

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA  
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Schmitz at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Schmitz, Council Members Backes, Hommerding, Genereux and Skaalerud; Fire Chief Kramer, Clerk/Administrator Claussen, Project Manager McCabe

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Utley Krohnenberg, Dan McCoy (DSC)

**CONSENT AGENDA:** The following items were approved with the consent agenda:

City Council Minutes, February 4 & 17, 2026  
Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated March 3, 2026 for ePayments #25519e – 25531e and checks #28862 - 28886.  
City Council Agenda, March 3, 2026

**A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.**

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:**

Feb report included in packet. Lt. Simon was in attendance. Total hours 39. Total records 73.

**A motion was made to approve the Sheriff's reports by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Skaalerud. Motion carried unanimously.**

**BUILDING INSPECTOR'S**

**REPORT:** Feb. building report included. 20 building permits issued which included 1 new build.

**A motion was made to approve the building inspector's report as presented by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.**

**FIRE DEPT.  
REPORT:**

Chief Kramer presented the February report which included Feb stats. 7 calls 5 medical 2 fire, 1 was canceled.

**A motion was made to approve the report by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.**

Dan McCoy from DSC was on hand to discuss pager options. He didn't have a date for when the current pager would be discontinued, but thought it would be later this year. He said the pager was at its lowest price right now and he couldn't guarantee how long it would be that price. He assured the council DSC could repair this pager model for years after it is discontinued. Mr. McCoy mentioned the price of the new model would be

more expensive and would require the purchase of new chargers and batteries.  
The council discussed whether to purchase all 15 now or half now half later.

**Motion was made by Mr. Backes, to approve purchasing 15 now, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

**OPEN FORUM:**

No one spoke.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

Bid opening for Gaberdine Road, 238<sup>th</sup> St, 240<sup>th</sup> St, and trail, took place March 2, 2026. Bid packets were handed out at the meeting which reflected all bids. There were 7 bids total, ranging from \$1,052,511.78- \$1,459,517.47. Knife River was the low bid at \$1,052,511.78. Total cost of the project including Engineering is estimated at \$1,539,272.14 total.

**Motion was made to approve Knife River as contractor by Mr. Genereux, seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.**

**MINNESOTA STATE FLAG:**

A few complaints had been made about the new MN state flag with requests to change it back to the old one.

**Motion was made to change the flag back to the old one by Mr. Genereux, seconded by Mr. Skaalerud. Motion carried on 4 – 1, with Mr. Backes vote nay.**

**COUNCIL MEMBER PURVIEW:**

Mr. Hommerding suggested a floral gift for Richard Kiffmeyer's funeral. Claussen said she would order one.

Mr. Schmitz said he heard from Mike Humpal, and the offer that was extended to the candidate was countered. The candidate requested a match to their current salary, which was different than originally suggested.

**Motion was made to approve matching the candidate's current salary by Mr. Skaalerud, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.**

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**

Claussen requested approval for the city staff to attend the Kiffmeyer funeral and close city hall during that time. It was approved.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**A motion was made to adjourn at 8:04 pm by Mr. Genereux, seconded by Mr. Skaalerud. All ayes**

Approved this 7th day of April, 2026.

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Jeff Schmitz, Mayor

Attest:

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Kim Claussen, Interim Clerk/Administrator