

City of Nashwauk
November 3, 2025
City Council Work Session

Members present: Acting Mayor David Bruns, Councilor Tom Martire, Councilor Sheila Jensen, Councilor Terry Sullivan. Mayor Greg Heyblom entered the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

Also present: Public Works & Utilities Lead Jason Martire, City Administrator/Clerk April Kurtock, Police Chief Lee Longoria.

Acting Mayor Bruns called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Acting Mayor Bruns led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2026 Budget Discussion

The presented budget reflected a 15% general fund levy increase. Police Chief Longoria stated his budget reflected having a school resource officer for the high school, as the Superintendent had inquired about an officer; however, the District hasn't committed to the position. His budget also reflected \$100,000 in reimbursement from the District for an SRO. In total an SRO would cost approximately \$134,000 for the year.

Public Works & Utilities Lead Jason Martire said that his budget reflected \$60,000 for street repairs for the Central Avenue alley, as the Council had requested that it be on the 2026 budget. Additionally, he had budgeted \$17,000 for a new mower, and \$16,000 toward a new pickup truck (amortized over 4 years). Within recreation, he had also budgeted \$10,000 for new firepits at the RV Park.

Council reviewed a fee schedule from 2024 and considered increasing fees for certain services for 2026. Regarding RV camping, Council discussed the rental rates, utility costs, and increases for 2026.

The budget currently reflected a deficit of \$332,000.

Regarding the mineral leases and rents owed back to the DNR, Administrator/Clerk Kurtock suggested the Council remit all funds back this year versus over a 3- or 5-year plan, as if funds were remitted back, the City could budget for expected funds to be received in 2026. Mayor Heyblom asked what the general fund reserve balance was and if the funds could be remitted back all at once. Kurtock said she didn't have the reserve balance available, but the general fund balance overall was \$949,000. Councilor Sullivan suggested utilizing funds within the 125 fund to help balance the deficit.

Councilor Sullivan reminded the Council that the City is a part of the Nashwauk Township, which means the City residents pay tax to the Nashwauk Township and don't receive township services. He had reached out to the County Auditor and asked for the amount of tax paid to the township. The City pays 41.81% of Nashwauk Township Tax which equates to \$78,639 of their \$188,087 levy in 2024. Councilor Sullivan said in the past, the voters

chose to remain within the Township, but the levy impact was under \$20,000. Now as it increases, it is a larger impact on the taxpayers.

Council provided guidance to the department heads and asked they all sharpen their pencils regarding their proposed 2026 budget to help reduce the deficit. Council would meet again on November 24th for a follow-up budget work session.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer