

Hadley City Council, Hadley Minnesota

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

Members Present: Rick Like, Bonnie Petersen, Henry Veldhuisen, Jill Pieske, John Brouwer

Others Present: Riley Engbarth, Clerk/Treasurer

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Like at 6:00pm.

Welcome Guests: Jordan Odegard representing Bollig Engineering was present for Open Forum. Rhonda Wynia, Dawn Shumaker, and Muriel Pearson were also present.

Agenda Approval: The council was asked to review the meeting agenda and suggest any additions or corrections. Council Member Veldhuisen requested to add discussion on City Water under New Business. With no further additions or corrections, MSP by Council Member Pieske and Council Member Petersen to approve the meeting agenda, as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of December Minutes: The council was asked to review the December meeting minutes and suggest any additions or corrections. With no further additions or corrections, MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Veldhuisen to approve the regularly scheduled meeting minutes from December 1, 2025, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Liquor Fund: Riley noted that a returned check was presented at the bar in December, however it was easily collected with applicable fees during the same month. With no further questions or discussion, MSP by Council Member Pieske and Council Member Petersen to approve the Liquor Fund, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of General Fund: Council Member Brouwer questioned the Repairs – Streets expense line item in the amount of \$385.00, which Riley confirmed to be for an invoice from Leysen Construction, LLC for 2025 blade work on the city gravel roads. With no further questions or discussion, MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Pieske to approve the General Fund, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Water/Sewer Fund: Riley recapped the Utility Customer Refunds expense line item, which was newly created after a couple of recently sold properties had credit balances requiring refunds to the applicable customers. All delinquent balances (2 accounts) were turned over in late December, following ordinance guidelines, with corresponding balances written off of the city books as bad-debt, pending future collection by the Murray County Auditor/Treasurer's office as a property tax special assessment. The aged balance report was presented, with no records listed due to recent special assessment processing. With no further questions or discussion, MSP by Council Member Veldhuisen and Council Member Pieske to approve the Water/Sewer Fund, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

- **Water & Sewer Committee:** Mayor Like brought up a recent servicing that was required at Peggy Platt's residence due to slow water pressure. After having Tim's Plumbing & Heating LLC visit the property, it was confirmed that the previously installed city water meter had become corroded, causing blockage in her water pipe. The water meter was removed by Tim's Plumbing & Heating LLC, with Peggy receiving an invoice for this expense. After discussion, it was determined that the City of Hadley would be responsible to paying this expense, due to the meter being installed as required for prior utility billing procedures and being property of the city. There was additional discussion on having the installed meters removed from other residences as time allows, in hopes of preventing the need for additional future service calls. Following discussion, MSP by Council Member Pieske and Council Member Petersen authorizing Riley to proceed with asking Tim's Plumbing & Heating LLC to remove all previously installed water meters from Hadley residences on an as needed/as time allows basis, invoicing the City of Hadley directly, in addition to approving payment of the invoice to be submitted from Peggy Platt and reimbursing Henry Veldhuisen the same amount of Peggy's invoice for earlier self-paid removal of the water meter at his residence. Motion carried unanimously.
- **Streets Committee:** Council Member Petersen and Council Member Veldhuisen jointly reported on their follow up with Barry Hanson, Snow Removal Maintenance Worker, following concerns discussed during the last meeting. Barry hadn't gotten to that street fast enough, and understood the concern, noting that it has been better since that occurrence. He also mentioned that the sticks placed along the road, at edge of lawn by Robert & Audrey Wornson's house will likely be hit if we continue to get heavy snow, as the road is very narrow around that corner to begin with. The property owner will be reminded of street right of way and city owned boulevard, as it relates to this situation, however it was determined that a letter to the property owner was not needed at this time. Council Member Brouwer also mentioned if the council was open to discussing the condition of streets, as he feels something needs to be done with them. Mayor Like stated that anything is up for discussion, however the person bringing the item of business forward needs to research as appropriate and bring all related information back to the council for further review and discussion. Council Member Brouwer later agreed to look into possible grant funding opportunities for streets and obtain an updated estimate for the resurfacing of city roads. Further discussion on this topic was tabled pending additional information.
- **Personnel Committee:** There was no new information reported during the meeting.
- **Park & Recreation Committee:** It was mentioned that the Hadley city park restroom project is now slated to begin in August of 2026, after the baseball season is finished.

Old Business:

- **Community Center Brick Repairs:** Due to winter season weather, this project has been put on hold until the Spring of 2026.

- Community Center Entry Doors: Mayor Like stated that he found out the manufacturers of our new doors were backed up 6 to 10 weeks, so production took longer than anticipated. Worthington Glass Inc. has confirmed that they are set to arrive for inspection at the shop this week, with tentative installation set for the end of January.
- Utility Billing (Ford): Riley reported that he is still working on an additional analysis at this time, for future discussion with the city council. The Ford's know that this process will take some time, and they will be informed once additional discussion is scheduled to take place.
- 2026 Gravel Dust Control: Council Member Brouwer reported that he received a call back from Cody at Midwest Liquid Feed in Marshall regarding the previously discussed heavy sweet water product applied as dust control. He mentioned that it was likely it wouldn't do what we wanted it to, due to having too many solids and being very sticky, especially on tires and vehicles. Mayor Like stated that he visited with Darvin at SW Dust Control, who did the application last year. They do not have pricing for the 2026 season yet but will contact us in early April with a quote, as they would be willing to do it again. There was discussion regarding an advance resident notification to those affected by the dust control, informing them of the city's intentions with an opportunity for public comment, however it is ultimately a City of Hadley decision. Following what took place last year when the application took place, it was recommended that law enforcement be present when this year's application takes place.
- SRDC Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant: Riley provided an update that he submitted the application that was previously reviewed and approved by the council last month. The application is pending review and approval by Southwest Regional Development Commission's application committee. A meeting to consider final approval is scheduled in January.
- LPRW Service Area – Bollig Engineering Representative Visit: Following Jason Overby's meeting attendance last month, Riley reached out to Bollig Engineering to coordinate Jordan Odegard's attendance tonight, to answer questions regarding their connection with Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water (LPRW). Jordan Odegard was present to discuss how LPRW integrates with Bollig Engineering and discuss how they aide in the process, should the city decide to switch over to LPRW. He was first gauging interest in a possible switch. Mayor Like asked several questions on if the system will override what is already in place, should the city decide to hook up. There are two wells that run to a holding tank, a pressure tank, then water is pumped out to supply all connections. LPRW would construct a 12x12 building somewhere in town to house their controls, valves, etc., which would communicate with the existing treatment plant. Jordan also touched on the different affordability rates for cities, which are on a case by case basis. Currently, rates are averaging 2% without grants for projects that don't have a health or safety need, and the affordability rate is 1.4 or 1.2 meaning the threshold is met at a faster rate. He presented an Agreement Between Owner & Engineer for Professional Services via Task Order, requesting approval for Bollig Engineering to conduct work on behalf of the City of Hadley, if requested. There is no cost associated with this agreement at this time, however, it is required for Bollig Engineering to begin their research work on our behalf. Following review, MSP by

Council Member Pieske and Council Member Veldhuisen to approve signing of the agreement, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

- Building Pre-Application – Patrick Freeman: Patrick Freeman submitted a Building Pre-Application request to Mayor Like for council review and approval, as he purchased the property on Summit Lane previously owned by Lennie & Lisa Carlson. He has the intention of moving in a small, prefabricated shed onto the property at this time. Mr. Freeman submitted the required Building Pre-Application Form and accompanying maps and sketch plans, for council consideration. Following discussion, MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Pieske to approve the Building Pre-Application Form, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2026 Appointments/Committees: Riley presented all council members with a listing of the 2026 Appointments/Committees for review and re-approval. After review and discussion, it was determined that no changes to the existing Appointments/Committees were necessary for the current year. The following Appointments/Committees were recommended for 2026:
 - Acting Mayor: Henry Veldhuisen
 - Weed Inspector: Henry Veldhuisen
 - Board of Appeal & Equalization: Richard Like & Jill Pieske
 - City Attorney: Merlyn Anderson
 - City Prosecuting Attorney: Travis Smith
 - City Auditor: Kinner & Company Ltd
 - City Insurance Agent: Farmer’s Agency of Avoca, Inc. – League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust
 - Official Depository: Minnwest Bank, LMC 4M Fund
 - Official Newspaper: Murray County Wheel-Herald
 - Water & Sewer Committee: Richard Like, Henry Veldhuisen & John Brouwer
 - Streets Committee: Richard Like, Bonnie Petersen & John Brouwer
 - Personnel Committee: Richard Like, Jill Pieske & Bonnie Petersen
 - Park & Recreation Committee: Richard Like, Bonnie Petersen & Henry Veldhuisen, Myron BennettMSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Veldhuisen to approve the 2026 Appointments/Committees as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2026 Murray County Law Enforcement Agreement: Riley presented the 2026 Murray County Law Enforcement Agreement he received from the Murray County Sheriff’s Office, for council review and consideration. The City of Hadley was billed \$10.00 per capita (\$580.00/year) for law enforcement and patrolling services in city limits on an annual basis. Following review, MSP by Council Member Pieske and Council Member Petersen to approve the 2026 Murray County Law Enforcement Agreement, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2026 Murray County Ambulance Agreement: Riley presented the 2026 Murray County Ambulance Agreement he received from the Murray County Auditor/Treasurer’s office, for council review and consideration. The City of Hadley was billed \$10.00 per capita (\$610.00/year)

for ambulance services in city limits on an annual basis. Following review, MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Veldhuisen to approve the 2026 Murray County Ambulance Agreement, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

- 2025 Fund Balances – Quarter 4 Review: The council was presented with the quarterly fund balance spreadsheet for review. The city fund balances continue to represent a good financial position, with steady growth.
- Wellhead Protection Plan, Part I: Riley passed around a draft of Hadley’s Part 1 Wellhead Protection Plan, which was drafted and received from MDH, requiring review and approval before proceeding with Part II. Accompanying the report was a draft letter to MDH requesting approval of Part I of the plan, should the council approve it be sent. Following review, MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Pieske to approve Hadley’s Part I Wellhead Protection Plan as presented, authorizing Riley to proceed with sending the approval request letter back to MDH. Motion carried unanimously.
- City Water: Council Member Veldhuisen brought up a couple of concerns with the water for discussion. There is a foul sewer smell that appears to be coming from the water when they run it in their home. Council Members Petersen and Pieske echoed what he was saying, as they have experienced it as well. There was discussion on a possible issue with water heater stink rods, which would lead to the foul sewer smell, but if multiple houses are impacted, there is likely a bigger issue. More discussion to come on this topic and possible solutions.

MSP by Council Member Veldhuisen and Council Member Petersen for payment of unpaid bills, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MSP by Council Member Veldhuisen and Council Member Pieske for meeting adjournment. Motion carried unanimously. With no further business, the regularly scheduled meeting was adjourned by Mayor Like at 7:30pm.



Respectfully Submitted by Riley Engbarth, Clerk/Treasurer