CITY OF MONTEVIDEO
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
January 5, 2026

The city council met in regular session Monday, January 5, 2026 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: Bryce Curtiss, Dan Sanborn, Steve Sulflow and Beverly Olson (arrived at 7:06). Absent: Dean Matthys. Mayor James Bulman present.

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

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

MODIFY: **5(A)** **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF VERIFIED CLAIMS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JANUARY 1, 2026 IN THE AMOUNT OF ~~$1,558,989.94.~~ $1,599,155.78.**

The revised list reflects the following additions:

LIQUOR		
Dahlheimer Beverage Green Isle - Inventory	$	5,977.45
Madison Bottling Company - Inventory		2,790.85
Southern Glazer's of MN - Inventory		1,818.71
MISCELLANEOUS		
Fusion Connect, Inc. - Phone bill		2,377.70
League of MN Cities - Membership Dues - 2026		7,123.00
Montevideo Chamber of Commerce - Dec & Jan bills		3,505.00
PUBLIC WORKS		
Chippewa County Highway Department - 212 Tons Slip Sand		2,746.18
UTILITY		
Montevideo Veterans Home - Utility Reimbursement		13,826.95

It was moved by Sulflow, seconded by Sanborn and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 15, 2025 as presented.

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

Geri Sanborn, 1211 North 4th Street, expressed how her husband, Councilmember Dan Sanborn, has volunteered his time for the outdoor ice rink for the last 13 years. They wanted to gift something and presented a 12 man broomball set to be used by patrons on the ice rink to Mayor Bulman.

4(A) PUBLIC SUMMARY - CITY MANAGER PERFORMANCE REVIEW.

Council President Curtiss gave a public summary of the performance review of City Manager Robert Wolfington, conducted by the council in closed session Monday, December 15, 2025. The City Council and the Mayor thanked City Manager Wolfington for his hard work and commitment to the City of Montevideo. There are specific areas that the Council will be addressing in the coming months, and periodic meetings will take place to discuss these. No formal action taken. Council hopes to see City Manager Wolfington continue in his position for a longtime.

4(B) OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTRATION.

Mayor Bulman administered the Oath of Office for Police Officer Brennan McAlpin who was hired September 15, 2025.

4(C) SERVICE AWARD PRESENTATION.

Mayor Bulman presented a 10-year employee service award to Police Officer/Investigator Carmen Beninga (hired December 21, 2015).

5. Consent Agenda.

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

5(A) VERIFIED CLAIMS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JANUARY 1, 2026 IN THE (MODIFIED) AMOUNT OF $1,599,155.78.

6. Public Hearings.

- None.

7. General Business.

ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

7(A) SECRETARY TO COUNCIL/2026.

It was moved by Sanborn, seconded by Olson and unanimously passed to appoint Tami Schuelke-Sampson as secretary to the council for 2026.

7(B) ACTING CITY MANAGER / ACTING CITY CLERK FOR 2026.

STEVE SULFLOW OFFERED RESOLUTION NO. 4043, A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR AN ACTING CITY MANAGER (TAMI SCHUELKE-SAMPSON) AND ACTING CITY CLERK (YESENIA TURRUBIARTES) WHEN SUCH MAY BE REQUIRED, AND MOVED ITS ADOPTION. MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 4043 WAS SECONDED BY BEVERLY OLSON. THOSE VOTING IN FAVOR OF MOTION: STEVE SULFLOW, BEVERLY OLSON, DAN SANBORN AND BRYCE CURTISS. THOSE VOTING AGAINST MOTION: NONE. RESOLUTION PASSED 4-0.

7(C) DEPOSITORIES FOR 2026.

It was moved by Olson, seconded by Sanborn and unanimously passed to designate the following institutions as depositories for city funds:

Old National Bank, Montevideo
Minnwest Bank, Montevideo
Co-Op Credit Union, Montevideo
Citizens Alliance Bank, Montevideo
4M Fund/League of Minnesota Cities
RBC Capital Markets, LLC

7(D) WIRE TRANSFER OF FUNDS.

STEVE SULFLOW OFFERED RESOLUTION NO. 4044, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING WIRE TRANSFER OF FUNDS, AND MOVED ITS ADOPTION. MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 4044 WAS SECONDED BY DAN SANBORN. THOSE VOTING IN FAVOR OF MOTION: STEVE SULFLOW, DAN SANBORN, BEVERLY OLSON AND BRYCE CURTISS. THOSE VOTING AGAINST MOTION: NONE. RESOLUTION PASSED 4-0.

7(E) ACTING MAYOR /2026.

STEVE SULFLOW OFFERED RESOLUTION NO. 4045, A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR AN ACTING MAYOR (DAN SANBORN), AND MOVED ITS ADOPTION. MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 4045 WAS SECONDED BY BEVERLY OLSON.

THOSE VOTING IN FAVOR OF MOTION: STEVE SULFLOW, BEVERLY OLSON, DAN SANBORN AND BRYCE CURTISS. THOSE VOTING AGAINST MOTION: NONE. RESOLUTION PASSED 4-0.

7(F) APPOINTMENT OF LICENSE INSPECTOR FOR 2026.

It was moved by Sanborn, seconded by Olson and unanimously passed to appoint the police chief as license inspector for 2026.

7(G) OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER DESIGNATION/2026.

It was moved by Sulflow, seconded by Olson and unanimously passed to designate the Montevideo American-News as the city's official newspaper for 2026.

7(H) HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICER/ALTERNATES FOR 2026.

It was moved by Sanborn, seconded by Olson and unanimously passed to appoint the city manager as the human rights officer, with the city clerk and police chief designated as alternate human rights officers.

7(I) COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING AND WORKSESSION.

It was moved by Sulflow, seconded by Olson and unanimously passed to approve the council special meeting followed by a worksession scheduled for January 12, 2026 at 7:00 pm.

7(J) PURCHASE OF MOWERS.

Public Works Director Ryan Gallagher presented and reviewed quotes received for the purchase of four (4) new mowers for use in the public works department. One quote was received which would utilize the State of Minnesota Cooperative purchasing agreement. Kibble Equipment is the low quote of $67,200.01 less trade-in of four (4) 2025 mowers for $47,700.02, for a total purchase price of $19,500. This reflects a purchase utilizing the state contract pricing (which was $10,135.99 less than going through the state contract directly.) The 2026 budget includes $21,000 for this purchase. Staff recommended the purchase from Kibble Equipment, as presented, noting the benefit to the trade-in, annual upgrade and warranty.

It was moved by Sanborn, seconded by Sulflow and unanimously passed to authorize the purchase of the four (4) mowers from Kibble Equipment, as quoted, and recommended by staff.

7(K) FLOCK CAMERA UPDATE

The City of Montevideo agreed to deploy Flock security cameras in certain areas of the City at the August 4, 2025 meeting. With the cameras currently deployed and staff having an opportunity to utilize them, Police Chief Schule provided an update to council. His update included there use/benefits and deterrents along with Montevideo Police Officer procedure. Use/benefits are proactive alerts with the live camera feed, helping with ongoing criminal cases, community and officer safety, and helping to locate missing persons. Deterrents are citizens know there are cameras, current case law is still developing and use/privacy protection. Montevideo Police Department does not track movements of individuals or vehicles without probable cause or a search warrant unless there happens to be a life and death situation. In conclusion, the goal of the Montevideo Police Department use of technology, which would include the use of the Flock Camera system, is to enhance public safety, improve investigative outcomes and protect both the community and officers while fully respecting constitutional rights and privacy protections.

7(L) SECTION 3 PLAN

The City of Montevideo has received a Small Cities Development grant for large multi-family rental apartments. Eligible recipients are currently working with our grant administrators at the Upper Minnesota Valley Regional Development Commission (UMVRDC) to move forward with improvements. Part of the requirements for the grant is to adopt a plan for the rehabilitation of multi-family apartments. The plan addresses “Section 3" from Housing and Urban Development. It states that funds will be dispersed to low and moderate income individuals to the greatest extent possible related to the program. This represents one of the steps needed to continue with the grant. The UMVRDC is currently working with a number of property owners.

It was moved by Sulflow, seconded by Sanborn and unanimously passed to adopt the Section 3 Plan as part of the City of Montevideo Multi-family Rehabilitation Project Small Cities Development grant.

7(M) GREATER MINNESOTA SMALL CITIES HOUSING AID GRANT APPLICATION.

Minnesota Housing has introduced a grant for Greater Minnesota Small Cities. The grant is designed to support the development and preservation of workforce housing across the region. The competitive grant has a due date of Friday, January 23, 2026. The dollars could be used for rehabilitation of existing housing as well as the development of new housing options for owner-occupied units. The maximum amount that can be awarded is $75,000. The City of Montevideo was not successful last year, but after Jessica Dahms, Community Development Coordinator, was in contact with them. Dahms was told that we were a strong applicant and they encouraged us to reapply.

It was moved by Sanborn, seconded by Sulflow and unanimously passed to move forward with the application for the Greater Minnesota Small Cities (Tier II Cities) Housing Aid Grant Program Request for Proposal (RFP) application.

7(N) KURTZBEIN 2026 FARM LEASE.

It was moved by Olson, seconded by Sulflow and unanimously passed to approve a 2026 Farm Lease with Jason Kurtzbein for 15.9 acres of land in the Ost Subdivision at a rate of $280.00/acre for a total lease amount of $4,452.00. (This rate is based on the awarded bid received for the [city-owned] airport farm land.)

7(O) ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS/GRANTS.

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

Name	**Description**	**Amount/Value**
Montevideo Fire Relief Assn	Donation for Fire Prevention Education	$ 7,150.00
Montevideo Fire Relief Assn	Donation for Equipment Fund	20,000.00
American Legion Post 59	Donation for Shop With a Cop	250.00

DAN SANBORN OFFERED RESOLUTION NO. 4046, A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING GIFTS/GRANTS, AND MOVED ITS ADOPTION. MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 4046 WAS SECONDED BY STEVE SULFLOW. THOSE VOTING IN FAVOR OF MOTION: DAN SANBORN, STEVE SULFLOW, BEVERLY OLSON AND BRYCE CURTISS. THOSE VOTING AGAINST MOTION: NONE. RESOLUTION PASSED 4-0.

8. Ordinances.

- None.

9. Discussion and Miscellaneous.

9(A) BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS UPDATES.

- Councilmember Olson stated there was a library board meeting last week where the budget was discussed.

9(B) OTHER.

- City Manager Wolfington explained that citizens can find out when a snow emergency has been declared by checking the Montevideo, Minnesota Facebook page or by going to our website at montevideomn.org and on the bottom scroll bar there is an option for NIXLE where the citizen can sign up for mobile alerts.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

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Tami Schuelke-Sampson, Secretary

Approved by council January 20, 2026:

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President - City Council