

MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LA CRESCENT, MINNESOTA
DECEMBER 15, 2025

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the second meeting of the City Council of the City of La Crescent for the month of December was called to order by Mayor Mike Poellinger at 5:00 PM in the La Crescent Community Building, La Crescent, Minnesota, on Monday, December 15, 2025.

Upon a roll call taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following members were present: Members Cheryl Jostad, Chris Langen, Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner, Dale Williams, and Mayor Mike Poellinger. Members absent: None. Also present were, City Administrator Bill Waller, City Attorney Skip Wieser, Public Works Director Tyler Benish, Finance Director Kara Tarrence, and City Clerk Angie Boettcher.

ITEM 1 – CONSENT AGENDA

At this time, Mayor Poellinger read the following items to be considered as part of the Consent Agenda for this regular meeting:

- 1.1 MINUTES – DECEMBER 8, 2025
- 1.2 BILLS PAYABLE THROUGH DECEMBER 12, 2025

At the conclusion of the reading of the Consent Agenda, Mayor Poellinger asked if the Council wished to have any of the items removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Member Langen made a motion, seconded by Member O'Donnell-Ebner as follows:

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cheryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.1 – 2026 FEE SCHEDULE

City Council reviewed the proposed changes to the Fee Schedule for 2026 which has been reviewed by City Staff. The review and adoption of fees is done on a yearly basis to ensure the costs to the City are sufficiently covered while at the same time being fair, reasonable, and proportionate to the actual cost of the service for which the fee is imposed. It was recommended that City Council adopt an Ordinance detailing the proposed changes to the Fee Schedule for 2026. Following discussion, Member Jostad introduced the following ordinance and moved its passage and adoption:

ORDINANCE NO. 595

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT AMENDING THE MASTER FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE CITY OF LA CRESCENT AS SET FORTH IN ORDINANCES NO. 404, NO. 438, NO. 448, NO. 459, NO. 483, NO. 492, NO. 500, NO. 540, NO. 542, NO. 544, NO. 545, NO. 548, NO. 552, NO. 554, NO. 557, NO. 564, NO. 565, NO. 566, NO. 569, 571, 579, 583, 590, and NO. 594

The City Council of the City of La Crescent, Houston County, Minnesota hereby ordains:

1. The La Crescent City Code established on March 8, 2004, stated that certain fees may be set from time to time by the City Council.
2. The La Crescent City Code was amended on January 28, 2008, January 12, 2009, January 11, 2010, January 13, 2014, February 9, 2015, February 8, 2016, February 24, 2020, April 13, 2020, April 27, 2020, May 18, 2020, December 14, 2020, April 20, 2021, and December 13, 2021, December 19, 2022, February 13, 2023, April 24, 2023, June 26, 2023, July 24, 2023, and December 11, 2023 by Ordinance to amend certain fees.
3. The Fee Schedule has been reviewed by City Staff and amended each year from 2016 to 2024 by Motions passed by City Council. These amendments passed by City Council shall remain in effect.
4. The City staff has reviewed the fees which the City currently charges and is recommending that the fee schedule be amended as follows:

ADMINISTRATION

<u>ADMINISTRATION</u>	2026
Bad Check – Per Check	\$ 30.00
Brush Site Usage Fee- Yearly La Crescent Township	\$2,000.00

ADMINISTRATION	2026
Cigarette License- Yearly	\$ 45.00
Copies: per sheet	\$.25
Door-to-Door Sales Solicitor – REGISTRATION ONLY Peddler/Transient Merchants plus \$5.00 per tag for all individuals named as sales persons for that particular company	N/C \$50.00 fee
Election Fee Filing	\$ 2.00
Fax Machine – Income and Outgoing	\$ 1.00
Gas Installers License – Yearly Remove	\$70.00
<u>Liquor - Club</u>	
Club Liquor - Yearly	
Less Than 200 Members	\$ 300.00
201-500 Members	\$ 500.00
501-1000 Members	\$ 650.00
1001-2000 Members	\$ 800.00
2001-4000 Members	\$1,000.00
4001-6000 Members	\$2,000.00
More than 6000 Members	\$3,000.00
Off sale 3.2 Beer	\$ 50.00
Wine on Sale	\$300.00
Beer – 3.2 – additional license fees not required if you hold “on sale” or “off sale” liquor licenses	
Off Sale - Yearly	\$ 100.00
On Sale - Yearly	\$ 280.00
Temporary On Sale – Up to 3 days	\$ 25.00
Liquor - Intoxicating: Per Year	\$1,150.00
On Sale	\$ 150.00
Off Sale	\$ 200.00
Sunday	

BUILDING INSPECTIONS AND PERMITTING

BUILDING INSPECTIONS AND PERMITTING	2026
Cannabis Retail Business – Initial Registration Fee	\$500.00
Cannabis Retail Business – Renewal Registration Fee	\$1,000.00

Short-term Rental Permit - Annual	\$100.00
Beekeeping Permit – One-time fee	\$50.00
ADD – Native Vegetation Landscape Permit	\$10.00
<u>Demolition permits –</u> The main structure on the property OR all structures on a property (if a building permit for a new structure is obtained at the same time, this fee is waived) Garage, shed, or outbuilding on a property (if a building permit for a new structure is obtained at the same time this fee is waived)	\$100.00 plus \$1.00 state surcharge \$35.00 plus \$1.00 state surcharge
<u>Foundation only permit</u> This permit fee would be in addition to any regular building permit fee. This fee is only for excavating, footing, and foundation of a new structure. <i>This fee is an optional fee to be paid if the builder is unwilling to wait the requested 7-10 working days for the plan review process of a completed building permit application. This fee will be waived if the plan review takes longer than 10 working days</i>	\$100.00 plus \$1.00 state surcharge
Mobile Home – all new that are moved into town	\$150.00 plus \$1.00 state surcharge
<u>Roofing permits</u> Commercial Residential structure and/or attached/detached garage Garage or accessory bldg. only	\$100.00 plus \$1.00 state surcharge \$50.00 plus \$1.00 state surcharge \$25.00 plus \$1.00 state surcharge
<u>Siding/Windows/Doors/Radon Control System/Retaining Walls/Drain tile</u> <u>Deck boards/Railing replacement</u>	\$50.00 plus \$1.00 State surcharge
Solar Array Panels	\$35.00 to \$50.00 plus \$1.00 State Surcharge

<u>Mechanical permits</u>	
Gas burning equipment, conversion burner or gas-designed heating appliance, alteration to existing gas	\$35.00 to \$50.00 plus \$1.00 state surcharge

burner equipment or remodeling permit, – 400,000 BTU Over 400,000 BTU	\$45.00 to \$60.00 plus \$1.00 state surcharge \$72.00 plus \$1.00 state surcharge
Gas dryer, gas ranges, gas fireplaces, or other gas appliance permits, other than those used in connection with a heating system, primary or secondary; all permits this section.	\$35.00 to \$50.00 plus \$1.00 state surcharge
Gas piping only.	\$35.00 to \$50.00 plus \$1.00 state surcharge
Heating and ventilation equipment permits to include, but are not limited to, Air Conditioner, Duct Work, oil, steam, solar, conversion burners, and wood burning appliances.	\$35.00 to \$50.00 plus \$1.00 state surcharge

PLUMBING PERMITS	
For issuing each plumbing permit	\$20.00 to \$30.00
State surcharge on each permit	\$1.00
For each plumbing fixture or trap set of fixtures on one trap including water, drainage piping, and backflow protection thereof	\$5.00
For each water heater	\$5.00
For each water softener	\$5.00
For each new or replacement water service line and/or sewer line	\$5.00
For installation, alteration, or repair of water piping	\$15.00
For installation, alteration, or repair of drainage or vent piping	\$15.00
<p>Whenever any work for which a plumbing and mechanical permit is required has been commenced without first obtaining said permit, an investigation fee, in addition to the permit fee, shall be collected, whether or not a permit is then or subsequently issued. The investigation fee shall be equal to the amount of the permit fee as shown above.</p>	

PARKS

FACILITY	2026 FEES
Old Hickory Park – Open-air shelter with two sides available for rent	<p>\$50.00/side/day</p> <p>No Charge – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday for Civic/Non-Profit</p>

Wieser Park Pavilion – All-Season Pavilion	<p style="text-align: center;">\$150.00 per day to \$175.00 per day</p> <p>No Charge – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday for Civic/Non-Profit</p> <p>\$75.00 – Civic/Non-Profit – Friday, Saturday, Sunday</p>
Wieser Park Shelter – Open-air Shelter	<p style="text-align: center;">No Charge</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reservations suggested</p>

POLICE

POLICE	2026
Ordinance Violation Fine Schedule	
Petty Misdemeanor-	\$ 40.00 +
Misdemeanor	\$ 75.00 +
Ordinance Parking Violation	\$ 20.00 +
Petty Misdemeanors and Misdemeanors: Fine Amount + <u>\$75.00 surcharge</u> – <i>The Surcharge Fee is Determined By The Court System.</i>	
Ordinance Parking Violations: Fine Amount + \$3.00 surcharge + \$10.00 Law Library Fee - <i>The Surcharge And Law Library Fee Are Determined By The Court System.</i>	
Fee Schedules – Animals	
License – yearly 1/1 – 12/31	\$12.00
Replacement Tag	\$1.00
Late Fee after January 15 th in addition to regular license fee	\$15.00
Multi Pet Permit – Yearly Fee (Plus individual license fees as stated above)	\$25.00

Animal Impoundment	\$50.00
Boarding (food/shelter) – Per day plus tax	\$10.00
Chicken Permit Application – ONE TIME FEE	\$50.00
ADMINISTRATIVE FINE FEE SCHEDULE	
General Parking Violation	\$20.00 to \$30.00
Handicapped Parking	\$25.00 to \$75.00
Miscellaneous	
Accident Reports – State Form	\$2.00
Background Check	\$50.00
Copy of Incident Reports – per page/100 pages or less \$.25/page. 100 or more assessed to actual cost of materials and staff time.	Refer to description at left
Print-out of driving record/registration check – per request	\$5.00
Police Reserves – School District #300 events – per hour/per person	\$17.50
Fingerprinting	\$55.00
Vehicle Towing Fee	\$225.00
Vehicle Impoundment Fee – per day	\$15.00 to \$20.00
Yearly Permit to Acquire Firearms/Permit to Carry – per year	No Charge
NSF/Account Closed Checks – service fee	\$30.00
DVD Only	\$10.00
Transcription Fee	\$42.00
BWC - \$19.00 per video/\$1.00 per minute + actual cost of staff time	

SOLID WASTE

SOLID WASTE	2026
Price Per Bag	3.00 to \$3.80
Recycling	\$3.50 per month to \$3.62 per month

ZONING

ZONING	2026
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Abatement – per incident	\$ 40.00 administrative fee plus abatement charges
Conditional use permit – per each individual request	\$300.00 to \$400.00
District zoning changes – per each individual request	\$300.00 to \$400.00
<u>Erosion control:</u> Reinspection fee	\$50.00
<u>Surety deposit</u> (to be returned upon completion of erosion control and building permit final inspection minus any violations):	
New residential/commercial construction	\$500.00
Additions/garages	\$100.00
Land alterations	\$250.00
Building demolition	\$250.00
<i>NOTE: DECKS AND ADDITIONS BUILT ON POSTS FOR THE FOUNDATION ARE EXCLUDED FROM SURETY DEPOSIT</i>	
Excavation permits	\$ 30.00 plus \$1.00 per sq/lin. Foot
Fence permit – Non-Profits exempt from fee	\$25.00 to \$30.00
Grading permit	¼ acre or less - \$50.00 ¼ acre to 1 acre - \$250.00 over 1 acre - \$500.00 IF REVIEWED BY CITY ENGINEER – APPLICANT WILL PAY FOR THE FULL COST OF ALL ENGINEERING SERVICES INSTEAD OF ABOVE RATE
Home Occupation – Per Each Individual Request	\$300.00 to \$400.00
Interim Conditional Use Permit – Each Individual Request	\$300.00 to \$400.00

Platting Preliminary plat **Developer is to pay all other related expenses for the platting process. ***All fees pending must be paid in full before proceeding with the final plat. Final plat	\$ 250.00 to \$300.00 plus \$50.00 per lot \$ 150.00 to \$200.00
Sign permit – per sign ‘Non-Profits exempt from fee’	\$50.00
Variance fee – per each individual request	\$300.00 to \$400.00

The foregoing motion was duly seconded by Member Williams and upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

Following discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Langen as follows:

MOTION THAT A PRÉCIS FORMAT OF SAID ORDINANCE 595 BE PUBLISHED IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE CITY AND WITH “OFFICIAL COPY” SO MARKED BE KEPT ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.2 – 2026 SERVICE AGREEMENTS

Public Works Director Tyler Benish reviewed with City Council the 2026 professional service agreement with WHKS & Co. for engineering services. It was recommended that City Council approve the 2026 fee schedule with WHKS & Co. Following discussion, Member Langen made a motion, seconded by Member O’Donnell-Ebner as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2026 FEE SCHEDULE WITH WHKS & CO. AS PRESENTED FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O’Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

Public Works Director Tyler Benish reviewed with City Council the 2026 professional service agreement with Wieser Law Office, P.C., for legal services. It was recommended that City Council approve the 2026 fee schedule with Wieser Law Office, P.C. Following discussion, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member Langen as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2026 FEE SCHEDULE WITH WIESER LAW OFFICE, P.C. AS PRESENTED FOR LEGAL SERVICES.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O’Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

Public Works Director Tyler Benish reviewed with City Council the 2026 contract for professional services with EcoThrive, LLC for sustainability coordinating services with a fee increase from \$39.52 per hour to

\$41.89 per hour, not to exceed twenty-eight (28) hours per week. It was recommended that City Council approve the contract. Following discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Williams as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH ECOTHRIVE, LLC.

Following further discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Williams as follows:

MOTION TO WITHDRAW THE MOTION APPROVING THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH ECOTHRIVE, LLC.

Following discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Williams as follows:

MOTION TO REQUEST PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR BENISH TO REVISIT THE AMOUNT OF THE FEE INCREASE WITH ECOTHRIVE, LLC AND BRING BACK TO THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON DECEMBER 22, 2025.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

Public Works Director Tyler Benish reviewed with City Council the 2026 contract for professional services with Prologue Planning Group, LLC for community/economic development services with a fee increase from \$44.99 per hour to \$47.69 per hour, not to exceed ten (10) hours per week. It was recommended that City Council approve the contract. Following discussion, Member Jostad made a motion, seconded by Member Williams as follows:

MOTION TO REQUEST PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR BENISH TO REVISIT THE AMOUNT OF THE FEE INCREASE WITH PROLOGUE PLANNING GROUP, LLC AND BRING BACK TO THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON DECEMBER 22, 2025.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.3 – 2026 MORRIS ELECTRONICS CONTRACT – Computer Support

City Council reviewed for approval the 2026 Morris Electronics Contract for IT services. Following discussion, Member Jostad made a motion, seconded by member Langen as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2026 MORRIS ELECTRONICS CONTRACT FOR IT SERVICES AS PRESENTED.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.4 – AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURE – Computer Software

Public Works Director Tyler Benish reviewed with City Council a quote from Civic Plus for online software. The software would provide online solutions for the City's website, building permits, zoning compliance, agenda management, and pool/park sign up and management. The online software would help streamline internal processes and provide residents with the ability to sign up online for park reservations and recreational activities. Civic Plus maintains several municipalities' websites in Minnesota and will help bring our website into ADA compliance. The implementation and first year cost is \$47,168. The implementation will include staff training, branding and layout design. The second-year cost is \$40,916. The 2026 budget has funds for the initial expenditure, and the 2027 budget will include funds for this expense. The City currently uses social media archiving software through Civic Plus. It was recommended that City Council authorize the expenditure with Civic Plus for \$47,168, with software implementation

starting in early 2026. Following discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Langen as follows:

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF \$47,168 WITH CIVIC PLUS TO PROVIDE ONLINE SOLUTIONS FOR THE CITY'S WEBSITE, BUILDING PERMITS, ZONING COMPLIANCE, AGENDA MANAGEMENT, AND POOL/PARK SIGN UP AND MANAGEMENT.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.5 – CALL FOR SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING – December 22, 2025

City Administrator Bill Waller made a request to City Council to call for a special City Council meeting on Monday, December 22, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in the Community Room. The agenda would include the following:

1. Review and approval of the City's 2024 audit.
2. Consideration of the professional service agreements with Prologue Planning Group, LLC and EcoThrive, LLC,
3. Personnel Committee recommendation regarding a tentative agreement with the AFSCME Union on a three-year contract.

Following discussion, Member Jostad made a motion, seconded by Member Williams as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE A SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2025, AT 5:00 P.M. IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM WITH THE THREE AGENDA ITEMS AS STATED.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes

Mayor Poellinger Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.6 – PERSONNEL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Personnel Committee had the following recommendations for consideration by the City Council:

1. That the City Council approve a change in City Administrator Bill Waller’s retirement date. Mr. Waller’s original retirement date was January 31, 2026, and his new retirement date would be February 28, 2026. The new retirement date better aligns with the City’s schedule to fill the position, and it also allows additional time for Mr. Waller to work on the City’s upcoming 2026 public improvement bond issues. Following discussion, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member O’Donnell-Ebner as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE CHANGING CITY ADMINISTRATOR BILL WALLER’S RETIREMENT DATE FROM JANUARY 31, 2026, TO FEBRUARY 28, 2026.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O’Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.7 – DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT EXTENSION REQUEST – 270 Strupp Avenue and 350 Strupp Avenue

City Attorney Wieser reviewed with City Council requests from MNRE 270 Strupp Ave LLC and ABJKM Holdings, LLC, 350 Strupp Avenue, for development agreement extensions. MNRE 270 Strupp Ave LLC would like an extension to January 14, 2026. ABJKM Holding, LLC, 350 Strupp Avenue would like an extension to February 28, 2026. The requests are made due to slower than expected response from the State for licensing. It was recommended that City Council approve an amendment to extend both development agreements to February 28, 2026. Following discussion, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member Langen as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT FOR AN EXTENSION TO THE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENTS FOR MNRE 270 STRUPP AVE, LLC AND ABJKM HOLDINGS, LLC 350 STRUPP AVENUE WITH A DATE OF FEBRUARY 28, 2026.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.8 – BLUFF COUNTRY FAMILY RESOURCES 5K RUN REQUEST

City Council reviewed a letter from Police Chief Luke Ahlschlager regarding a 5K event request from Bluff Country Family Resources. The event would be held on Saturday, April 25, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. in recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. As with similar events in the past, the La Crescent Police Department will assist with providing an escort, traffic control, and security to ensure a safe and successful event. It was recommended that City Council approve the event and police assistance. Following discussion, Member Langen made a motion, seconded by Member Williams as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE BLUFF COUNTRY FAMILY RESOURCES 5K EVENT REQUEST TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026, AT 10:00 A.M. WITH THE LA CRESCENT POLICE DEPARTMENT PROVIDING AN ESCORT, TRAFFIC CONTROL, AND SECURITY.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.9 – 2026 LICENSE RENEWALS

City Council reviewed a 2026 cigarette license renewal application from La Crescent Tobacco and a 2026 liquor license renewal from Minegar's Sports Hub for off-sale liquor, on-sale liquor, and Sunday liquor

sales. The applications appear to be in order, and it was recommended City Council approve the license renewal applications. Following discussion, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member O'Donnell-Ebner as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2026 LICENSE RENEWALS FOR LA CRESCENT TOBACCO AND MINEGAR'S SPORTS HUB.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.10 – CLOSED SESSION

The City Council will go into closed session pursuant to Minn.Stat. Section 13D.05 Subd.2(a)(2) to review non-public internal affairs data relating to allegations of law enforcement personnel misconduct.

At 5:18 p.m. Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member Langen as follows:

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO MN STAT. § 13D.05 SUBD 2(A)(2) FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING NON-PUBLIC INTERNAL AFFAIRS DATA RELATING TO ALLEGATIONS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL MISCONDUCT.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

City Council went into closed session.

At 5:34 p.m., Member Jostad made a motion, seconded by Member Langen as follows:

MOTION TO END THE CLOSED SESSION AND RECONVENE THE REGULAR MEETING.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

Upon reconvening the meeting, Member Jostad made a motion, seconded by Member Langen as follows:

MOTION TO HIRE AN OUTSIDE INVESTIGATIVE LAW FIRM FOR FACT FINDING RELATING TO ALLIGATIONS OF PERSONNEL MISCONDUCT. THE CITY COUNCIL HAS MADE NO CONCLUSIONS REGARDING DISCIPLINE.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

HOUSTON COUNTY

Houston County Commissioner Cindy Wright was in attendance and provided an update.

At 5:40 p.m., Mayor Poellinger recessed the meeting.

At 6:00 p.m., Mayor Poellinger reconvened the meeting.

2. PUBLIC HEARING/MEETING

6:00: PUBLIC MEETING – 2026 GENERAL FUND BUDGET/LEVY

It being 6:00 p.m., Mayor Poellinger opened the public meeting on the 2026 General Fund Budget and Levy. Public Works Director Benish circulated a sign-up sheet and gave an overview of the process. As a

point of clarification, in April of each year, the City Council holds the Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting, at which time property owners can ask questions about their proposed property value and property classification. Questions about property value and property classification will need to wait until the Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting which will be held in April of 2026. The items City Council reviewed for consideration was the proposed resolution setting the 2026 levy and adoption of the 2026 General Fund budget. Kelly Petersen and Joe Olson from the Houston County Assessor's office were also in attendance. The Mayor then asked if anyone present in the audience wished to comment or had questions. A comment was received from one city resident in attendance at the meeting. The public meeting was then closed.

Following discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Williams as follows:

MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2026 GENERAL FUND BUDGET AS PRESENTED.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

Following discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner introduced the following resolution and moved its passage for adoption:

RESOLUTION 12-25-36

**RESOLUTION MAKING FINAL GENERAL LEVIES FOR
COLLECTION WITH REAL ESTATE TAXES PAYABLE IN THE
CALENDAR YEAR 2026**

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of La Crescent, Minnesota as follows:

1. It is hereby determined and declared that there shall be and there is hereby levied upon all taxable property within the City for the general purposes of the City, as provided by law, to be collected in the year 2026 as part of the general taxes due and payable in the year 2026 a direct ad valorem tax in the amount of \$2,805,527.00 as provided by State law to be levied and collected in the manner provided by law.

2. Be it also hereby determined and declared that there shall be and there is hereby levied upon taxable property within the City of La Crescent for public library service, a tax in the amount of \$204,141.00 to be collected in the year 2026, as authorized by Minnesota Statutes, Section 134.33 and 134.34.

3. It is hereby found, determined, and declared that the amounts set forth in a column at the right to be levied with taxes to be collected in the calendar year 2026, in conjunction with the various bonds issued and sinking funds described below:

FUND #	YEAR	DESCRIPTION	TO BE LEVIED FOR COLLECTION IN CALENDAR YEAR 2026
325	2016A	G.O. Refunding Rec. Fac. Bonds – Aquatic Center	\$195,300.00
327	2016A	G.O. Improvement Bonds – Oak St. Recon.	\$115,500.00
328	2017A	G.O. Equipment Certificates	\$119,800.00
329	2018A	G.O. Improvement Bonds – Streets/Veterans Park	\$148,000.00
330	2019A	G.O. Equipment Certificates – Fire Truck	\$46,100.00
331	2019B	G.O. Improvement Bonds – Street Recon.	\$32,900.00
332	2020A	G.O. Improvement Bonds – HTM	\$172,900.00
333	2020A	G.O. Bonds – Tax Abatement - Ice Arena	\$12,200.00
334	2022A	G.O. Imp. Bonds/Equip. Cert. & CIP Bonds	\$229,700.00
		TOTAL DEBT SERVICE LEVY	\$1,072,400.00

4. Total levy for the City of La Crescent for collection in 2026 is \$4,082,068.00

ADOPTED this 15th day of December, 2025.

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member Langen and upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried and the resolution duly passed and adopted.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member Langen to adjourn the meeting. Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Chris Langen	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried and the meeting duly adjourned at 6:05 P.M.

APPROVAL DATE: January 12, 2026

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator