

**CITY OF MILLER**  
**LOCAL BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEETING**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MARCH 16, 2026**

*The City of Miller is an equal-opportunity employer.*

The City Council met in regular session as the Local Board of Equalization and the Common Council of the City of Miller at city hall at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 16, 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.

**LOCAL BOARD OF EQUALIZATION:** At the advertised time of 7:00 p.m., the city council convened as the Local Board of Equalization for the purpose of reviewing property valuations and hearing appeals. Hand County Director of Equalization Jaime Russell was present to review the process. She provided preliminary abstract numbers and the growth to use for budgeting. She also explained that a property within the city limits of Miller at 220 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street owned by Karen Rose, a constituent of the city, should be classified as owner-occupied, and it has been recorded as such. The city board agreed. Having no appeals or written objections, motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderman Jones to close the local board of equalization meeting and move it up to the county level. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

*Meeting continued as the city's governing board at 7:13 p.m.*

**AGENDA:** Motion by Alderman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Jones to approve the agenda as amended to include 2 building permit applications. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**MINUTES:** Motion by Alderman Auch, seconded by Alderman Gab to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held March 2, 2026. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Special Event Liquor Licenses:** Jansen Naber, On Hand Development Corp Director and Brooke Carr were present to request a special event liquor license for the Diamonds and Denim event on Saturday, March 28 at the community center to raise funds for Miller Needs a Pool. Motion by Alderman Jones, seconded by Alderman Price to approve the special event liquor license for wine tasting and to waive the \$50.00 license fee for On Hand Economic Development for the Diamonds and Denim event. All members voted aye. Motion carried. Motion by Alderman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Gab to approve a special event liquor license for Willie's Bar & Grill to have a cash bar at the Diamonds and Denim event at the community center on Saturday, March 28 and to waive the \$50.00 license fee. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Building Permits:** Dustin Graham, zoning administrator, stated he will not be present at the next regular meeting and appreciates the council adding these building permits to the agenda for review. He explained the scenarios for 2 different building permit applications. Doug and Linda DeBoer requested to build a shed on an existing concrete pad where a shed once existed at their address, 419 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, and Royce Blackburn would like to build a fence that will not stick out past the existing buildings along that block and will not create a visual obstruction for traffic at his address, 210 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. The council agreed with Graham that variances are not necessary in these two situations. Motion by Alderman Jones, seconded by Alderman Auch to approve a building permit for Doug & Linda DeBoer to build a shed. All members voted aye. Motion carried. Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderman Gab for Royce Blackburn to build a fence. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Delinquent Utility Billing Accounts:** Discussion was held with no committee recommendations regarding the current billing cycle and accounts that can potentially end up 3 months behind or past due. Currently, approximately \$40,000 is sitting at collections, \$30,000 of which resulted from unpaid utility accounts in the name(s) of tenants/renters. Sending bad debt accounts to collections and filing small claims are options to collect unpaid bills; however, the goal is to reduce those amounts by not allowing customers to get too far behind on their bills. The council agreed this is a problem and needs

to be corrected. Larger security deposits, adjusted shut-off due date, shortened billing cycle, and requiring landlord deposits were ideas offered to reduce the large amounts submitted to collections. Motion by Alderman Jones, seconded by Alderman Price to shorten the delinquent period by moving shut-off day to 7 days after delinquent calculations and to start the process to draft a new ordinance to amend the current code to implement such. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Alderman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Gab to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

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Tom McGough, Mayor

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Cindy Deuter, Finance Officer

LEGAL NOTICE OF RECEIPT

Copy of the official proceedings  
was received on: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Bills March 2026 (2)**

44i	Prof Fees	249.00
A & B Business	Prof Fees	238.09
American Solutions	Supplies	65.48
CNH	Parts	270.00
Dakota Energy	On-Call	1,365.00
DGR	School Addition Elec Layout	1,301.00
DG	Supplies	25.00
Donlin Building	Acetylene Tank/Supplies	284.04
Hc Pub	Publications	913.11
First Bank & Trust	Power	36,781.80
Theodore Huss	Reimb	193.00
Infotech	Prof Fees	1,331.94
JDF	Supplies	41.82
Kessler's	Fuel/Supplies	441.91
Landis+Gyr	Prof Fees	1,256.38
Miller Ace	Supplies	191.57
Ohed	Industry	5,500.00
Overhead Door	Repair And Maint	1,559.25
Prairieland Collections	Prof Fees	81.06
Runnings	Supplies	656.42
RD	Loans	16,403.00
Sddot Ap	Regist.	150.00
Sd Danr Fo	Prof Fees	100.00
Sd Dor	Sales Tax	13,252.91
Sd Fpa	Supplies	79.50
SDML	Regist.	300.00
Share Corp	Supplies	408.07
Sturdevant's	Supplies	466.60
Visa	Supp./Wtr Purchased/Fuel/Etc	20,948.11
WAPA	Power	57,465.20
Wesco	Supplies	468.00
	<b>Accounts Payable Total</b>	<b><u>\$162,787.26</u></b>

**Payroll Salary plus**

**Benefits by Department:**

		3/12/2026		
	Department	w/o OT	OT	Total
41402	FINANCE OFFICE	3,426.16	0.00	3,426.16
42101	POLICE	14,195.19	413.12	14,608.31
43101	STREET	9,826.04	0.00	9,826.04
43201	SEWER	6,707.43	40.67	6,748.10
43305	WATER	6,707.33	40.66	6,747.99
43403	ELECTRIC	15,314.83	0.00	15,314.83
45202	PARK	387.54	0.00	387.54
		<u>\$56,564.52</u>	<u>\$494.45</u>	<u>\$57,058.97</u>