

Canton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2026

Members present: Kristy Ziegler, George Hafner, Jen Dowling, Jeremy Hanson, Jason Magnuson

City staff present: Anne Koliha, Jon Nordsving, Barb Kerns

Visitor(s) present: Sabine Hafner, Ben Bisbach (FC Journal), Gary Dowling (Fire), Jamie Kelly (Fire), Brenden Kerns (Fire)

Mayor Ziegler called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Dowling, seconded by Hafner to approve the agenda, motion carried.

Mayor Ziegler requested to pull item (d) step increase for Deputy Clerk from consent agenda to allow for any discussion or questions and put the item in old business.

Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of January 14, 2026 Public Hearing Minutes
- b) Approval of January 14, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes
- c) Approval of February Disbursements
- ~~d) Approval of step increase for Deputy Clerk for 2026~~
- e) Approval of \$3,220 contribution towards the summer rec program in Mabel

Motion by Magnuson, seconded by Hanson to approve the consent agenda, motion carried.

Public comments: none

Reports:

Mayor: Mayor Ziegler reported: A treasured landmark will be missed by community members, past and present. The Mitson House was the lifetime home of Florence Mitson. She was a teacher, news reporter, and an active member in the community. The home was turned into a library and museum in the 70's. The Canton Historical Society worked hard at funding and opening the house up for visitors after several years of it being unused. Time takes its toll on older buildings and the Mitson House could not avoid the humid summers and harsh winters. It stood till the amount of repairs needed, to keep it safe to the public, were more than the funds available. Artifacts were saved from the home and will be on display at the Depot. Thank-you to those that are working on preserving the history of Canton.

A recent question I received from a citizen: During the construction project, how will I access my driveway if I do not have alley access? Streets will be temporarily inaccessible during the project. The plan is to have holes covered or part of the street available before the crews leave at the end of the day. There will be another informational meeting for residents, closer to the construction start date. Anyone with concerns regarding accessibility, please contact the city office.

Deputy Clerk: none

Clerk: Clerk Koliha reported: Street & Utility Improvement project: Jon & I attended the Utility Design meeting that WHKS held for the project; We met with WHKS and reviewed plans for the street/utility project and plans are progressing along and will be ready for council approval next month for the plans to be sent to USDA-RD for review; received all the easement paperwork to be completed and have sent it out to those property owners affected by it and now working with them as needed to get signatures and paperwork completed. All year end reporting has been completed. Working with auditors on the

2025 financial audit. Barb & I completed an audit review with the MN Department of Revenue on the sales tax of solid waste services and all went well. Continued communication with MPCA regarding permitting process for the WWTP. Received a clean compliance audit from MPCA on the WWTP.

Public Works: Nordsving reported: busy fixing water leaks

Fire Department: Representatives from the fire department presented a request for a budget approval of \$60,000 for a new grass rig truck and skid unit. Motion by Hafner, seconded by Dowling to approve budget up to \$60,000 for the purchase of a grass rig truck and skid unit; motion carried with Magnuson and Hanson abstaining.

Police: Written report provided

Planning Commission: none

Other: none

Old Business

- a) Approval of step increase for Deputy Clerk for 2026
Motion by Hafner, seconded by Magnuson to approve the step increase for Deputy Clerk for 2026; motion carried.

New Business

- a) Consider Resolution 2026-03: Amending Personnel Policy Handbook to add in MN Paid Leave
Motion by Dowling, seconded by Hanson to approve Resolution 2026-03: Amending Personnel Policy Handbook to add in MN Paid Leave; motion carried.
- b) Consider Resolution 2026-04: Authorizing and providing for the incurrence of indebtedness for the purpose of providing a portion of the cost of acquiring, constructing, enlarging, improving, and/or extending its Water & Wastewater System to serve an area lawfully within its jurisdiction to serve
Motion by Magnuson, seconded by Hafner to approve Resolution 2026-04: Authorizing and providing for the incurrence of indebtedness for the purpose of providing a portion of the cost of acquiring, constructing, enlarging, improving, and/or extending its Water & Wastewater System to serve an area lawfully within its jurisdiction to serve; motion carried.
- c) Consider Resolution 2026-05: Authorizing and providing for the incurrence of indebtedness for the purpose of providing a portion of the cost of acquiring, constructing, enlarging, improving and/or extending its Street Improvements to serve an area lawfully within its jurisdiction to serve
Motion by Hafner, seconded by Dowling to approve Resolution 2026-05: Authorizing and providing for the incurrence of indebtedness for the purpose of providing a portion of the cost of acquiring, constructing, enlarging, improving and/or extending its Street Improvements to serve an area lawfully within its jurisdiction to serve; motion carried.

Motion by Magnuson, seconded by Hanson to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m.; motion carried.