away from the area.

A rack for kayaks at the beach would be a nice feature and some residents have asked the council to check into installing one.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Soderlund made a motion to approve the bills, Siver seconded the motion and the bills were approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Soderlund moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m. Siver seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria R. Keating
Clerk-Treasurer