

CITY OF MILLER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 3, 2025

The City of Miller is an equal-opportunity employer.

The City Council met in regular session at city hall at 7:00 p.m. on November 3, 2025.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Tom McGough, Aldermen: Will Jones, Patrick Price, Dale Hargens, Gale Auch, Landon Gab, and Alderwoman Susan Hargens.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor McGough called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

AGENDA: Alderman Jones requested that item number 14 be added to the agenda to discuss building permits in general. Motion by Alderman Auch, seconded by Alderman Hargens to approve the agenda as amended. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Motion by Alderwoman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Hargens to approve the minutes as printed for the regular meeting held on October 20, 2025. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Public Input: Mayor McGough stated that Aleah Schlechter, a former student of his, is tuned in online to tonight's meeting for a school assignment and welcomed her.

Department Head Reports

All department heads were present. Chief Huss said the department was awarded the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant for 2 new body armor vests at 100% grant for \$3,207.96.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Award Funding Requests: Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderman Hargens to award the following donations for the 2026 budget year: \$2,000 to Ginny's Safe House, \$3,000 to Miller Fire Department for fireworks, \$67,000 to On Hand Economic Development, \$2,750 to Wheels & Meals, a \$1,600 electric utility credit to McWhorter House Museum, and a \$5,000 electric utility credit to Hand In Hand Childcare. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1st Reading Ordinance #763: Mayor McGough read the first reading of Ordinance #763 – Water Rates FY26. Motion by Alderman Auch, seconded by Alderman Gab to approve the first reading of Ordinance #763. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

1st Reading Ordinance #764: Mayor McGough read the first reading of Ordinance #764 – Sewer Rates FY26. Motion by Alderman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Jones to approve the first reading of Ordinance #764. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

1st Reading Ordinance #765: Mayor McGough read the first reading of Ordinance #765 – Electric Rates FY26. Motion by Alderwoman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Jones to approve the first reading of Ordinance #765. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

1st Reading Ordinance #766: Mayor McGough read the first reading of Ordinance #766 – 2026 Appropriations. Motion by Alderman Auch, seconded by Alderman Gab to approve the first reading of Ordinance #766. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

1st Reading Ordinance #767: Mayor McGough read the first reading of Ordinance #767 – MPD Administrative Fees to establish fees for fingerprinting services provided by the Miller Police Department. Motion by Alderman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Gab to approve the first reading of Ordinance #767. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 2025-11-2: Mayor McGough read Resolution No. 2025-11-2 to correct the numerical designation of Resolution No. 2025-11 to 2025-10. Motion by Alderwoman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Auch to approve Resolution No. 2025-11-2. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 2025-12: Mayor McGough read Resolution No. 2025-12 to establish capital outlay accumulations for a police patrol vehicle beginning with the 2026 appropriations. Motion by Alderman Jones, seconded by Alderman Hargens to approve Resolution No. 2025-12. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Phase IV Utility Improvements: Motion by Alderman Auch, seconded by Alderman Hargens to approved payment of **SPN invoices 37242-37246** for a total of \$52,550.20. All members voted aye. Motion carried. Change Order No. 5 from TLC Olson Construction reduces the contract price by \$288,269.50. Motion by Alderman Gab, seconded by Alderman Jones to approved **TLC Olson Construction Change Order No. 5**. All members voted aye. Motion carried. Motion by Alderman Jones, seconded by Alderman Auch to approved **TLC Olson Construction Pay Application No. 13** for \$524,060.81. This figure accounts for CO No. 5. All members voted aye. Motion carried. Camden Hofer, SPN provided an attachment to the agenda for review of the project budget as of 10/30/2025. Total wastewater funding - \$683,579.00, less project expenses - \$438,408.25, equals \$245,170.75 excess funding. Total water funding - \$5,634,263.00, less project expenses - \$4,852,486.02, equals \$781,776.98 excess funding.

Helms & Associates Invoices – Motion by Alderwoman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Gab to pay Helms & Associates invoices 37210 and 37220 for a total of \$13,429.23. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

AIP #3-46-0035-016-2025 Change Order No. 1: A change order has been issued to extend the dates for Webster Scale, Inc. for construction of the taxiway project due to unforeseen delays in the city receiving its FAA Grant. The date of substantial completion will be July 31, 2026, and the date for completion of all work will be September 11, 2026. Motion by Alderwoman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Hargens to approve Change Order No. 1 for AIP #3-46-0035-016-2025. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Hand County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update: A second mitigation planning meeting was held at the Miller Fire Hall on October 14. Cindy Deuter, Christi Danburg, Ron Hoftiezer, Terry Manning, and Dustin Graham attended on behalf of the city. The city will provide documents to be integrated into the mitigation plan along with listing critical structures and recent/planned developments. Projects in the current plan have been reviewed. Some projects have been completed, and new projects will be added. The public survey is still available online. Any additional comments or questions can be directed to Arlen Gortmaker or Alison Kiesz, NECOG.

Holidays – beyond policy: Governor Larry Rhoden granted 2 additional holidays for State employees: the day after Thanksgiving and the day after Christmas. Mayor McGough has the authority to permit the same for city employees and asked the council members to consider such. More discussion will be held at the next regular city council meeting on November 17.

2026 Liquor License Renewals: Motion by Alderman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Gab to approve the following liquor license renewals: A. Canham LLC – Package (off-sale) Liquor, Coborn’s Inc. (Kessler’s) – Package (off-sale) Liquor, MILAN, INC (Pump ‘n Pak) – Package (off-sale) Liquor, Miller Rexall Drug Co – Retail (on-off sale) Wine and Cider, Pat’s Place, LLC (Sommers Bar & Lounge) – Retail (on-sale) Liquor, Redneck Paradise, Inc (Pop-A-Top) – Retail (on-sale) Liquor, Redneck Paradise, Inc (Pop-A-Top) – Package (off-sale) Liquor, Turtle Creek Saloon, LLC – Retail (on-sale) Liquor, DOLGEN MIDWEST LLC (Dollar General) – Retail (on-off sale) Wine and Cider, and FAMILY DOLLAR STORES OF SD LLC (Family Dollar) – Retail (on-off sale) Wine and Cider. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Building Permits: Alderman Jones addressed 2 issues concerning building permits. First, people are still building without permits. He would like the council to continue issuing fines for violation of the city’s code. Mayor McGough continued the conversation and mentioned the importance of calling 811 before anyone does any work that requires digging. Dustin Graham stressed the importance of locating underground lines to reduce potential life-threatening risks of hitting dangerous lines. Mayor McGough stated there are fines for damaging underground utilities without locates. Second, Alderman Jones mentioned a previously approved permit that allowed a garage to be erected at an angle on a lot that is not in line with the other houses on the block. Alderman Price referenced city code 40-296. If it’s not a dwelling and is situated at least 20 feet from the front lot line, 6 feet from the sides, and 5 feet from the back, the accessory building may be placed at any angle on the lot. Alderman Jones argued that without a house on the lot, there is nothing for a garage to be accessory to and should result in it being in line with the other houses on the block. No action taken.

Approval of Bills: Motion by Alderman Auch, seconded by Alderman Hargens to approve the bills for payment. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Alderman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Jones to go into executive session for personnel matters pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) to discuss employee wages at 8:02 p.m. All members voted aye. Motion carried. Mayor McGough returned the meeting to regular session at 8:39 p.m.

Employee Wages: Motion by Alderman Jones, seconded by Alderman Gab to approve the following raises, effective January 1, 2026, without COLA: Christi Danburg - \$2.00/hour, Allison Nelson - \$1.50/hour, Ronald Hoftiezer - \$3.00/hour, David Phinney - \$2.00/hour, Dan Fritzsche - \$1.50/hour, Terry Manning - \$3.00/hour, Brandon Hammill - \$2.00/hour; and to approve a 3% COLA, effective January 1, 2026, for all employees, other than lifeguards, who are not receiving a wage increase. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderman Hargens to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Tom McGough, Mayor

Cindy Deuter, Finance Officer

LEGAL NOTICE OF RECEIPT
Copy of the official proceedings was received on: _____
Published once at the approximate cost of: _____

Bills November 2025 (1)		
Bds	Garbage	400.00
Border States	Supplies	1,762.86
City Utilities	Utilities	5,802.18
Dgr Engineering	Prof Fees	1,857.00
Erfman, Janice	Cupcakes K-1st	160.00
Helms & Associates	Prof Fees	13,429.23
Milbank Winwater	Supplies	1,816.74
Ohed	80% Bbb	3,939.49
Postmaster	Presort Permit #2	450.00
Sd Phl	Water Samples	270.00
Sdml Wcf	Workers Comp	21,225.00
Spn	Prof Fees	52,550.20
Sturdevant's	Supplies	379.95
Tlc Olson Construction	Water Phase Iv	524,060.81
Uline	Supplies	429.18
Us Bank	Loans	62,489.22
	Accounts Payable Total	\$691,021.86

Payroll Salary plus		10/31/2025 &		
Benefits by Department:		11/6/2025		
Department		w/o OT	OT	Total
41101	COUNCIL	2,901.19	0.00	2,901.19
41402	FINANCE OFFICE	3,244.41	0.00	3,244.41
41902	BUILDING	312.01	0.00	312.01
42101	POLICE	14,039.07	615.71	14,654.78
43101	STREET	8,800.68	0.00	8,800.68
43201	SEWER	6,258.58	182.70	6,441.28
43305	WATER	6,258.51	182.70	6,441.21
43403	ELECTRIC	15,402.09	0.00	15,402.09
45202	PARK	657.38	0.00	657.38
		\$57,873.92	\$981.11	\$58,855.03