

State Center City Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
February 17, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

State Center City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, in the City Hall Council Room. Mayor Pfantz called the meeting to order and asked everyone to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call: Darrow, German, Latimer, Quick, and Schoppe. Absent: None. Others present: J. Ellis, J. Toyne, Chief Thomas, Chris Davis, K. Yates – Deputy Clerk, L. Bearden – City Clerk, Mike Kielly, Chief Pfantz, Jeff Henze, Mary Pfantz, and Robin Hobbs. There were no public comments or questions.

- Motion by Quick, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Schoppe to approve the agenda and consent agenda with the change of taking time to administer the Oath of Office of Fire.EMS Captain to Jeff Henze, newly appointed by the Fire.EMS Dept and to move approval of the Fire Station Renovation and Addition Contract Documents to immediately following the consent agenda so that Matt Brick, city attorney could join the meeting by phone. Motion passed 5-0 roll call.
- Mayor Pfantz administered the Fire.EMS Captain Oath of Office to Jeff Henze.
- City attorney Matt Brick joined the meeting by phone. He explained his recommendation to the city to award the Fire Station Renovation and Addition construction contract to Keystone Construction Services as it is his and Studio Melee's position that Graphite Construction Group's bid package was "non-responsive." He also re-stated options he had previously stated to the mayor and clerk that finding the apparent low bid as non-responsive the city could: 1) award the contract to Graphite, 2) award the contract to Keystone, or 3) reject all bids and rebid the project. At the February 10, 2026, meeting, based on the comments by Brick, council awarded the contract to Keystone Construction Services with a 5-0 roll call vote. Motion by Darrow, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Latimer to approve the contract documents between Keystone Construction Services and the City of State Center, submitted by Studio Melee. Motion passes 5-0 roll call.
- Carol Tripp and Ruth McDonald spoke to the council regarding recent high-water usage at Ruth's home. This was discovered at the time of meter reading on January 27, resulting in 186,540 gallons of water usage by the time that public works determined that the outside spigot was on and running on 02.03.26. J. Ellis confirmed that the spigot was not damaged from being frozen and he was able to turn the spigot completely off. Motion by Schoppe, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Darrow to approve not charging for the extra water and sewer charges, billing her for an average usage instead. Chief Thomas noted the vandalism nature of the issue and stated there had been other circumstances of vandalism in the neighborhood. Motion fails 0-5. Motion by German to approve not charging for the extra water and sewer charges, billing her for an average usage instead due to the criminal nature of the occurrence as the chief had investigated the incident. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Darrow, motion passes 5-0.
- Motion by German, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Latimer approving the mayor's appointment of Paul Waterman to the Park/Rec & Rose Garden board. Motion passes 5-0.
- Chief Thomas gave a brief update on the 2026 Rose Festival.
- Mary Pfantz, chair of the Historic Preservation Commission, gave council an annual report of the commission's 2025 activities and accomplishments.
- Quick moved to adopt Res. 26-44 approving the agreement with Iowa Regional Utilities Association for Emergency Water Usage. German 2<sup>nd</sup>, Res. 26-44 is adopted 5-0 roll call.
- J. Ellis gave a public works update. He also stated that he had erred when reading communication from public works applicant J. Kirby. Kirby had asked to start with 2 weeks (80 hours) of vacation if offered the position. Motion by Darrow, 2<sup>nd</sup> by German to offer Kirby the same \$30.00/hr but increase the starting vacation hour bank to 80 hours. Motion passes 5-0.
- J. Toyne gave an electric department update including a recap of 63 hours continuous plant generation the weekend starting January 23<sup>rd</sup> during the storms in the southern and eastern United States. The department will be issued credit from MISO to offset the costs of generation.
- Motion by Quick, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Darrow approving the clerk's request to change the 8 hours of floating holiday employee benefit to be a fourth personal day to simplify the awarding and tracking of the hours. Motion passes 5-0.
- The clerk presented the previously requested sanitary sewer and storm water rates based on a 2.7% increase. The electric rates will remain as is until a rate study can be performed by a currently contracted

company. The water rate increase of 2.7 % was discussed at the previous meeting. Bearden will draft ordinance language in anticipation of action at the March 17<sup>th</sup> meeting for water, sanitary and storm.

- Bearden reminded council of the special meeting on March 3<sup>rd</sup> for the purpose of finalizing the proposed \$15.8042/ thousand taxable valuation and to set the public hearing for comments on the rate for March 31<sup>st</sup>. Bearden is required to upload the proposed rate to the IDOM by March 5<sup>th</sup>. She then provided updated software budget worksheets, state budget forms and an excel spreadsheet outlining the effects on our various fund balances.
- There being no further business, Darrow moved to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Hearing no objection, Mayor Pfantz closed the meeting.

**CLAIMS APPROVED 02.17.26**

<b>VENDER</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
1ST AYD	EDUCATION/TRAINING	396.55
AIRGAS	CYLINDER RENTAL	79.36
ALLIANT	NATURAL GAS	10,673.34
ARNOLD MOTOR	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	1,683.25
AT&T MOBILITY	SCPD WIRELESS	339.94
BDH TECHNOLOGY	QRTLY MONITORING	1,005.00
LORI BEARDEN	CMPTN SPEAKER REIMB	29.99
BORDER STATES	DISTRIBUTION MATERIAL	1,257.24
BRICK GENTRY PC.	LEGAL FEES	270.00
CSB VISA	SUPPLIES/FEES/TRAINING	410.09
CIT SEWER SOLUTIONS	SEWER JETTING	6,700.40
CLAPSADDLE-GARBER	ENGINEERING SERVICES	6,390.00
CORE & MAIN	TESTING & SUPPLY	705.30
DAN'S AUTO	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	906.68
HEIMAN FIRE EQUIP	HELMETS	1,495.33
HENDERSON PRODUCTS	CURB GUARDS	589.37
HOMETOWN FOODS	BATTERY	6.99
ISG	ENGINEERING SERVICES	5,142.35
INDEPENDENT SALT CO	BULK HWY SALT	2,349.00
INTOXIMETERS, INC.	INTOXIMETERS	1,035.00
IOWA ONE CALL	LOCATES	17.10
IOWA PRISON IND	UNIFORM PANTS	75.99
IRBY CO, STUART C	ELECTRIC DIST EQUIP	1,512.35
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	SAFETY CLOTHING	238.91
KARL EMERGENCY VEH	UPFIT	548.43
DYLAN KENSLER	DEPOSIT RETURN	10.26
BECKY KIELLY	JANITORIAL	275.00
MARSHALL CO AUDITOR	CITY ELECTION 2025	1,192.17
MAUER SUPPLY INC	PWR WASHER REPAIR PARTS	496.40
MCMMASTER-CARR	GENERATION SUPPLY/REPAIR	984.38
MED COMPASS	MEMBER HEALTH	3,115.00
MELEE LLC	REBIDDING SERVICES	5,680.00
MENARDS-MARSHALLTO	SUPPLY/EQUIPMENT	353.89
DALE MEYER	REBATE - CENTRAL AIR	50.00
MICROBAC LABS	TESTING	497.00
MID-IOWA ENTERPRISE	PUBLICATIONS	413.58
MIDWEST BREATHING	OPERATING SUPPLY	160.59
MIKE WALTON	WINDOW CLEANING	55.00
NASRO	J WESTENDORF	50.00
NEW CENTURY FS	FUEL/GENERATION COSTS	55,532.50
PARTNER COMMUN	PHONE/INTERNET	1,204.36

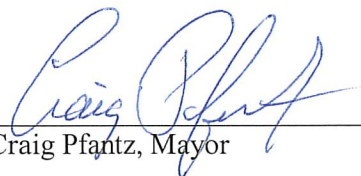
POSTMASTER		960.00
PRAIRIE WASTE		392.10
RANDY'S PEST CONTRL		155.00
REGION 6 RESOURCE		6,950.00
JON THOMAS		185.09
US CELLULAR		88.95
US CELLULAR		443.73
ZIEGLER INC		300.05
<b>CITY SUB-TOTAL</b>		<b>123,403.01</b>
PAYROLL	01.30.26	35,281.74
PAYROLL	02.13.26	45,389.73
2025 941X PITZEN		71.68
IDR		7,347.18
IDR		2,027.77
ADVANTAGE ADMIN		978.19
PSN		94.85
<b>MID-CYCLE SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>91,191.14</b>
<b>TOTAL APPROVAL</b>		<b>214,594.15</b>

**TOTAL CONSENT BY FUND**

GENERAL	43,932.74
ROAD USE	6,895.11
CAPITAL PRJ	9,080.00
WATER UTILITY	11,458.38
SEWER UTILITY	17,920.12
LAGOON PRJ	12,092.35
ELECTRIC UTILITY	109,588.66
STORM SEWER	3,626.79
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>214,594.15</b>

**JANUARY 2026 REVENUE**

GENERAL	41,505.35
ROAD USE	16,016.79
LOST	19,717.58
E'EE BENEFIT LEVY	875.72
DEBT SERVICE LEVY	1,909.26
KAUFFMAN INVEST	251.45
SC AREA FOUNDATION	511,797.29
WATER UTILITY	40,488.24
WATER IMPRV	5,491.01
SANITARY SEWER	34,178.57
SEWER IMPRV	11,086.31
ELECTRIC UTILITY	270,795.63
STORM SEWER	5,929.30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>960,042.50</b>

  
 Craig Pfantz, Mayor

Attest:

  
 Lori Bearden, City Clerk

