

January 8, 2026

Attendance: Mayor Schroeder called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Councilors Manderscheid, Thompson, Shurtz, Zmuda and Martinez were present. City Recorder Jen Thul present along with 9 guests. Mayor Schroeder led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Business from the Public: Athena Mainstreet Association – successful bazaar last month. Electrical trenching project complete with Pacific Power. Occupancy change is very close to being completed with the State which will allow more events to be held in the Stahl Building.

Umatilla County Code Enforcement – 160 E Main property – Abatement process explained and discussed. Property received fine from the county in May 2025, fines will continue into the abatement process unless property is cleaned up to the County's standards. Abatement will start on February 12, 2026, Code Enforcement will check property day prior and if it's cleaned up abatement can be cancelled.

City of Pilot Rock – police department understaffed, working with Umatilla County on temporary agreement to fill gaps until fully staffed again – requested council's experience with UCSO – Responsive, low traffic stops/citations being written but attempt to fill gaps when we request it, cost effective compared to going back to our own police force, missing the local officer/know all aspect.

Consent Agenda: Approval of 12/11/25 Council meeting minutes, financial statements, and bills. A motion was made and seconded to approve the council meeting minutes, financial statements and bills from December. Motion passed 5-0.

Actionable Items: Resolution 2026-01 – Set Water Rates. A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution 2026-01 as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Resolution 2026-03 – Official Compensation Policy for the Mayor and Public Officials – A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution 2026-03 for Position #1. Motion carried 4-0-1, Joe Shurtz abstained. A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution 2026-03 for Position #2. Motion carried 4-0-1, Tracy Martinez abstained. A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution 2026-03 for Position #3. Motion carried 4-0-1, Katie Zmuda abstained. A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution 2026-03 for Position #4. Motion carried 4-0-1, John Manderscheid abstained. A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution 2026-03 for Position #5. Motion carried 4-0-1, Sally Thompson abstained. A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution 2026-03 for the Mayor and Planning Commission members. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilor Shurtz nominated Councilor Manderscheid for Council President, Councilor Zmuda seconded the nomination. There being no further nominations, a vote was taken and Councilor Manderscheid was voted Council President with 5 votes.

Mayor Schroeder announced the councilor assignments for the new year. Councilor Thompson will remain over Administration, Councilor Zmuda will remain over Library, Councilor Manderscheid will remain over Public Works, Councilor Shurtz will remain over Police, Councilor Martinez will be over Fire.

Business License – Basket Mountain Boutique – A motion was made and seconded to approve the business license for Basket Mountain Boutique. Motion carried 5-0.

Livestock Permit – Zimmerman – Livestock commission inspection passed with concern on adequate rabbit enclosure for weather. Livestock commission will meet again to review shelter requirements and plan review inspection. A motion was made and seconded to approve Livestock Permit for 509 N 4th Street with stipulation to meet shelter requirement and schedule a 60 day inspection review. Motion carried 4-1.

Committee Reports

Planning Commission: No Meeting.

Old Business:

New Business: Umatilla County Law Enforcement Contract – Discussion on language to change in new contract. Request more transparent language on monthly reports, more visibility during schools busing times, clarification on duty assignments while in town.

Business from the Departments & Councilors:

Library: No report this month, Holiday events very busy but successful. State Library board – funding unknown, possibly lose inner library loan system in July. Library Board Meeting January 20th 6:00pm.

Parks & Rec: None

Public Works: Kenneth on medical leave. Temporary contract agreement with Kim to fill gap. Overhead holiday lights removed this week, will remove the rest end of January. Brian working on wastewater certification.

Fire: No report this month. Tracy work on connecting with Chief Baty.

Sheriff: No report this month. Reviewed contract change requests.

Administration: Michelle at 112 hours, will extend contract with the City until hours met.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm. The next regular council meeting will be **February 12, 2026 @ 6:00 pm.**

Approved: Becky Schroeder, Mayor _____

Attested: Jen Thul, City Recorder _____