

CITY OF GAASTRA MINUTES

MINUTES OF MEETING: April 9, 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; Steve Polich, Polich Tousignant Law Office; Robb Anderson, GEI

MEETING MINUTES:

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 12, 2026 was reviewed. Moved by T Holm to accept the Regular Meeting minutes with support by Cain. **Passed Unanimously**

ACKNOWLEDGE THE PUBLIC:

Zach Hautala, Executive Director Iron County Economic Chamber Alliance, talked about the job fairs that will be taking place at West Iron County & Forest Park schools.

A new monthly newsletter "The Iron Advantage" has gone out. He is hoping it will be a useful tool to keep everyone connected and better informed.

Doug Tomasoski thanked Ethan for the wonderful job of keeping the roads clear this winter.

CASH BALANCE REPORT:

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

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

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

MANAGERS MARCH REPORT:

-The collection of the 2025 tax season ended on March 2nd in the local offices. Final distributions were processed and mailed. After balancing the tax roll, it was submitted to the Iron County Treasurer

-The positions for the Mayor, two 2-year term commissioners and one 1-year commissioner are open for the August election. Petitions are due in the Hall office on April 21st.

-The Iron County Clerk, Amy, is in the process of scheduling Election Worker classes. She is looking at June vs March or April, so they are closer to the elections.

-I sent an email to the Michigan Treasury Department stating Gaastra will lapse the grant money from the 210130-23 project into the '25 grant project request.

-The Board of Review met three times in March. The 1st meeting was an organizational meeting; the 2nd was held at Gaastra City Hall from 9 am – 3 pm and the 3rd meeting was held at Gaastra City Hall from 3 pm – 9 pm. Our assessor, Tammy Hendrickson stated it all went well.

-Quarterly Bond payments were processed

-End of quarter paperwork is being processed and will be completed early April.

-McCoy was at the garage for a few days finishing up some work on the backhoe we recently purchased.

-Ethan has been doing a great job keeping up with the endless snow fall & Public Works department.

-Requests for engagement letters have been sent to two auditors for pricing.

-I am starting to put in extra time to type up ordinances, following the new ADA rules for submitting them on line to our website.

Ethan went over the Public Works report:

He was at the UP Water Conference, received industry updates and credits necessary for his licensing.

UPPCO will be giving an update on installing power at the Ballfield

Ethan will inquire when the Baseball will start up and have the bathrooms open

We are getting low on sand; we should have enough to finish out this winter.

The new backhoe has been running great.

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The Plow truck has been running well all season.

The lift station motor started making noise. Energetics will come and do a warranty service call.

There are a different few options for renting out the sweeper. Two companies sent quotes with a high price for transporting the sweeper back and forth from its destination. Caspian is discussing the possibility of splitting the cost of Caspian & Gaastra using the sweeper for the one week. There is more information we are waiting on before a decision is made. Mari Kay motioned for Ethan to choose the best option to obtain the sweeper with support from Cain. **Roll call: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Passed.**

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

ASSESSOR'S REPORT:

The assessor's report was reviewed. Moved by McNamara to pay the assessor's bill and supported by T Holm. **Roll call: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Passed.**

OLD BUSINESS

A variety of signs were discussed to put up to reduce the speeders through town.

Blinking lights were discussed; Ethan will look into the cost to put lights on reduced speed signs and stop signs.

McNamara discussed the issue with a dog located on Oakwood. She called the sheriff's department. They will talk to the home owners. The sheriff's department recommended for the individuals being harassed by animals to report the issue to the Sheriff's department. There will be additional information regarding this issue.

NEW BUSINESS

The Caspian Gaastra Fire Department will be putting out a tournament booklet for support of the tournament that will be held in Caspian Gaastra this year.

McNamara motioned to support a half page at the price of \$125.00 with support from Cain. **Roll call: 3 ayes, 2 abstain (R Holm, T Holm) 0 nays. Motion Passed.**

LEGAL REPORT

Attorney Polich has nothing additional to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Passed Unanimously.

Richard Holm, Mayor

Debbie Tusa, Clerk