

CITY OF MILLER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 2, 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, March 2, 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 Gab to approve the agenda with one revision to move item number 6 up to number 5 before Executive Session. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Mayor McGough clarified his comments during Public Input at the last regular city council meeting. The minutes state that he contacted South Dakota delegates “to voice his opposition.” When he calls legislators, it is his intent to gain insight on pending legislation. Motion by Alderwoman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Hargens to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held February 17, 2026. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT None.

Department Head Reports

Chief Ted Huss explained that the FBI has a program to surplus their used body armor that’s still good and rated to stop rounds from a rifle. 1 vest was passed around for the council members to view. The department’s traditional soft vests will not stop a rifle round. 4 sets of level IV ceramic plates with carrier and 4 sets of Ultra Low Visibility soft body armor were obtained through the Legacy Body Armor Program at no cost to the Miller PD. The total value of the body armor received is \$9,800. The total year-to-date grant dollars received from all sources for FY2026 is \$16,800. The council is thankful for programs that help supply smaller departments with the equipment necessary to carry out their duties and hopes it will never need to be used. Alderman Price asked how many participants are in the 24/7 program right now. Chief Huss stated there is 1.

Terry Manning, Water Superintendent, explained that Certified Testing Services, Inc. was in town today taking soil samples for the new swimming pool project. The soil borers ran into the old pool from the 1950’s but had no problems going through it. Preliminarily, the soil looks good at first inspection. Mayor McGough read from Terry’s report that the Annual SD Airport Conference will be held on April 8 at the Pierre Ramkota.

Finance Officer Cindy Deuter and Alderman Price are working with Waterworth to build a financial model for the water fund which will be presented at a regular council meeting in April. Mayor McGough attended one of the original webinars with Waterworth and liked being able to view a clear picture of the financial state and future planning of each enterprise fund.

Ron Hoftiezer, Street Superintendent, informed the council that due to warmer temperatures, he is going to put larvicide out earlier this year. There are no grant dollars available this year for mosquito control which previously covered chemical, overtime, and fuel along with time and supplies required for trapping, counting, sorting, and testing mosquitos.

NEW BUSINESS

Helms & Associates Invoice: Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderman Jones to pay Helms & Associates invoice 37958 for \$1,307.49. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Airport Project – AWOS-III-P: Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderman Hargens to advertise for bids for construction of the AWOS-III-P airport project. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Outstanding Utility Accounts: Alderman Jones is concerned with how long delinquent customers are allowed to accumulate outstanding utility bills. After last month’s shut offs, one account that had an arrangement for payment was on the verge of being 3 months behind. As a

responsible service provider, the city, in a sense, should not give customers credit that they cannot pay back. Alderman Jones wants to know the amount of utility bills that get written off the city's books. He would like to see the policy restructured to reduce costs for the city and its customers. This item was moved to committee for review.

Building Permit: Motion by Alderman Gab, seconded by Alderwoman Hargens to approve a building permit for Bill and Tonna Hughes to build a deck at 519 East 2nd Avenue. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Open Police Officer Position: Officer Henrickson plans to retire in June 2026. Alderman Gab, Public Safety Committee Chair, spoke with Chief Huss about advertising for the upcoming open position earlier rather than later to allow for Chief Huss to advertise it at Lake Area Tech Institute's job fair in Watertown on March 12. Chief Huss stated it's going to take time to accept applications, set up interviews, and give a prospective applicant time to give their employer notice and make moving arrangements. Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderman Gab to advertise for the position with a starting wage of \$21/hour+ depending on experience. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderman Jones to go into executive session for personnel matters pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) at 7:39 p.m. to review applications for seasonal help. All members voted aye. Motion carried. Mayor McGough returned the meeting to regular session at 7:59 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS cont'd.

Hire Seasonal Help: Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderman Hargens, for the 2026 summer season, to rehire Sydney Jessen as pool manager at \$19.52/hour, to rehire Gracie Graham for summer help at the ballpark at \$15.45/hour, and the following lifeguards: Patrick Nelson - \$13.77/hour, Gabrielle Noack - \$13.50/hour, Grace Hofer - \$15.44/hour, Mahli Bresson - \$13.77/hour, Gabriella Werdel - \$15.44/hour, Jake Gibson - \$13.77/hour, Autumn Flor - \$13.77/hour, Haylie Huss - \$13.77/hour, Taytum Gortmaker - \$13.77/hour, and Kate Lichty - \$15.44/hour. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Alderwoman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Price to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 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 March 2026 (1)

Baysingers	Body Armor	3,207.96
Bds	Garbage	400.00
Builders Solutions	Supplies	67.72
City Utilities	Utilities	17,340.51
Cook Implement	Stump Grinder	285.00
Dgr	Prof Fees	460.00
Donlin	Supplies	402.49
Fire Protection Solutions	Prof Fees	830.50
Dustin Graham	Reimb	54.00
Helms & Associates	Prof Fees	1,307.49
Independence Upfitters	Pusher Bumper	1,140.00
Kessler's	Fuel	225.74
Make It Mine Designs	Supplies	179.94
Napa	Parts	44.42
Ohed	80% Bbb	2,157.30
Postmaster	Presort Permit #2	400.00
Craig Price	Reimb	185.84
Sd Phl	Water Samples	40.00
Servall	Service	137.19
Wesco	Supplies	396.06
		<u>\$29,262.16</u>

Payroll Salary plus**Benefits by Department:**

2/26/2026 & 2/27/2026

	Department	w/o OT	OT	Total
41101	COUNCIL	2,615.91	0.00	2,615.91
41402	FINANCE OFFICE	3,494.43	0.00	3,494.43
41902	BUILDING	299.59	0.00	299.59
42101	POLICE	15,399.86	1,288.17	16,688.03
43101	STREET	9,996.56	0.00	9,996.56
43201	SEWER	6,889.55	27.45	6,917.00
43305	WATER	6,889.44	27.45	6,916.89
43403	ELECTRIC	15,846.40	0.00	15,846.40
		<u>\$61,431.74</u>	<u>\$1,343.07</u>	<u>\$62,774.81</u>