



City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 20, 2026 7:00 PM
Cologne Community Center, 1211 Village Parkway

Vision Statement

The City of Cologne is a vibrant small town that respects its heritage, embraces its future and offers a high quality of life for all who live, work and visit our community.

Mayor: Matt Lein
Councilmember: Sarah Bruss
Councilmember: Jeri Bowers
Councilmember: Selmer Olson
Councilmember: Carol Szaroletta

NOTE: AGENDA ITEMS ARE APPROXIMATE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE ACCORDING TO LENGTH OF DISCUSSION. TO ENSURE THAT YOU ARE PRESENT FOR ITEMS OF INTEREST, PLEASE ARRIVE AT 7:00 PM.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Lein called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Councilmembers Bowers, and Szaroletta were present. Also present was City Administrator Michelle Morrison. Councilmembers Bruss and Olson were absent.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ADOPT AGENDA

Mayor Lein advised that the Communities of Belonging Newsletter discussion under new business would be moved to the February 2nd meeting when the full council would be present. Motion by Councilmember Szaroletta to adopt the agenda as amended, second by Councilmember Bowers. Motion carried 3-0.

4. VISITOR'S PRESENTATIONS, PETITIONS, CORRESPONDENCE

5. ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed below are considered routine and non-controversial by the Council. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a Councilmember, Staff or Citizen. If removed, the item will be discussed at the end of the regular agenda.

- a. **January 5, 2026 City Council Minutes**
- b. **Accounts Payable from January 6th, 2026**
- c. **January 13th, 2026 Payroll Summary**
- d. **Pheasants Forever February 28 Gambling Permit**

After discussion, Councilmember Bowers made a motion to approve the consent agenda, second by Councilmember Szaroletta. Motion carried 3-0.

6. NEW COUNCIL BUSINESS

a. CFD Open for Recruitment Discussion – Brian Loscheider

Chief's Vos and Loscheider informed the council that the Fire Department is currently at 32 Firefighters and they have reviewed their on boarding procedure to allow new recruits 4 months of time with the department before going to the academy for training. There are currently 7 firefighters with over 20 years of experience, and the average tenure is 9 ½ years. The department was looking for City approval to open the hiring process. After discussion Councilmember Bowers made a motion to open hiring for the fire department, second by Councilmember Szaroletta. Motion carried 3-0.

7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- a. **Administrator Update**
- b. **Mayor / Council / Committees Reports**
- c. **Dec 2025 and YTD 2025 Sheriff Reports**

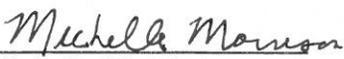
8. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

9. ADJOURN

Motion by Councilmember Szaroletta to adjourn at 7:15 PM, second by Councilmember Bowers. Motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:


Michelle Morrison

City Administrator/City Clerk


Matt Lein

Mayor