

**City of Nashwauk
February 24, 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, Fire Chief Joe Martire, Attorney Jackie Simon.

Public Comment

None.

Adoption of Agenda

*Motion by Councilor Martire, seconded by Councilor Jensen to adopt the agenda of the February 24, 2026, City Council Meeting.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda

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

- a. Approve the minutes of February 10, 2026, City Council meeting.
- b. Approve the claim register #22402026 Claim 1 in the amount of \$27,144.67.
- c. Approve April Kurttock and Kristina Tunink to attend the Minnesota Society for Human Resource Management conference in Duluth on October 12-13, 2026; attendance fee \$500 per person; lodging, milage, meal reimbursement.
- d. Approve 2026 off-sale liquor licenses for Nashwauk Investments LLC –DBA Wizard’s Sports Bar & Grill, Edwards Oil Inc –DBA Little Brown Jug, Nash’s Hideaway—DBA The Saloon.
- e. Approve 2026 on-sale liquor licenses for Nashwauk Investments LLC –DBA Wizard’s Sports Bar & Grill, Nash’s Hideaway –DBA The Saloon, and Mucho Si.
- f. Approve 2026 on-sale Sunday liquor licenses for Nashwauk Investments LLC –DBA Wizard’s Sports Bar & Grill, Nash’s Hideaway –DBA The Saloon.
- g. Approve the 2026 3.2 Liquor license for E. Milton Latvala DBA Sinclair Express Mart.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Small Cities Development Program

No update.

East Itasca Joint Sewer Board Update

At the February East Itasca Joint Sewer Board meeting, it was confirmed that Lone Pine Township has been approved to receive funding from PFA. The Township is also not required to put the project out for a vote, so they have determined that their next steps will be to go out for bids on the project.

Public Works Building Update

Administrator/Clerk Kurtock said that Engineer Jamnick would be at the next meeting to discuss the project.

Hazardous Buildings

Asbestos Testing Quotes

*Motion by Councilor Martire, seconded by Councilor Jensen to approve the asbestos testing quote from Sertich Environmental for the property at 206 3rd Street in the amount of \$550 for inspection and reporting plus \$25.00 per sample.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

*Motion by Councilor Martire, seconded by Councilor Jensen to approve the asbestos testing quote from Sertich Environmental for the property at 324 3rd Street in the amount of \$1,150 for inspection and reporting plus \$25.00 per sample; increased price due to two inspectors on site for safety due to poor condition of the structure.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

New Business

City Hall Entrances & Cleaning

Mayor Heyblom had requested the topic of snow and ice removal for the Central Avenue entrance to City Hall to be on the agenda, as it wasn't being maintained. Acting Mayor Bruns asked PW&UL Martire to maintain the entrance. Additionally, Mayor Heyblom wanted to discuss the janitorial duties in City Hall, as he felt that wasn't being completed either. PW&UL Martire said they clean the building when it is rented out but don't have it as part of their routine duties. Council discussed the issue and said that it should be routinely cleaned.

Rental Ordinance

Administrator/Clerk Kurtock said that as follow-up from the previous meeting, a page had been added to the City website providing information on the Rental Housing Ordinance with a summary statement that Nashwauk has reached the cap on the rental licenses that will be issued.

Department & Committee Reports & Requests

Fire Department

Fire Chief Martire said the department wants a 1-ton truck for hauling fire department equipment. The truck would be used, purchased from auction, and funded through the fire department equipment fund up to \$25,000.

*Motion by Councilor Jensen, seconded by Councilor Martire to approve the Fire Department to purchase a used 1-ton truck from auction in the amount of up to \$25,000.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Martire had a request to engage a grant writer in the amount of \$1,400 on the agenda but asked that Council skip that request as the grant application could be completed by staff. It was a FEMA grant and, if awarded, the intent was to use it toward the purchase of a fire engine. Chief Martire also had a quote for an engine in the packet, which was for just under \$700,000. He said he was not looking for approval of the quote but wanted Council to be aware of the cost and hoped that planning for replacement of the old fire engine would be considered. He explained that the vehicle meets the needs of the department and that the Fire Relief Association has committed \$100,000 toward the purchase.

Martire noted that he had also made a request to Mesabi Metallics regarding supporting the purchase of the vehicle. Councilor Sullivan said that he would like to speak with Fire Chief Martire regarding creative funding options for the vehicle purchase.

Police Department

Police Chief Longoria shared that work was under way regarding the refurbishing of their department space. He noted that the Fire Relief Association had donated toward the project and shared his appreciation. Additionally, Chief Longoria shared that he was prepping for a CGIS audit, which would be the first one that he's completed, so he was not sure how long it would take.

Councilor Sullivan asked if there was a peddler's license issued because someone had been at his door trying to sell him windows. Chief Longoria confirmed that he had approved a license, but he wasn't sure if it was the same person Councilor Sullivan had been referring to.

Street Department

Public Works & Utilities Lead Jason Martire said the Council talked about a securing a rig for watering flowers for the beautification committee. Whatever they ended up using would need to be street legal, as the summer casual laborers would use it during the summer to water flowers. He noted that he had been looking at a side-by-side ATV and estimated the cost to be between \$10-15,000. He asked Council how much they were looking to spend on this piece of equipment. He also noted that the fire department had a side-by-side that the Street Department could take and the FD could get a new one, as theirs was a single cab and the fire department could use a crew cab. Councilor Martire voiced support that the Fire Department should have a crew cab side-by-side because when they use it, they're typically hauling people to the scene of an incident. Fire Chief Martire said that he had obtained a quote for a crew cab. He asked if money could be reallocated for future months from Mesabi Metallics toward the purchase of it versus an allocation for the public works building. Acting Mayor Bruns said the Council could consider that.

PW&UL Martire stated that the Rec was reopened for skating and will likely be available for another two weeks but doubted it would go beyond that with the weather warming up.

Mayor and Council Updates

Councilor Sullivan shared that he had called the Itasca County Auditor's office regarding the ambulance taxing district. He learned that the levy for the district would be broken down to \$66 per property per year. It would be a flat rate and not based proportionately on property value.

Adjourn

*Motion by Councilor Martire, seconded by Councilor Jensen to adjourn at 6:03 p.m.

Ayes: all present. Motion carried.

City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer