

REG SPOONER CITY COUNCIL MINS  
Tues, Mar 3, 2026 5PM in Council Chambers

- 1) CALL MTG TO ORDER; Mayor called mtg to order at 5pm
- 2) ROLL CALL; 7 present, 1 absent
- 3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE;
- 4) PUBLIC COMMENTARY;  
Jason Bartholomew – introduced himself as WC Sheriff candidate, has worked for Sheriff's dept for many yrs, was part-time Spooner officer, and listed his key running points.
- 5) Mayor Comments;  
Weather is changing, be alert for icy patches. Remind folks to clear sidewalks, more pedestrian traffic with warmer weather, please watch for them.
- 6) Approval of Agenda;  
Motion (Parker/Oja) to approve agenda. PASSED.
- 7) CONSENT AGENDA:  
\*\*All items listed with an (\*) are considered routine and will be enacted by 1 motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless Council member so requests, in which event item will be removed from General Order of Business and considered at this point to agenda.
  - a) \*Accept Mins from Feb 3, 2026 Council Mtg;
  - b) \*Finance Comm Recommendation to approve mthly payable cks: 53214 – 53336, 20260202, 20260210, 26020301 – 26020305, 26021701 – 26021706, 202602191 - 202602193;
  - c) \*Finance Comm Recommendation to approve 2026 Harmon St SDW & LSL Bid(s);
  - d) \*Finance Comm Recommendation to approve authorizing staff, City Admin Koverman, to sign purchase agreement with Top O Wisconsin;
  - e) \*Municipal Operations Comm to approve temp parking lot use, Tree-Ripe Fruit, 03/25/2026;
  - f) \*Municipal Operations Comm to approve Kaiser Blower Motor Rebuild at \$8,495;
  - g) \*Municipal Operations Comm to approve Emergency Action Plan Update;
  - h) \*Municipal Operations Comm to approve advertisement of 2026 Crack Seal bid;
  - i) \*Municipal Operations Comm & RR Park Board Recommendation to approve:
    - RR Park, Spooner Library, July 21, 2026;
    - RR Park, Sutton Financial Group, June 11, 2026;
    - RR Park, John & Krista Hedlund, May 23, 2026;
  - j) \*Plan Commission Recommendation to approve public hearing date of Apr 28, 2026 at 5 pm for Commercial District language amendment;
  - k) \*Property Planning & Development Comm Recommendation to approve getting bids for City Hall doors replacement;
  - l) \*Property Planning & Development Comm Recommendation to approve getting bids for Police Dept garage roof;Motion (Gabriel/Everroad) to approve consent agenda, items a – c, e - l. PASSED.  
Pull item d to discussion item g.
- 8) DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:
  - a) Class B Combination Liquor License: Blaschko's Tavern, Inc for Period 03/04/2026 – 06/30/2026;  
Former Corner House Pub owned by Jim Tourville.  
Motion (Krueger/Lake) to approve Class B Combination Liquor License: Blaschko's Tavern, Inc for Period 03/04/2026 – 06/30/2026. PASSED.
  - b) Centennial Park Reservation, Winged Freedom Raptor Hospital, July 18, 2026;  
Promoting their organization, using entire park, may have bird on display.  
Motion (Krueger/Parker) to approve Centennial Park Reservation, Winged Freedom Raptor Hospital, July 18, 2026. PASSED.
  - c) Finance Committee Recommendation to approve RES 26-2, 03-03-2026, Action of Claim Pursuant to §74.35(s);  
Motion (Everroad/Oja) to approve RES 26-2, 03-03-2026, Action on Claim Pursuant to §74.35(3). PASSED.
  - d) Municipal Operations Recommendation to approve Ordinance Amendment to Chapter 78 (Utilities); Article III (Sewer Service), Div. 1, Sec. 78-112 (Definitions) and Sec. 78-114 (Minimum Requirements);  
Basically making it clear where private services begin and end.  
Motion (Krueger/Everroad) to approve Ordinance Amendment to Chapter 78 (Utilities); Article III (Sewer Service), Div. 1, Sec. 78-112 (Definitions) and Sec. 78-114 (Minimum Requirements). PASSED.
  - e) Planning Commission Recommendation to approve Amendments to Chapter 86, Article VIII, Signs, Secs. 86-762, 86-768, 86-770, and 86-771.  
Koverman – working with BID for commercial historic dist including updating sign language for the downtown commercial historic district. Still working through the boundary of new area. This does update other sign language in town.  
Motion (Everroad/Parker) to approve Amendments to Chapter 86, Article VIII, Signs, Secs. 86-762, 86-768, 86-770, and 86-771. PASSED.
  - f) Plan Commission Recommendation to approve RES 26-03, 03-03-2026 Dist Boundary and Adoption of the Proposed Project Plan for Tax Increment Dist Number 5, City of Spooner;

Adopting Plan Commission recommendation, will go to Joint Review Board for their approval. This isn't creating TID, but moving to next step in process. Oja had questions regarding TID. Mayor summarized process and reasons for TID. Map boundaries were displayed to help explain. Annexation happens before TID is created.

Motion (Dunn/Everroad) to approve RES 26-03, 03-03-2026 Dist Boundary and Adoption of Proposed Project Plan for Tax Increment District Number 5, City of Spooner. PASSED.

- g) Finance Committee Recommendation to approve authorizing staff, City Admin Koverman, to sign purchase agreement with Top O Wisconsin;

Pettingill would like to harvest timber (red pine) next week as now is more profitable time of yr. Timber harvest for pine, most profitable time is now before late spring/early summer. Market may decrease if we wait until we own land. Spoke to Thompson and he is fine with proposal. He will forward any sale proceeds to City. Koverman would like agreement approved. Will work with Kohler to amend item 3 in agreement and provided language that would allow for timber harvest project if completed prior to close of property. Contractor can work on timber harvest next wk. Forestry management co will be doing work and deciding what trees will be removed.

Lake where road goes is already cleared.

Krueger – questioned if survey has been completed? Koverman relayed that Ripley was looking to complete early part of March.

Koverman – proposal is to cut 50% of whatever pine is there.

Dunn – questioning process of what trees are selected to cut. Who is deciding?

Koverman explained this is not cutting to make home lot, clearing some trees, but mostly focusing on roadway areas.

Oja – who will oversee and make sure they are not taking best trees and leave the city with the lesser value.

Council members felt this was too rushed to make good decision. Koverman said he would ask Pettingill about delaying 30 days for follow up.

Krueger – believes this should be tabled.

Gabriel – typically it is marked. It was agreed that Gabriel and Lake would walk site and

Koverman would see if Pettingill was available to take part to gain clarification about process and possibility of moving forward with timber harvest.

We are waiting for survey to be completed to complete annexation and purchase of property.

Koverman summarized purchase agreement.

Motion (Dunn/Everroad) to approve authorizing staff, City Admin Koverman, to sign purchase agreement with Top O Wisconsin with proposed changes and discussion regarding timber sale. PASSED.

10) STAFF RPTS/COMMENTS/REQUESTS:

- a) Financial Rpt Jan 2026;

Motion (Everroad/Krueger) to approve financial rpt from Jan 2026. PASSED.

- b) Chief's Rpt;

Feb 2026 activities, finished Right Track program at SMS. Working on grants to assist with purchasing radios. Still in search of part-time officers. No dept meeting. Chief and captain attended annual training. Officers Horsch, Tucker and K9 Rex attending Reading and Math Day at SES. Contacts 841, cases 131, total 972.

Cuskey - a lot of activity. Appreciate officer's efforts.

- c) BID Report;

Everything is good. Have approved sign ordinance. In progress of creating commercial historic district. Subcommittee is working on guidelines for buildings in bid, any improvements or signage. Grant program if guidelines are met. Budget created for 2026. Two new businesses on east side of Walnut will be opening. Spooner Outlet may have interest in their building.

- d) Library Liaison Report;

Bodzislav has just returned from DC for National Legislative Day. Spent time advocating for libraries and federal funding for various programs. In additional, asked representatives to help libraries with building needs and explained there are no federal funds for capital projects. Would like them to create grant opportunities that work with municipalities. Was very good experience. American Library Association gave training to attendees on advocacy. Statement that has struck her and is now her theme "improvisation is not infrastructure."

Recently was notified that library was awarded \$10,000 for accessibility, \$2,500 teen intern for summer to create summer project and \$500 for community conversation around American Revolution. Mayor - applaud your efforts.

Oja – meeting soon with selected architect. 12 Week process.

11) ADJOURNMENT;

Motion (Oja/Lake) to adjourn mtg. PASSED. Mtg adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

ATTESTED BY:

Gary J. Cuskey, Mayor

Krista J. Lyons-Hartwig, City Clerk/Treasurer