

CITY OF MONTEVIDEO
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
DECEMBER 15, 2025

The city council met in regular session Monday, December 15, 2025 in the council chambers at city hall. Council President Curtiss called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council members present: Steve Sulflow, Dan Sanborn, Dean Matthys, Beverly Olson (arrived at 7:08) and Bryce Curtiss. Absent: None. Mayor James Bulman present.

Also present were: City Manager Robert Wolfington, City Attorney Janice Nelson, City Engineer Mike Amborn and City Clerk Tami Schuelke-Sampson.

It was moved by Sanborn, seconded by Matthys and unanimously passed to approve the agenda, with the following modifications:

MODIFY: **5(A) CONSIDER APPROVAL OF VERIFIED CLAIMS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 11, 2025 IN THE AMOUNT OF ~~\$144,484.59~~ \$251,922.42.**

The revised list reflects the following additions:

LIQUOR

Bellboy Corporation - Inventory	\$	3,889.47
Breakthru Beverage Minnesota - Inventory		3,548.70
Breakthru Beverage Minnesota - Inventory		2,531.80
Johnson Brothers Liquor Co. - Inventory		1,623.87
Phillips Wine & Sprints - Inventory		2,057.59

FIRE

Montevideo Fire Relief - City & State Aid Contribution		93,786.40
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ADD: **5(C) CONSIDER APPLICATION FROM FIESTA CITY SPEEDWAY FOR AN EXEMPTION FROM LAWFUL GAMBLING REQUIREMENTS TO ALLOW RAFFLE ACTIVITIES AT THE VFW POST 380 ON MARCH 21, 2026.**

MODIFY: **7(B) CONSIDER ACCEPTING PROPOSAL FOR CITY ATTORNEY SERVICES.**

MODIFY: **7(L) CONSIDER RESOLUTION ACCEPTING GIFTS/GRANTS FROM VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS & INDIVIDUALS.**

It was moved by Sanborn, seconded by Sulflow and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 1, 2025, as presented.

4. Notices/Communications/Announcements or Appearance of Interested Citizens.

4(A) SERVICE AWARD PRESENTATION.

Mayor Bulman presented a 10-year employee service award to Heavy Equipment Operator Kyle Gilbertson (hired November 2, 2015).

4(B) APPEARANCE BY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT DR. JAMIE SKJEVELAND, Ed.D.

ISD #129 Superintendent Dr. Jamie Skjeveland, Ed.D. appeared before the council to provide inspiration for the February 10, 2026 school referendum. The purpose of the \$42,000,000 general obligation bonds is for a better, brighter future of Montevideo. There are 4 components to the referendum: 1) Modernization of the high school, 2) Plumbing issues at the high school, 3) Enhanced security and 4) Brand new Performing Arts Center. The owner of a \$200,000 home would have an estimated tax impact of \$22 per month or \$264 annually. By voting for the approval of the referendum you are building the launch pad for a better future of Montevideo. Councilmember Matthys and Mayor Bulman voiced their support of the referendum.

5. Consent Agenda.

It was moved by Sulflow, seconded by Olson and unanimously passed to approve the following consent agenda items:

5(A) VERIFIED CLAIMS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 11, 2025 IN THE (MODIFIED) AMOUNT OF \$251,922.42.

5(B) APPLICATION FROM THE CHIPPEWA COUNTY PHEASANTS FOREVER FOR AN EXEMPTION FROM LAWFUL GAMBLING REQUIREMENTS TO ALLOW RAFFLE AND PADDLEWHEEL ACTIVITIES AT THE MONTEVIDEO TRAINING & COMMUNITY CENTER ON APRIL 28, 2026.

5(C) APPLICATION FROM FIESTA CITY SPEEDWAY FOR AN EXEMPTION FROM LAWFUL GAMBLING REQUIREMENTS TO ALLOW RAFFLE ACTIVITIES AT THE VFW POST 380 ON MARCH 21, 2026.

6. Public Hearings.

- None.

7. General Business.

7(A) OPIOID LITIGATION AND SETTLEMENT FUNDS ANNUAL UPDATE.

Liz Auch, Administrator of Countryside Public Health, was present to give an update on the opioid settlement. Auch provided a handout that explained that there were 3,000 lawsuits brought against opioid manufacturers, distributors, pharmacy chains and marketing consulting firms that led to a consolidated multidistrict litigation to manage the proceedings. Minnesota received \$568 million dollars with Countryside Public Health receiving \$2,756,352 over 18 years. These funds will be used in Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, Swift and Yellow Medicine Counties. Big Stone County has opted to administer and provide programs with the funds they would receive which is \$201,000.

The settlement funds will be used in two buckets. The first bucket, \$90,000 annually, is used to work in the school districts with an evidence based curriculum for the third, fifth and seventh grades. The second bucket are for grant funds to local communities. The role of municipalities is to receive an annual update from Countryside Public Health and provide them with guidance and feedback.

7(B) CITY ATTORNEY SERVICES INTERIM AGREEMENT.

The City is currently working on its City Attorney search and staff is not prepared at this time to make a formal recommendation. Based on the current status, City Manager Wolfington requested current City Attorney Nelson to consider helping in an interim basis until a formal recommendation is made. Staff is continuing to review candidates for the City Attorney position and hope to make a recommendation soon. Attorney Nelson offered to service in the capacity for a two-month period at the rate of \$275 per hour. This does not include any other benefits such as medical insurance. Staff is recommending entering into an interim agreement with Janice Nelson of Nelson Oyen Torvik for City Attorney services.

It was moved by Sanborn, seconded by Matthys and unanimously passed to approve the interim agreement for City Attorney services with Janice Nelson of Nelson Oyen Torvik.

7(C) 2026 FEES & CHARGES SCHEDULE.

DAN SANBORN OFFERED RESOLUTION NO. 4040, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2026 FEES & CHARGES SCHEDULE, AND MOVED ITS ADOPTION. MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 4040 WAS SECONDED BY STEVE SULFLOW. THOSE VOTING IN FAVOR OF MOTION: DAN SANBORN, STEVE SULFLOW, BEVERLY OLSON, DEAN MATTHYS AND BRYCE CURTISS. THOSE VOTING AGAINST MOTION: NONE. RESOLUTION PASSED 5-0.

7(D) REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE/2026.

DAN SANBORN OFFERED RESOLUTION NO. 4041, A RESOLUTION FIXING TIME & PLACE FOR 2026 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS, AND MOVED ITS ADOPTION. MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 4041 WAS SECONDED BY DEAN MATTHYS. THOSE VOTING IN FAVOR OF MOTION: DAN SANBORN, DEAN MATTHYS, STEVE SULFLOW, BEVERLY OLSON AND BRYCE CURTISS . THOSE VOTING AGAINST MOTION: NONE. RESOLUTION PASSED 5-0.

7(E) BOARDS/COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS.

It was moved by Sanborn, seconded by Sulflow and unanimously passed to appoint the following slate of candidates to the various city boards/commissions:

PLANNING COMMISSION: (three-year terms, expiring January 2029): Marvin Garbe and Paul Teichert.

AIRPORT COMMISSION: (two-year term, expiring January 2028): Paul Larson.

POLICE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (three-year term, expiring January 2029): Nora Guerra.

TRAFFIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE (annual terms): Marv Dehne, Lyle Henning, Daniel Sanborn, Greg Schwaegerl and Nathan Schmidt.

PARK BOARD (five-year term to January 2031): Dan Sanborn.

CONVENTION & VISITOR'S BUREAU (2-year term to December 31, 2027): Dustin Citrowske.

7(F) COUNCIL MEMBER APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS/COMMISSIONS.

It was moved by Sanborn, seconded by Sulflow and unanimously passed to appoint the following council members to the various city boards/commissions:

HOSPITAL COMMISSION (annual appointment): Beverly Olson & Dan Sanborn.

AIRPORT COMMISSION (two-year term): Dan Sanborn, term expiring January 2028.

MONTEVIDEO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (MCDC) (two-year term): Dan Sanborn, term expiring December 31, 2027.

JOINT CITY/COUNTY AIRPORT ZONING BOARD (annual appointments): Beverly Olson & Dean Matthys.

COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIALS COMMITTEE (annual appointment): James Bulman.

COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD (three-year term): Steve Sulflow, term expiring December 31, 2028.

7(G) EDA APPOINTMENT.

It was moved by Matthys, seconded by Sanborn and unanimously passed to ratify the mayoral appointment of Tracy Kurtzbein to the Montevideo Economic Development Authority (EDA), term expiring December 31, 2031.

7(H) 2026 BUSINESS & LIQUOR LICENSES.

It was moved by Sulflow, seconded by Olson and unanimously passed to authorize issuance of the following 2026 Business & Liquor Licenses, subject to the receipt of all required documents:

Key:

- (1) = Application not returned - NOT LICENSED FOR 2026
- (2) = Incomplete application.
- (3) = Proof of Insurance needed
- (4) = Menu needed (restaurants)
- (5) = Food license needed (restaurants)
- (6) = Payment needed

LIQUOR ON-SALE (3-2A-2: \$1,500 Fee/\$250 each additional station/\$100.00 additional Sunday sales - Liquor Liability/Worker's Comp/Food License/Menu)

<u>License #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Deficiencies</u>
26-1	Whisky Pete's Bar, Inc.,DBA/Whisky Pete's Bar (one station & Sunday sales)	5
26-2	Frommel, Inc., DBA/Topper's Bar & Grill (two stations & Sunday sales)	None
26-3	Inn Like Flinn, Inc., DBA/Inn Like Flinn (one station & Sunday sales)	None
26-4	Henning-Erickson VFW Post #380, Inc. (one station & Sunday sales)	5
26-5	American Legion Post #59 (one station & Sunday sales)	5
26-6	Plazita Restaurant #3, LLC, DBA/Plazita Mexican Restaurant (one station & Sunday sales)	1

ON-SALE WINE (3-2C-2: \$265 Mon-Sat.; \$70.00 Sunday Only/Liq. Liab./Worker's Comp/Food License/Menu)

<u>License #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Deficiencies</u>
26-7	Three Hundred Management, DBA/Melody Lanes (Monday-Sunday)	None
26-8	Prairie Bear LLC, DBA/Java River Coffee Shop (Monday-Saturday)	1
26-9	Fiesta City Speedway, DBA/Fiesta City Speedway (Monday-Saturday)	1

BREWER-RELATED LICENSES (3-2F-4: \$1,500 Brew Pub On-Sale; \$70 Brew Pub Off-Sale; \$25.00 Brewer Temporary On-Sale; \$425 Brewer Taproom On-Sale; \$25.00 Brewer Taproom Temporary On-Sale [off-site]; \$70 Small Brewer Off-sale [growlers and/or 128 oz/day]; \$25 Accessory/Outside Event [extends premises licensed] - Liq. Liab./Worker's Comp)

<u>License #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Deficiencies</u>
26-10	Talking Waters Brewing Company, LLC (Taproom)	None
26-11	Talking Waters Brewing Company, LLC (Growlers/128 oz.day)	None

3.2 PERCENT MALT LIQUOR ON SALE (3-2B-2: \$160.00 Fee/Sunday Fee \$70.00/Liq. Liab./Worker's Comp/Food License/Menu, when applicable)

<u>License #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Deficiencies</u>
26-12 *	Fiesta City Speedway, DBA/Fiesta City Speedway (Monday-Saturday)	1
26-13 *	Three Hundred Management, DBA/Melody Lanes (Monday-Sunday)	None
26-15 *	Prairie Bear LLC/Java River Coffee Shop (Monday-Saturday)	1

* = The sale of strong beer is allowed due to the combination of this license and a wine license.

3.2 PERCENT MALT LIQUOR COMBINATION ON SALE & OFF SALE (3-2B-2 & 3-2B-3: \$160.00 Fee (On sale)/\$70 Fee (Off sale)/Sunday Fee \$70.00/Liq. Liab./Worker's Comp/Food License/Menu, when applicable)

<u>License #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Deficiencies</u>
26-14	Abarrote la bendiction, LLC, DBA/Abarrote la bendiction (Monday-Sunday)	None

3.2 PERCENT MALT LIQUOR - OFF SALE (3-2B-3: \$70 Fee/Liq. Liab./Worker's Comp.)

<u>License #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Deficiencies</u>
26-16	Casey's Retail Company, DBA/Casey's General Store #3269 (7 th Street)	None
26-17	Inn Like Flinn, Inc., DBA/Inn Like Flinn	None
26-18	Casey's Retail Company, DBA/Casey's General Store #1806 (1 st Street)	None
26-19	Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., DBA/Wal-Mart Supercenter #1858	None

SET-UP LICENSE - \$80 Fee/Liq. Liab./Worker's Comp./Proof of State License - License Period is 3/31/2025 - 3/31/2026.

<u>License #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Deficiencies</u>
26-20	Three Hundred Management, LLC, DBA/Melody Lanes (Will renew in March 2026)	1

CIGARETTE LICENSE (3-5-2: \$100.00 Fee/Worker's Comp.)

<u>License #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Deficiencies</u>
26-21	Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., DBA/Wal-Mart Store #1858	1
26-22	Casey's Retail Company, DBA/Casey's General Store #3269 (7 th Street)	None
26-23	Casey's Retail Company, DBA/Casey's General Store #1806 (418 S. 1 st Street)	None
26-24	Farmer's Union Oil Co., DBA/CENEX C-STORE (2402 E. Hwy 7)	3
26-25	Farmer's Union Oil Co., DBA/CENEX TRAVEL PLAZA (605 Hwy 212)	3
26-26	AK Smoke Zone Inc., DBA/First Smoke Zone (112 S. 1 st Street)	None

REFUSE/RUBBISH HAULING LICENSE (4-2-7: \$40 Fee/Bond/Public Liab. & Property Damage Ins./Worker's Comp.)

<u>License #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Deficiencies</u>
26-27	Derek Tostenson, DBA/Tostenson, Inc.	None

7(I) PRAIRIE FIVE MEALSITE AGREEMENT.

It was moved by Sanborn, seconded by Olson and unanimously passed to authorize the mayor and city manager to execute the 2026 Prairie Five Meals Program Meal Site Facility Agreement.

7 (J) 2026 PAY INCREASES FOR NON-UNION EMPLOYEES/DEPARTMENT HEADS.

Pay increases for non-union employees (full and part-time) and department heads have historically been the same as given to union members. Both AFSCME and LELS bargaining units negotiated a 6% wage increase for 2026. The proposed increases were presented as follows:

- 1) **A 6.0% increase on 1/1/2026 for:**
 - (1) Full-time non union employees
 - (2) Department Heads

And part-time staff:

Senior Center Part-Time: From \$15.58/hour to \$16.51/hour

Fire Department (Volunteer):

- (1) First hour from \$23.83/hour to \$25.26/hour
- (2) Every hour after from \$14.52/hour to \$15.39/hour
- (3) Two-hour drill from \$26.46 to \$28.05/hour.

Liquor Store Part-Time:

- Step A: (Start) from \$15.58/hour to \$16.51/hour
- Step B: From \$16.51 hour to \$17.50/hour
- Step C: From \$17.35/hour to \$18.39/hour
- Step D: From \$18.31/hour to \$19.41/hour

- 2) **Part-time Police.** Are based off the union scale (starting wage), so this increases along with any increases to the union agreement.
- 3) **Mayor and Council:** Salary changes can be approved by ordinance (only in an election year.) Mayor and council wage will increase in 2026 from \$7,546.92 \$7,924.27.
- 4) **City Manager.** The city council will conduct its annual review of the city manager during the Closed Session (Agenda Item 9C) and make its wage determination.

It was moved by Sanborn and seconded by Sulflow and unanimously passed to authorize a 6% increase in 2026 wages for non-union employees and department heads, as presented.

7(K) 2026/2027 MOTOR FUEL QUOTES.

Quotes were solicited for 2026/2027 motor fuels until Friday, December 8, 2025. One quote was received with a discount of \$0.223 for Unleaded and \$0.284 for E85 and Diesel (No. 1 and No. 2) fuel.

It was moved by Sanborn, seconded by Olson and unanimously passed to accept the quote of Farmer's Union Oil Company for 2026/2027 motor fuels, as recommended by staff.

7(L) ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS/GRANTS.

The following gifts/grants have been received by the city:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount/Value</u>
Julie Bolt on behalf of her mother Charlene Bolt	Donation of cemetery plot in Block 205, Lot 7, Plot G for someone in need.	\$ 500.00
VFW "G" Fund Post 380	Donation for Shop With A Cop.	150.00

STEVE SULFLOW OFFERED RESOLUTION NO. 4042, A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING GIFTS/GRANTS, AND MOVED ITS ADOPTION. MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 4042 WAS SECONDED BY BEVERLY OLSON. THOSE VOTING IN FAVOR OF MOTION: STEVE SULFLOW, BEVERLY OLSON, DAN SANBORN, DEAN MATTHYS AND BRYCE CURTISS. THOSE VOTING AGAINST MOTION: NONE. RESOLUTION PASSED 5-0.

8. Ordinances.

8(A) ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 998.

IT WAS MOVED BY DEAN MATTHYS THAT ORDINANCE NO. 998, AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE STREET NAME OF WEST NICHOLS AVENUE FROM FIRST STREET TO PARKWAY DRIVE TO KEITH HEIN DRIVE AND CHANGING THE STREET NAME OF SHERMAN AVENUE FROM FIRST STREET TO PARKWAY DRIVE TO GLEN HERFURTH DRIVE, BE ADOPTED. MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 998 WAS SECONDED BY BEVERLY OLSON. THOSE VOTING IN FAVOR OF MOTION: DEAN MATTHYS, BEVERLY OLSON, STEVE SULFLOW, DAN SANBORN AND BRYCE CURTISS. THOSE VOTING AGAINST MOTION: NONE. ORDINANCE PASSED 5-0.

8(B) SUMMARY PUBLICATION/ORDINANCE NO. 998.

Due to the length of Ordinance No. 998, an ordinance changing the street name of West Nichols Avenue from First Street to Parkway Drive to Keith Hein Drive and changing the street name of Sherman Avenue from First Street to Parkway Drive to Glen Herfurth Drive,, staff requested the council authorize the publication of a Summary of the ordinance, as prepared by the city attorney.

It was moved by Sanborn, seconded by Matthys and unanimously passed to authorize the publication of Summary of Ordinance No. 998, as requested.

9. Discussion and Miscellaneous.

9(A) BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS UPDATES.

- ▶ The EDA meets tomorrow and the Hospital Board meets on Thursday.

9(B) OTHER.

- ▶ City Manager Wolfington explained that the Public Works crew has been working hard on the hockey/ice rink and it will be posted on Facebook when it opens. Councilmember Sanborn stated that the goal is to have it up and running for the school break.

At 7:50 P.M., the council took a short recess to allow members of the public to leave the council chambers prior to the Closed Session.

9(C) CLOSED SESSION - CITY MANAGER PERFORMANCE REVIEW.

At 7:51 P.M., the council moved into Closed Session to conduct a performance review of City Manager Robert Wolfington. In attendance were Council members Matthys, Olson, Sulflow, Sanborn and Curtiss, Mayor Bulman, City Manager Wolfington and City Clerk Schuelke-Sampson. Wolfington was asked to leave the chambers while discussion took place, after which he returned. The entire Closed Session was recorded on a flash drive which will be kept in accordance with the city's adopted records retention schedule, after which time the media will be destroyed.

The Closed Session ended at 8:52 and the council moved back into regular session.

It was noted that a public summary statement would be provided at the January 5th meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 P.M.

Tami Schuelke-Sampson, Secretary

Approved by council January 5, 2026:

President - City Council