

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA
TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 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, Hommerding, Skaalerud and Backes (7:30 PM); Fire Chief Kramer, Clerk/Administrator Claussen, Project Manager McCabe, Planner Cauffman, Legal Allseits

OTHERS PRESENT: Patty Krohnenberg, Mike & Dot Stotko, Cody Buchheit, Sam Deleo, Brian Johnson, Keith Winter, Brent Ahmann, Ben Voight

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

City Council Minutes, March 3 and 17, Interview Minutes, March 3, 2026
Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated April 7, 2026 for
ePayments #25535e – 25574e and checks #28912 - 28957.

City Council Agenda, April 7, 2026

Gambling License Angel Reins Stabel May 16, 2026

J Nash attendance to MCPA Annual Conf April 29-May 1

3.2% liquor license for Luxemburg Rec Club and St. Augusta Sports, Inc
and Temporary Liquor license for Luxemburg Rec Club July 10-12 &
August 7-9, 2026

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

COUNTY ATTORNEY UPDATE:

Adult diversion program was offered to 53 adults, 32 of which have successfully completed with 4 pending.

Juvenile Diversion Program offered to 83 juveniles who met eligibility. 71 successfully completed program.

No adults or juveniles from St. Augusta qualified for the program.

Ms. Kendall noted felonies are down because they can no longer search vehicles that smell of cannabis since it was legalized. Prior to legalization police could search vehicles that smelled of marijuana and more often than not that led to illegal drugs like cocaine, fentanyl, etc...now they cannot legally search a vehicle.

SHERIFF'S REPORT:

March report included in packet. Total hours 41. Total records 69.

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

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

The planning commission met on March 30, 2026 to discuss a site plan review for Lux Lockers, a new window tint shop. The planning commission recommended approval to the board noting the 16% organic materials approved, and allowing the owner to lay crushed granite this year and pave by July 31, 2027 with temporary occupancy until paved.

A motion was made to approve the Site Plan Review for Lux Lockers by Mr. Hommerding, seconded by Mr. Skaalerud. Motion carried unanimously.

SIS PROPERTIES DEVELOPMENT IDEA:

SIS would like to develop parcel # 81.43155.0529. Discussed Feedlot requirements and access for quad parcels that would require a shared driveway.

Mr. Deleo said they needed to do wetland delineation, and would do feedlot setbacks. He said he has seen verbiage added to property sales that state "property is rural in nature and you should expect rural sights, sounds, and smells" so people have to acknowledge the closeness to rural areas.

They would plat and then do the project in phases.

PLANNER:

Ms. Caufman went over items discussed during Jan 20 work session. She will get the ordinance prepared so we could get the public notice published and then approve at May 5th meeting.

Future plan to have a joint commission and council meeting to go over other zoning and ordinance amendments in June or July.

Mr. Allseits recommended following state statute about letters going out to neighbors within 350' instead of the ½ mile. We could always do more.

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S

REPORT:

March building report included. 31 building permits issued which included 4 new builds.

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

FIRE DEPT. REPORT:

Chief Kramer presented the March report which included stats. 14 calls, 3 were fire 1 was canceled, 11 were medical. Monthly training on house fire scenario.

A motion was made to approve the report by Mr. V, seconded by Mr. Skaalerud. Motion carried unanimously.

The relief association approved the purchase of Practice EMS doll x 2, Leatherman Raptor Tool x 30, MSA G1 Lens Protector x 30, Genesis Tools, cutter, spreader, ram x 1 each total up to \$63,000.

Motion was made by Mr. Hommerding, to approve fire relief donation, seconded by Mr. Skaalerud. Motion carried unanimously.

LEGAL COUNSEL:

Mr. Allseits was in attendance for Mr. Couri. He updated the counsel on Mr. Couri's advice about the Winkleman property. Mr. Couri had done another visit to the property and no improvements had been made. He advises the council to prosecute since he has not followed the previous order. It would cost, but the city could recoup costs by assessing Mr. Winkleman's Property for most if not all costs.

Motion was made by Mr. Skaalerud to approve Mr. Couri to prosecute nuisance property seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.

OPEN FORUM:

Keith Winter would like to be added to the May 5th council agenda to discuss working with the city to add more baseball fields as they are having to use fields in other towns due to growth.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Engineering is ready to go for the Gaberdine project. Still awaiting a specific date, hoping for first week of May. Letters will go out to residents as soon as this is confirmed.

Motion was made to approve Engineer's Report by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Skaalerud. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL MEMBER PURVIEW:

Mayor Schmitz asked Mr. Allseits the time frame in which they had to change the mayor term from 2 years to 4 years. 84 days plus 4 weeks is the time frame mentioned to have the council approve. Schmitz asked clerk to send nuisance letter to Miller property by Schills.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

Claussen requested approval to purchase Banyon Direct Deposit module for \$395, plus \$195 annual support subscription.

Motion was made by Mr. Skaalerud to approve the purchase of Banyon Direct Deposit Module, and seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.

Claussen requested a change in title to more align with her job duties and to maintain her Interim Admin rate of pay at \$45 per hour. After discussion, the council agreed the new Administrator should be part of that process. A title change would be revisited in June or July, but Claussen could maintain the Interim Admin rate of pay until a decision was made in June or July.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made to adjourn at 8:36 pm by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Skaalerud. All ayes

Approved this 5th day of May, 2026.



Jeff Schmitz, Mayor

Attest:



Kim Claussen, Interim Clerk/Administrator