



City Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 2, 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, Bruss, Olson and Szaroletta were present. Also present was City Administrator Michelle Morrison.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ADOPT AGENDA

Administrator Morrison advised the Mayor that 2 new items need to be added - under the Consent Agenda, Item e. Res No 26-03 Accepting Donation and under new business add item d. Clarification of Committee Goals and Scope for the CFD – PERA Committee. Motion by Councilmember Bruss to adopt the agenda as amended, second by Councilmember Bowers. Motion carried unanimously.

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 20, 2026 City Council Minutes**
- b. Accounts Payable from January 21st, 2026**
- c. January 27th, 2026 Payroll Summary**
- d. West Hennepin Ducks Unlimited Gambling Permit**
- e. Res No 26-03 Accepting Donation**

After discussion, Councilmember Szaroletta made a motion to approve the consent agenda, second by Councilmember Bruss. Motion carried unanimously.

6. NEW COUNCIL BUSINESS

- a. Res No 26-02 Resolution for Counting Write-In Votes for Local Elective Office**

Administrator Morrison reviewed her memo to the Council regarding state statutes that, if adopted locally, would eliminate the need to hand count write-in votes for local elections. A candidate who wishes their write-in votes to be counted can formally request that by making a request to the City Clerk. After discussion, Councilmember Bruss made a motion to adopt Res No 26-02 Counting Write-In Votes for Local Elective Office, second by Councilmember Bowers. Motion carried unanimously

- b. Phosphorus Monitoring System for Wastewater Treatment Facility**

Administrator Morrison and Jake Saulsbury of Bolton and Menk led discussion with the Council on the potential cost and benefits of purchasing a phosphorus monitoring system that could increase the available ERU's for development. Topics covered included the timing of when to purchase, what funds to use for the purchase and the installation timeline. A formal quote will be brought to the February 17th Council meeting to continue the discussion and next steps.

- c. Community of Belonging Newsletter Discussion – Sarah Bruss**

The council discussed the \$8,000 annual expense for the quarterly newsletter and the desire to go to a more cost-effective means of communicating with the public – focusing on a digital format. Lona Hendricks from Communities of Belonging shared concerns over just stopping the newsletter and asked if she could work with a committee from the City to discuss options and a plan to move forward. Councilmembers Olson and Bruss agreed to meet with Loan to discuss next steps.

**d. Clarification of Committee Goals and Scope for the CFD –
PERA Committee.**

While no meetings have been scheduled for the CFD – Pera Committee, Administrator Morrison wanted clarification from the council on what the Goals and Scope of the committee are. The direction from Council was the committee is to focus on understanding the PERA Pension process – how it is funded, how benefit levels are established and the financial implications and risk associated with benefit level changes. The committee is to bring back what they learned to the whole council to help the entire group understand the pension.

7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- a. Administrator Update**
- b. Mayor / Council / Committees Reports**

8. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

9. ADJOURN

Motion by Councilmember Olson to adjourn at 8:05 PM, second by Councilmember Bruss. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:


Michelle Morrison


Matt Lein

