

## CITY OF GAASTRA MINUTES

MINUTES OF MEETING: May 14, 2026

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The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem McNamara at 4:30 pm.

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

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

### MEETING MINUTES:

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 9, 2026 and Special Meetings of April 23, 2026 was reviewed. Moved by T Holm to accept the Regular & Special Meeting minutes with support by Lindberg.  
**Passed Unanimously**

### ZONING;

Joe Holm, zoning administrator, distributed The *City of Gaastra Metal Storage Container Permit* for the board to review. The permit draft was discussed with Joe, the board and attorney.

There will be a public hearing for input prior to the June Regular Monthly meeting.

J Holm is asking the board for a variance for 5' high fence at a residence at 1 Nowicki Road. After discussion McNamara motioned to approve the variance with support from Cain. **Roll call: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Passed.**

### ACKNOWLEDGE THE PUBLIC:

Alecia Alfredj extended Thanks to Ethan; public works, for the work he has done on Nowicki Road. She discussed the use of Calcium Chloride for dust control on Nowicki Road.

McNamara asked Amerson to research the cost and will be added to the agenda for June for further discussion.

Doug Tomasoski acknowledged appreciation for Chris Cain's wonderful job of using the broom machine around the streets of Gaastra.

Cain discussed the amount of time JD Marshek puts into the city with his machines, and the walking path area he built for the public to utilize.

Cain motioned for the City to issue JD a check for \$50.00 to offset the fuel he is using with support from McNamara. **Roll call: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Passed.**

### CASH BALANCE REPORT:

Moved by Cain and supported by T Holm to accept the Cash Balance Report. **Roll call: 4 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: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Passed.**

### MANAGERS MARCH REPORT:

-The annual SAM.gov renewal was processed and accepted.

-The Fiber Optic Installation-Metro Act response has been submitted to Highline. There has not been any feedback yet.

The annual AARPA report was submitted. There is a \$7030.37 balance to be expensed to the water lines by the December 31, 2026 deadline.

-The county clerk will be holding a clerk class on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. There will be a certification class held for anyone that would like to be an election worker. One session will need to be attended, the classes will be held June 16, 17 & 18.

-Gaastra will be working the Early Voting days of July 30 & 31 at the Iron River City Hall. Gaastra Hall will be closed those days.

-A frozen water meter was replaced at 24 Fifth Street.

-The public bathrooms have been opened at the Ballfield.

-A group playing soccer will be utilizing the back of the Ballfield on Friday afternoons. The City of Gaastra gives the Little League Baseball exclusive rights to the baseball area of the field during their season.

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- Ordinances are being posted on the Gaastrami.com website. I have to submit the ordinances in the new ADA compliance format. I have been putting in extra time to get those retyped to be compliant.
- Our software BS&A have many training webinars with the cloud version the city utilizes. The cloud is a fairly new version and many issues are continuing to be worked out.
- The GFL clean up bin will be at the Gaastra Public Works garage on May 26-27. Please take advantage of this service.
- Blight checks will begin in June. The date will be posted when confirmed.
- I am working on the 26-27 fiscal year budget. After my preliminary is done, I will get together with Scott Kenney to finalize.

Ethan went over the Public Works report:

- Energetics did a service call on the lift station noise. After testing and evaluation, all checked out good with the operation and the noise was nothing of concern.
- He is locating the manholes and discussed sewer interceptor lines. Due to difficulties of finding unmarked structures, North Country Sewer cleaning was hired to assist. With the number of trees and rooted coverage there was a request to hire a 20-ton excavator to clear the trees off the sewer lines. After discussion, Ethan will get costs to submit for the new FY budget.
- Work is continuing on Nowicki Road. Ethan made a sketch of a project with culvert work he would like to complete. He discussed what the culvert project entailed.
- Commissioner Cain asked if there were any grant possibilities to assist with paying for sewer projects. Robb Anderson said there were, not 100% funded ones but he will check to see what is available for the city to consider.

T Holm motioned to proceed with work on the Nowicki Road project and to get pricing on sewer projects to be completed in the next fiscal year with support from Cain. **Roll call: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Passed.**

Motioned by T Holm to accept the manager's & public works report and supported by Cain. **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: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Passed.**

### **GEI**

Anderson stated the state has not announced the FDCVT grant funding yet. The targeted date was April 30<sup>th</sup>, the state said it will be a week or two before they publicize the funding.

He is working with Ryan's excavating to finish up the TMIF lead service line grant. The backhoe procurement still has not been disbursed by the State. Robb will inquire about it with David Secord, the State contact with the project.

A slide brochure was handed out. Anderson discussed the outline for the Gaastra Drinking Water Project Plan Lead Service Line Replacement. The project plan was posted in the paper and a Project Plan was given to the city to have available for review.

T Holm motioned for a resolution to submit the DWSRF Project plan with support from Cain. **Roll call: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion Passed.**

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## **OLD BUSINESS**

Amerson will have pricing for the cost of blinking lights on road signs at the next month's meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There is no new business

## **LEGAL REPORT**

Attorney Polich has nothing additional to report.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Attorney Polich inquired about grants for sewer projects. McNamara motioned for GEI to pursue grant opportunities for sewer projects with support from Cain. **Passed Unanimously.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, it was motioned by T Holm with support from Cain to adjourn at 5:18 pm. **Passed Unanimously.**

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Richard Holm, Mayor

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Debbie Tusa, Clerk