

**RUGBY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026 – 7:00 PM
ARMORY COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND MICROSOFT TEAMS**

Mayor LaRocque called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Council members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken by LaRocque.

Council Members present: Schneibel, Larson, Santjer, and Zachmeier

Council Members present by Teams: Lotvedt and Reinke.

Absent: Nelson and Kraft.

Also, present were Chief Bommersbach, Attorney Mickelson Hendrickson (by Teams), Public Works Director Munyer, and Auditor Stewart.

The council considered the agenda. There was a motion by Schneibel to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Larson, all voting yes, motion carried.

7:02pm Reinke joined the meeting.

The council considered the regular council minutes of January 5, 2026. There was a motion by Larson to approve the January 5, 2026, regular council minutes as presented. Second by Santjer, all voting yes, motion carried.

Chief Bommersbach presented the December 2025 Police Report. He explained that the department had 76 calls for service, 25 citations, 4 arrests, 8 vehicle accidents and 19 medical assist calls in the month. Bommersbach reported that Officer Fjellanger and K9 Remi are now certified through the state. He noted they will be completing their national certification training at the end of the month. There was a motion by Schneibel to approve the December 2025 Police Department report. Second by Zachmeier, all voting yes, motion carried.

Brian Hoffart, JDA Executive Director, addressed the council and explained that he is in the process of going through the JDA financials. He informed the council that the JDA has closed on a lot in Chalmers Addition. He explained a biodiversity zone rating that the City is eligible to attain to determine what type of biomass may be available for industry. Hoffart explained that the JDA is eligible to apply for a grant to cover the cost of obtaining the BDO Rating.

Hoffart explained the direct link to available housing and filling jobs in the community. He is working on finding a solution for both. They are working on updates to their vision and mission statements. He is working on creating new programs with the JDA Board of Directors. There was a motion by Lotvedt to approve the JDA minutes and financials. Second by Larson, all voting yes, motion carried.

Kyler Lemar, local resident, addressed the council regarding pediatric medical professionals and recruitment to the community.

Buildings: Portfolio Holder Lotvedt had nothing to report.

Ordinance: Portfolio Holder Zachmeier had nothing to report.

Personnel: Portfolio Holder Schneibel had nothing to report.

Public Works: Portfolio Holder Larson informed the board that the new payloader has arrived. Munyer has ordered a new truck fill program for bulk water sales. The current program is obsolete and needs to be updated before spring. They are looking to reline manholes that are brick; Munyer is in the process of obtaining an estimate, which will determine how many he is able to line each year. They are still waiting for lime slaker parts to arrive. They are also still waiting for the pump to arrive for one of the water wells.

Recreation: Portfolio Holder Santjer had nothing to report.

Library: Reinke and the council reviewed the January Library Director's report. Reinke commended Mandie Medalen for her continued efforts at the Public Library.

LaRocque opened the one bid that was received for the Fire Truck. The bid was received from Spencer Manufacturing for a pumper truck in the amount of \$963,950.00. Estimated completion date is October 1, 2026. The progress payment due within 30 days of contract is \$445,000. Balance due at delivery is \$518,950.00. Joel Berg, Fire Chief, explained that the department has \$200,000 available to put towards the progress payment. The city will pay the balance of \$245,000. Stewart explained the balance of the funds the city has remaining to put towards the final payment. There was a motion by Lotvedt to approve the bid from Spencer Manufacturing in the amount of \$963,000. Second by Santjer, roll call vote, all voting yes, motion carried. Berg explained that the rural fire organization is interested in purchasing the current city pumper truck.

Larson explained that the Planning and Zoning Board met and is recommending the council approve Ordinance 468 & 469 regarding barndominiums and container homes in residential zones. They also met on a conditional use permit for Lots 8-9-10 Block 4 Comstock's 1st Addition to allow a childcare center. They are recommending approval for the conditional use permit. There was a motion by Larson to approve the conditional use permit for Lots 8-9-10 Block 4 Comstock's 1st Addition. Second by Zachmeier, all voting yes, motion carried.

The council reviewed the notice of public hearing for Ordinance 468 & 469, to be held on February 2, 2026.

The council conducted the first reading of Ordinance 470 – Flood Hazard. Mickelson Hendrickson explained the need to update the current flood ordinance. There was a motion by Lotvedt to approve the first reading of Ordinance 470. Second by Zachmeier, all voting yes, motion carried.

There was no public comment.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2026, at 7:00p.m.

There being no further business to transact or come before the council at this time LaRocque declared the meeting adjourned at 8:02pm.

Frank LaRocque, Mayor

Attest: Jennifer Stewart, City Auditor