



HAMBURG CITY COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 25, 2025

Mayor Chris Lund called the Hamburg City Council Meeting to order at 6:02 PM. Those in attendance were Councilmembers Jessica Weber, Eric Poppler, Mitch Polzin, Tim Tracy, City Clerk Jeremy Gruenhagen, and Deputy Clerk Jenni Droege. Also in attendance was the Hamburg Fire Department Chief, Steven Siewert and City Works Jason Buckentin.

Public Comment – No Public Comment.

Agenda Review and Adoption

MOTION: Councilmember Jessica Weber moved to approve the Agenda as amended (November Claims - \$8,127.58). Seconded by Councilmember Eric Poppler. Motion was approved by all present.

Consent Agenda

- **Approve Payment of Added November Claims (\$8,127.58)**
- **Approve Time-Off Request (Jeremy Gruenhagen)**

MOTION: Councilmember Eric Poppler moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Mitch Polzin. Motion was approved by all present.

Hamburg Fire Department – Chief Siewert

- Chief Siewert asked the council again if anyone has any questions concerning PERA. Council did not have any current questions or concerns.

Old/New City Business

- **Final Budget/2026 Final Property Tax Levy:**
 - **Health Insurance Rates/Cost Analysis**-The current increase is approximately 13.8%, the average is 19-20%. The current HP Plan doesn't include any Mayo facilities.
 - **MN Paid Leave – The initial premium rate is .88% of covered wages.** Notices need to be sent prior to 12/1/2025. Most all cities in Carver County are splitting the premium 50/50%. Council agreed to split 50/50 between employee and employees. Jeremy asked all council members to sign the MN Paid Leave Notice and leave with him. He also asked if there are any current questions and to direct your questions/concerns to your state leaders; no further questions.
 - **Budget Items for 2025/2026** – Final Budget to be set at December CC Meeting. It was at 8.2% and has been worked down to 3.02%. Clerk Gruenhagen did mention some other ways to reduce taxes including trimming the tree budget and removal of the park cameras. Insurance (WC/PC) costs decreased. There is also money designated for seal coating Brad Street project (Replay). \$22,000 budget for Fire Hall Roof.



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City is currently on pace to be within budget for legal fees. Land Purchase for extension of George Street was set at \$50,000; this will be discussed Spring of 2026. Clerk Gruenhagen asked if there are any questions. Council member Tracy did ask what the total tree budget is and Councilmember Poppler commented that he would like to see the camera budget stay as is. The trees that were lost this Summer were discussed and what should be done to replace them. Chipping the Brush Pile was also discussed, this is included in the 2026 Budget.

- **2026 City Fee Schedule**
 - **Move Public Hearing to January 13, 2026** - A public hearing notice was emailed to the paper, but the email was in the publisher's spam folder and the deadline for publishing had passed. Reschedule Public Hearing to January 13, 2026.
 - **MOTION: Councilmember Mitch Polzin moved to approve moving the Public Hearing to January 13, 2026. Seconded by Councilmember Eric Poppler. Motion was approved by all present.**

City Council Reports

- Councilmember Eric Poppler (Parks) had nothing further to report.
- Councilmember Jessica Weber (Buildings) had nothing further to report.
- Councilmember Tim Tracy (Water/Sewer) had nothing further to report.
- Councilmember Mitch Polzin (Streets) had nothing further to report.
- Mayor Chris Lund had nothing further to report.

Move to Closed Meeting(s) for the purpose of Employee Evaluation(s) [Unless any employee requests an Open Meeting for his/her evaluation. Any Open Meeting for Employee Evaluation(s) shall be held prior to any Closed Meeting for Employee Evaluation(s)]

Recess City Council Meeting

MOTION: Councilmember Jessica Weber moved to recess the City Council Meeting at 6:31 PM. Seconded by Councilmember Tim Tracy. Motion was approved by all present. Employees Buckentin, Droege, and Gruenhagen requested Closed Meetings.

Move to Reopen City Council Meeting

MOTION: Councilmember Eric Poppler moved to reopen the City Council Meeting at 7:40 PM. Seconded by Councilmember Mitch Polzin. Motion was approved by all present.

Employee Wages/Health Insurance Coverage for 2026



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- Steve Frensko – Steve was unavailable and will be present at the December 9, 2025 City Council meeting.
- Jason Buckentin - 3% increase for 2026
 - **MOTION: Councilmember Eric Poppler moved to approve the 3% increase for Jason Buckentin. Seconded by Councilmember Mitch Polzin. Motion was approved by all present.**
- Jeremy Gruenhagen - 3% increase for 2026
 - **MOTION: Councilmember Eric Poppler moved to approve the 3% increase for Jeremy Gruenhagen. Seconded by Councilmember Mitch Polzin. Motion was approved by all present.**
- Jenni Droege - \$5.00/Hr. Increase for 2026
 - **MOTION: Councilmember Eric Poppler moved to approve the \$5.00 increase for Jenni Droege. Seconded by Councilmember Mitch Polzin. Motion was approved by all present.**
- Health Insurance Coverage (Deductible). Continue coverage for FT Employees at the same coverage as 2025.
 - **MOTION: Councilmember Eric Poppler moved to continue Health Insurance coverage the same as 2025 for 2026. Seconded by Councilmember Mitch Polzin. Motion was approved by all present.**

Adjourn City Council Meeting

MOTION: Councilmember Jessica Weber moved to adjourn the city council meeting at 7:50 PM. Seconded by Councilmember Tim Tracy. Motion was approved by all present.

Amended/Approved on February 5, 2026



Jeremy Gruenhagen
City Clerk/Treasurer