

**City of Nashwauk  
January 13, 2026  
City Council Meeting**

Acting Mayor Bruns called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.  
Acting Mayor Bruns led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members present:** Acting Mayor David Bruns, Councilor Tom Martire, Councilor Sheila Jensen, Councilor Terry Sullivan.

**Members absent:** Mayor Greg Heyblom.

**Also present:** Administrator/Clerk April Kurttock, Police Chief Lee Longoria, Public Works & Utilities Lead Jason Martire, Attorney Jackie Simon, Fire Chief Joe Martire.

**Public Comment**

None

**Adoption of Agenda**

\*Motion by Councilor Sullivan, seconded by Councilor Martire to adopt the agenda of the January 13, 2026, City Council Meeting.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**Reorganizational Meeting**

**Civil Attorney**

\*Motion by Councilor Sullivan, seconded by Councilor Martire to appoint Sellman, Borland & Simon PLLC as City Attorney for civil matters.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**Criminal Attorney**

\*Motion by Councilor Sullivan, seconded by Councilor Martire to approve the proposal from Aaron J. Michels to provide criminal prosecution services and appoint him as the Criminal Prosecution attorney.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**Official Newspaper**

Council received two bids for legal publication/official newspaper. Herald Review quoted \$12.19 per column inch, which included publication in the Grand Rapids Herald Review and Grand Rapids Manney's Shopper with an average circulation of 3,494 per issue. Scenic Range NewsForum quoted \$8.75 per column inch or \$7.50 per column inch with legal publication declaration. The average circulation of each issue was 975-1,000 per week. The Council discussed the value of circulation. Councilor Sullivan said there was more important items than circulation. He shared his experience with Scenic Range NewsForum and said he the City continued to work with them, he hoped they would be more cooperative.

\*Motion by Councilor Martire, seconded by Acting Mayor Bruns to appoint Scenic Range NewsForum as the legal publication for a rate of \$7.50 per column inch.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**Depository**

\*Motion by Councilor Jensen, seconded by Martire to appoint Park State Bank as the official depository.  
Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**Insurance Agent**

\*Motion by Councilor Sullivan, seconded by Councilor Martire to appoint Dynamic Insurance as the City Insurance Agent.  
Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**Engineering Firm**

\*Motion by Councilor Jensen, seconded by Councilor Sullivan to appoint JPJ Engineering as the City's engineering firm.  
Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**Council Meetings**

\*Motion by Councilor Martire, seconded by Councilor Jensen to set the council meetings for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month at 5:30 p.m.  
Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**NPUC Representative**

\*Motion by Acting Mayor Bruns, seconded by Councilor Jensen to appoint Tom Martire to the Nashwauk Public Utilities Commission as a council representative.  
Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**East Itasca Joint Sewer Board**

\*Motion by Councilor Sullivan, seconded by Councilor Martire to appoint Greg Heyblom as the Council representative on the East Itasca Joint Sewer Board.  
Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**Acting Mayor**

\*Motion by Councilor Martire, seconded by Councilor Jensen to appoint Dave Bruns as acting mayor.  
Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**Weed Inspector**

\*Motion by Councilor Sullivan, seconded by Councilor Jensen to not fill the assistant weed inspector position, affirming Greg Heyblom as the weed inspector.  
Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board**

\*Motion by Councilor Martire, seconded by Acting Mayor Bruns to appoint Sheila Jensen as the City's representative for the Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board and Terry Sullivan as the alternative representative.  
Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

**Library Board**

\*Motion by Councilor Jensen, seconded by Councilor Martire to appoint Dave Bruns to the Library Board.  
Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

## **RAMS**

\*Motion by Councilor Martire, seconded by Councilor Jensen to appoint Terry Sullivan as an alternate RAMS representative.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

## **Personnel Committee**

\*Motion by Councilor Martire, seconded by Councilor Jensen to appoint Greg Heyblom and Terry Sullivan to the Personnel Committee.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

## **Fire Department**

\*Motion by Councilor Martire, seconded by Councilor Jensen to appoint the following positions within the Fire Department:

- a. Fire Chief, Joe Martire
- b. 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief, Robert Coughlin
- c. 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief, Kevin Bodin
- d. Training Officer: Brenden Johnson
- e. Secretary, Anthony Marinaro

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

## **Notable Items**

Kevin Lee, North Memorial Health, was present to provide an update regarding the ambulance service. He stated that the trailer the Council approved of at the last meeting will be arriving soon. He shared North Memorial's long-term plans for building a new station. Moving to their own space would save on costs for Nashwauk not having to make significant modifications to the Public Safety Complex, it would generate property tax revenue, and free up space at the Safety Complex. Construction could begin as soon as March or April of 2026 and be complete this year. He asked the Council to support the project by conveying a lot for a nominal fee along Platt Avenue East to the taxing district. Acting Mayor Bruns discussed the city's commitment to provide the public safety facility to them at no cost for three years. Councilor Sullivan said supporting a new EMS building ensures that the ambulance service will be in Nashwauk long-term.

\*Motion by Councilor Martire, seconded by Councilor Sullivan to approve the conveyance of property for a nominal fee to the Nashwauk Ambulance Service Taxing District, contingent upon the taxing district's approval.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

## **Approval of Consent Agenda**

\*Motion by Councilor Jensen, seconded by Councilor Martire to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- a. Approve the minutes of the December 23, 2025, City Council meeting.
- b. Approve claim register #1132026 Claim 1 in the amount of \$106,908.68.
- c. Approve April Kurtock to attend the Municipal Clerks and Finance Officers Association Conference in Brooklyn Park on March 24-27, 2026; conference fee of \$395, mileage, lodging, meals.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

## **Unfinished Business**

### ***Small Cities Development Program***

Administrator/Clerk Kurtz said that she had met with the grant administrator Jessica Pellinen. There are projects in the works that will be out for bids soon. If all the projects are approved, it will take up the remaining funding. So, at this time, there is a waiting list and no additional projects will be considered.

### ***East Itasca Joint Sewer Board Update***

No update.

### **Public Works Building**

Administrator/Clerk Kurtz said that the grant application for the public works building hadn't been rejected, so it could be considered for future funding. She also said that she submitted an additional project application for the city hall project through the public works grant.

### **Dimich Contract**

\*Motion by Councilor Sullivan, seconded by Councilor Martire to terminate the criminal prosecution services contract with John P. Dimich, which required a 30 days' notice.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

## **New Business**

### **Resolution 2026-01**

\*Motion by Councilor Jensen, seconded by Councilor Sullivan to approve Resolution 2026-01 Establishing a Fee Schedule with the revision of the monthly fee for RV camping, which will be \$600.

Roll call—Ayes: Councilor Martire, Councilor Jensen, Councilor Sullivan, Acting Mayor Bruns. Resolution approved.

### **WatchGuard Quote**

\*Motion by Councilor Sullivan, seconded by Councilor Jensen to approve the quote from Insight Public Sector in the amount of \$3,984.73 for a WatchGuard Firebox, 2 wireless access points, Wi-Fi management, and power adapters for the Safety Complex.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

### **Franchise Fee Ordinance**

\*Motion by Councilor Jensen, seconded by Councilor Sullivan to approve the posting of Ordinance No. 2026-01.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

## **Department & Committee Reports & Requests**

### **Fire Department**

Fire Chief Martire provided a summary of 2025 fire call incidents, which were a total of 83 calls.

### **Firefighter Wage**

\*Motion by Councilor Jensen, seconded by Councilor Martire to approve the request from Fire Chief Martire to increase the firefighter wage from \$12.00/hour to \$14.00/hour effective January 1, 2026.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Martire shared that the department was considering the purchase of a used track vehicle, which would be around \$6,000. If purchased, the department would be able to be on-call for the DNR with that piece of equipment and wildland fires.

### **Police Department**

Police Chief Longoria shared that the Police Department finished 2025 with 1,759 calls. The department will be completing their annual training courses soon. He also shared that the new vehicle would be available soon for patrol.

### **Street Department**

Public Works & Utilities Lead Jason Martire said the 2025 Ram the Council had approved for purchase at the previous meeting was sold by the dealership. They provided a quote for a 2026 Ram.

\*Motion by Councilor Martire, seconded by Councilor Jensen to approve the quote from Hibbing Chrysler Center for a 2026 Ram 3500 in the amount of \$66,768.13.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

Council determined they would utilize the equipment fund and levied funds to pay for the vehicle.

Martire said the rink was closed for two days due to warm weather.

### **Negotiation Committee**

\*Motion by Councilor Sullivan, seconded by Councilor Bruns to approve the MOU between the City of Nashwauk and AFSCME Council 65, Local 81 regarding duty assignment pay for Jason Martire.

Ayes: all present. motion carried.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

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City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer