

**CITY OF MILLER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2026**

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 Monday, January 5, 2026.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Tom McGough, Aldermen: Dale Hargens, Will Jones, Patrick Price, 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: Motion by Alderman Auch, seconded by Alderman Price to approve the agenda. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Motion by Alderwoman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Jones to approve the minutes for the special end-of-year meeting held December 30, 2025. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mayor McGough and Alderman Gab received a phone call last night from a citizen. Mayor McGough appreciates people reaching out when they have questions to gain insight into city business. The council members are here to answer questions and listen to concerns.

Department Head Reports

A puzzling picture of an electrical transformer box full of dirt was presented by the electric department. It is assumed that a busy pocket gopher moved the dirt in, and it wasn't discovered until the cover was lifted during routine maintenance.

Cindy Deuter, Finance Officer presented the final sales tax figures as of the end of 2025 in comparison with 2024 figures. \$1,074,698.90 was received in 2025, \$39,000.08 more than what was received in 2024, yet \$25,301.10 short of the \$1.1 million that was estimated for 2025. The BBB tax (Gross Receipts Tax) came in at \$54,559.75, \$851.54 more as compared to 2024. An overview of the 2025 financials will be presented at the next regular meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2nd Reading – Ordinance #768: Mayor McGough read the title of Ordinance #768 – City Fee Schedule. Motion by Alderman Auch, seconded by Alderman Gab to approve the second reading of Ordinance #768. Roll call vote: Alderman Jones – aye, Alderman Price – aye, Alderman Hargens – aye, Alderman Auch – aye, Alderman Gab – aye, Alderwoman Hargens – aye. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 2026-1 – Annual Salaries: Mayor McGough read Resolution No. 2026-1. Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderman Jones to approve Resolution No. 2026-1 – Annual Salaries effective with the first payroll in January. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 2026-2: Motion by Alderman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Gab to approve Resolution No. 2026-2 to designate *The Miller Press* as the official newspaper. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Dustin Graham, electric department: Electric Department Superintendent Dustin Graham would like to start searching for a new pickup truck and to sandblast the utility box to prolong its life on the 2011 Ford Super Duty F-250. A quote was received from A-1 Body, Inc., Huron, SD, for sandblasting and repairs. \$50,000 was budgeted for the new pickup truck. A utility box for the new pickup can be purchased and installed later. Motion by Alderwoman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Jones to authorize Dustin to search for and purchase a pickup truck for the electric department for up to \$50,000. All members voted aye. Motion carried. The utility box on the F-250 only has surface rust. The rest of the box is in good condition. Sandblasting is a reasonable option to maintain it. Motion by Alderman Jones, seconded by Alderman Auch to approve

sandblasting and repairs on the service box as quoted from A-1 Body, Inc. for \$4,002.60. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Helms & Associates Invoice: Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderman Jones to pay Helms & Associates invoices 37658 and 37652 for a total of \$6,611.97. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

KBA Quote – Annual Report: A proposal from Kohlman, Bierschbach & Anderson, LLP was received to perform a compilation of the financial statements of the City of Miller for the year ended December 31, 2025, for an amount not to exceed \$1,850.00. This is an annual report that is submitted to the appropriate state and loan agencies, not a full audit. Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderman Hargens to approve and accept KBA’s proposal to perform the annual report as proposed for not more than \$1,850.00. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Designate Official Depositories: Motion by Alderman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Gab to approve American Bank & Trust – Miller, Quoin Financial Bank – Miller, and SD FIT as the official depositories for the City of Miller. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Establish Election Date: Mayor McGough read the new South Dakota Codified Law regarding the date of municipal elections. SDCL 9-13-1 requires the governing body to establish the date of the annual election by January 14 of the election year. The 2 choices are the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June or the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. June is favorable to allow any new members to take office in July and to sit through the annual budget process. Motion by Alderman Auch, seconded by Alderman Price to establish the 2026 election date as June 2. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Farm & Home Show: The council members coordinated time among Alderman Gab, Alderwoman Hargens, Alderman Hargens, and Alderman Price to host the city’s booth at the Farm & Home Show. Alderman Hargens will be helping at the pancake feed, and Alderman Price will be there for C&B Operations. Each can fill in at the city’s booth to allow breaks for the others.

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

PUBLIC HEARING

Resolution No. 2026-3: As published by public notice, the City Council held a public hearing at 7:30 p.m. regarding vacation of a right of way on the east side of the football field as requested by the Miller School District for the purpose of constructing an addition to the elementary school. Mayor McGough read Resolution No. 2026-3 to vacate that portion of East 7th Avenue. Alderman Jones asked who is responsible for relocating utility lines. Dustin Graham and Terry Manning stated the school will pay for those costs. Easements will be in place for city-owned utilities. Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderman Gab to approve Resolution No. 2026-3 giving approval and authorization for the vacation of that part of East 7th Avenue. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Alderwoman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Hargens to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 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 January 2026

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Bds | Garbage | 400.00 |
| Cdw Gov | Prof Fees | 407.85 |
| City Utilities | Utilities | 10,711.99 |
| Cnh | Parts | 110.26 |
| Ginny's Safe House | Donation | 2,000.00 |
| Helms & Associates | Prof Fees | 6,611.97 |
| Pioneer Garage | Repairs | 81.82 |
| Jdf | Parts | 848.35 |
| Napa | Parts | 340.43 |
| Nasasp | Dues | 190.00 |
| Necog | Dues | 1,806.63 |
| Ohed | 80% Bbb | 4,736.99 |
| Overhead Door - Pierre | Supplies | 1,812.45 |
| Postmaster | Presort Permit #2 | 425.00 |
| Pump 'N Pak | Fuel | 218.35 |
| Runnings | Supplies | 278.74 |
| Sd Danr - Fo | Prof Fees | 1,500.00 |
| Sdml | Prof Fees | 70.00 |
| Sturdevant's | Supplies | 281.63 |
| Umma | Prof Fees | 200.00 |
| Us Bank | Loans | 18,165.39 |
| Wheels&Meals | Donation | 2,750.00 |
| Accounts Payable Total | | <u>\$53,947.85</u> |

| Payroll Salary plus Benefits by Department: | | 12/31/2025 & 01/02/2026 | | |
|--|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | Department | w/o OT | OT | Total |
| 41101 | COUNCIL | 3,224.14 | 0.00 | 3,224.14 |
| 41402 | FINANCE OFFICE | 3,426.17 | 0.00 | 3,426.17 |
| 41902 | BUILDING | 274.99 | 0.00 | 274.99 |
| 42101 | POLICE | 17,985.22 | 2,121.90 | 20,107.12 |
| 43101 | STREET | 9,884.16 | 141.03 | 10,025.19 |
| 43201 | SEWER | 6,660.16 | 27.45 | 6,687.61 |
| 43305 | WATER | 6660.03 | 27.45 | 6687.48 |
| 43403 | ELECTRIC | 15967.69 | 0 | 15967.69 |
| | | <u>\$64,082.56</u> | <u>\$2,317.83</u> | <u>\$66,400.39</u> |