

## CITY OF GAASTRA MINUTES

MINUTES OF MEETING: February 12, 2026

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The meeting was called to order by Mayor Richard Holm at 4:30 pm.

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Mari Kay McNamara, Tony Holm, Chris Cain, Linda Lindberg

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** none

**ALSO PRESENT:** Debbie Tusa, Manager/Clerk; Ethan Amerson, Public Works; Lisa Coates, Polich Tousignant Law Office Robb Anderson, GEI

### **MEETING MINUTES:**

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 8, 2026 & the Special Meeting of January 28, 2026 was reviewed. Moved by T Holm to accept the Regular & Special Meeting minutes with support by McNamara. **Passed Unanimously**

### **ACKNOWLEDGE THE PUBLIC:**

Zach Hautala, Executive Director Iron County Economic Chamber Alliance, distributed the Iron County 2026 visitor guide. He left some in the hall for anyone to take.

He discussed the 2025 ICECA annual report. The Business After Hours will take place at the end of February. Mayor Holm thanked Zach for coordinating the picture of the backhoe and City.

John Decker, talked about the danger of the speeding traffic going out of town. The State Police and Sheriffs department have been asked to patrol Hwy 424 coming in & out of town.

Mayor Holm asked Amerson, Public Works, to look into solar panel speed limit flashing signs to indicate speed mph the drivers are going.

### **CASH BALANCE REPORT:**

Moved by T Holm and supported by Cain to accept the Cash Balance Report. **Roll call: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Passed.**

### **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:**

Moved by McNamara and supported by T Holm to pay the accounts payables due & accept the bills paid. **Roll call: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Passed.**

### **MANAGERS REPORT:**

-The updated 2026 Commissioner Appointments was given to the commissioners

-The CoVantage CD accounts will automatically be renewed in March, 2026

-MiGrants confirmed the 5-year recreation plan has been approved from 1/2026-12/31/30

-The FDCVT grant application was signed and submitted by GEI

-The final payment for the backhoe was issued in January. There are 2 payments due from the state for the grant.

-An advertisement for a new auditor has been submitted to the Reporter

-A payment was made from Gaastra's Fire Assessment to the Caspian Gaastra Fire Authority for the department's new radios. There will be additional radio's they will purchasing.

-Board of Review will meet March 9<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 3pm and March 11<sup>th</sup> from 3 pm – 9 pm at Gaastra City Hall

-The BS&A on line bill paying is going well

-The 2025 tax season will be ending. This tax roll can only be paid in Gaastra City Hall until March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Any payments made after that date will need to be paid to the County

-Quarterly and end of year tax reports were completed & submitted

-A quote was sent to Treasury requesting a grant for our CPA overseeing the financials.

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Ethan went over the Public Works report:

No problems were reported to the sewer department. The station is working well after the upgrades done this past summer.

The heater at the wellhouse has a noise coming from it. A service call was made by Westphal's, it might be a vibration from the heat exchanger.

Next year we will need to replace it. This is one of the items we requested from the grant so hopefully we will be awarded this grant.

548 thousand gallons of water was pumped during the month of January.

Required annual water reports are being worked on, they are due in March.

New springs on the international plow truck were installed by Michigan/Wisconsin Spring due to a broken spring.

A representative from John Deere is doing some follow up work.

A stand for the backhoe concrete hammer was built so it's vertical in the shop.

The back roof and salt shed roof was shoveled.

Discussion was held regarding projects he would like done this summer.

Motioned by McNamara to accept the manager's & public works report and supported by Cain.  
**Passed Unanimously.**

### **ASSESSOR'S REPORT:**

Moved by Cain to pay the assessor's bill and supported by T Holm. **Roll call: 5 ayes, 0 nays.**

**Motion Passed.**

### **GEI:**

The FDCVT grant requests have been submitted. The recreation plan was approved. If the City is interested in applying for a trust fund or recreation grant, they are due April 1<sup>st</sup>. Anderson discussed the grant obligations.

The ITA plan was submitted and project plan will be due in June. The TMF money can be used for Lead Service replacements.

There has been no feedback from the State for a Generator with remaining grant money.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Mayor Holm stated Lot 18 on Willow Road has been purchased. All lots on Willow have been sold. Commissioner Lindberg asked about the procedure of the selling. Mayor Holm replied in detail the obligations.

The City's backhoe will be sold. It will be advertised in the Reporter for sealed bids, with a minimum of \$15,500. The City can accept or reject any and all bids. The old backhoe will be sold as is.

The City has 2 fuel tanks that will go up for sale. Mayor Holm motioned to sell the fuel tanks for a minimum bid of \$1000.00 per tank with support from Cain. **Roll call: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Passed.**

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

DWSRF

T Holm motioned for GEI to be paid \$5000.00 for engineering services for the Drinking Water State Fund project plan with support from Cain. **Roll call: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Passed.**  
This cost is reimbursable with the TMF grant.

**LEGAL REPORT**

Coates had nothing to report.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, it was motioned by T Holm with support from Cain to adjourn at 5:10 pm. **Passed Unanimously.**

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Richard Holm, Mayor

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Debbie Tusa, Clerk