

MINUTES
City of Niagara
Regular City Council Meeting
Wednesday, March 25, 2026
5:00 P.M.
Niagara City Hall
1029 Roosevelt Road
Niagara, WI 54151

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Joseph Johnston. Present: Alderpersons Michael Darne, Daniel Decker, Lisa Johnson, Glenn Lantagne and Karl Lamoreaux; Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Audrey Fredrick, Police Chief Mike Chapman; Public Works Coordinator Jim Stachowicz, Treatment Plant Operator Dave Dunlap

Also Present: Kyle Johnson and Lynn McIntyre of Cedar Corporation, Thad Majkowski of Cedar Corporation (via Teams Application)

Excused: Alderperson Don Shampo

A motion was made by Alderperson Decker to approve the agenda. Alderperson Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Appearances: None

A motion was made by Alderperson Lamoreaux and seconded by Alderperson Decker to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 25, 2026 and the Special Meeting of March 11, 2026. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderperson Decker and seconded by Alderperson Darne to pre-approve the bills for April 2026. Motion carried.

The reports were reviewed. Alderperson Decker moved to approve the reports as presented. Alderperson Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Reports from department heads or elected officials:

- Mayor Joe Johnston
 - The M.J. Electric construction site will have increased activity beginning the week of April 13.
- Police Chief Mike Chapman
 - Participated in Career Day talks at the school.
 - The 2019 squad was sold for \$3,283.00 by auction on the Wisconsin Surplus site.
 - The League of Wisconsin Municipalities reimbursed the Department \$2,500.00 for Lexipol services.
 - Radar certifications have been completed on both squads.

Alderperson Decker moved to adopt the *Citizen Participation Plan* for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Alderperson Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderperson Decker to approve Resolution 03-25-26-1 – *Adopt Citizen Participation Plan*. Alderperson Lamoreaux seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderperson Decker to approve Resolution 03-25-26-2 – *Submit a CDBG Application*. Alderperson Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderperson Decker to approve Resolution 03-25-26-3 – *Adopt Policy to Prohibit the Use of Excessive Force and to Enforce Applicable State and Local Laws Prohibiting Physically Barring Entrances/Exits for Non-Violent Civil Rights Demonstrations*. It was noted that this resolution is required for the CDBG application and is a policy for Housing and Urban Development. Alderperson Lamoreaux seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderperson Johnson to adopt a *Wisconsin Residential Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan*. It was noted that this plan is required for the CDBG application. Alderperson Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

City Auditor Scott Sternhagen of CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP, presented the annual audit findings. The City continues to be compliant, and the General Fund is in solid shape. The Sewer Fund will need to be supplemented and Auditor Sternhagen recommends the Water Fund to have a full analytical review with the Public Service Commission, due to the discrepancy between water rates billed and the water costs. The Tax Incremental District (TID) will be reviewed for future closure. Alderperson Decker moved to accept the report. Alderperson Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Alderperson Decker moved to accept the accounting software upgrade through Tyler Technologies; the current system will be obsolete by year-end. Alderperson Darne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderperson Darne to reserve Heights Park for June 26 and 27, 2026 for the annual Niagara Lions Club Picnic. Alderperson Decker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderperson Decker to issue a temporary liquor license to the Niagara Lions Club for the annual picnic on June 26 and 27, 2026 at Heights Park. Alderperson Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Alderperson Lamoreaux to issue a fireworks permit to the Niagara Lions Club for the annual picnic on June 27, 2026 at Heights Park. Alderperson Lantagne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Administrator Report - Audrey Fredrick

- The State Fire Department Audit will be conducted on Thursday, April 2.
- The date from the income survey that was conducted for the water tower funding request can also be used for the sewer and water funding request on Mill, Hill and Forest Street.
- The debt incurred from the water tower project increases the city's score for funding eligibility for the sewer and water project.
- Preparations are being finalized for the April 7, 2026 election. An Election Inspector refresher training is scheduled for March 26.
- The City, and entire County, may be eligible for FEMA recovery funds following the record-setting snow event from earlier in the month. An initial estimate for City costs will be provided to Marinette County Emergency Services.
- Kim DeForge is retiring as the Animal Control Officer, effective April 30.

Public Works Report, Water and Sewer Report - Public Works Coordinator Jim Stachowicz

- Cody Bath will be attending CDL training classes in Seymour, WI the week of April 27.
- Matt Zanon continued his employment with Public Works for extra days to assist with the snow storm; his efforts were appreciated.
- A large tree fell in the cemetery; it will be removed.
- Utility locates were done on Hill and Forest Street in preparation of the upcoming projects.
- Cedar Corporation representatives, including Kyle Johnson and Hannah Fitzpatrick, spent the day with Public Works regarding the Mill, Hill and Forest Street projects.
- Pothole patching will begin.

Committee Reports:

- Finance - Alderperson Decker

- The financial reports have been reviewed with all in good order, the audit report was very favorable.

Aldersperson Decker moved to set the next meeting for Tuesday, April 21, 2026 immediately following the 5:00 p.m. Reorganizational Meeting. Aldersperson Lamoreaux seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Aldersperson Decker and seconded by Aldersperson Johnson to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.