

**Hazen City Commission
Regular Meeting
December 15, 2025
Hazen City Hall**

Present: President Schiferl, Commissioner Folkerts, Commissioner Stern and Commissioner Wiedrich.

Absent: Commissioner Haack.

Others Present: PW Director Brousseau, Attorney Donovan, Chief Wolff, Jerod Klabunde & Aiden Kelly (Moore Eng), and Auditor Erhardt.

President Schiferl called the meeting to order at 5:29 PM.

President Schiferl led the pledge of allegiance and said the prayer.

Minutes: Commissioner Wiedrich moved to suspend the reading and approve the minutes of the December 1st meeting, as presented, second by Commissioner Stern. Motion unanimously approved.

Agenda: Commissioner Wiedrich moved to approve the agenda, as presented, second by Commissioner Folkerts. Motion unanimously approved.

CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY AND ENGINEER

Engineer's Report: The commission reviewed the written engineer's report and Jerod Klabunde indicated there are no action items in the report.

Executive Session Pursuant to NDDCC 44-04-19.1(5) – Attorney Consultation: President Schiferl indicated the next item on the agenda is Executive Session – Pursuant to 44-04-19.1(5) NDCC, Attorney Consultation/Guidance relating to Expedition Estates. This item must be discussed in executive session. Motion by Commissioner Wiedrich to enter executive session, in compliance with NDCC, second by Commissioner Folkerts. On roll call vote: Wiedrich, "Aye", Folkerts, "Aye", Stern, "Nay", Schiferl, "Aye", motion carried. The executive session will be recorded, and all members of the commission are reminded to limit their discussion during the executive session to the announced topic. Any collective decision, collective commitment, or other final action by the commission must occur after it reconvenes in an open meeting, unless final action is specifically required by law to be taken during executive session. The prohibition on taking final action during the executive session does not apply to providing guidance or instructions to our attorney. President Schiferl asks all members of the public who are attending the meeting to leave the room, and the commission anticipates adjourning the executive session and reconvening the open portion of the meeting as soon as possible. The minutes will show that the executive session began at 5:33 PM CT, and was attended by President Schiferl, Commissioner Folkerts, Commissioner Stern, Commissioner Wiedrich, Attorney Donovan, Jerod Klabunde and Aiden Kelly (Moore Engineering) and Auditor Erhardt.

President Schiferl adjourned the executive session at 6:13 PM CT, with no formal action having been taken, and the public was invited to return to the meeting room, and the city commission is back in open session.

REQUEST OF CITIZENS

Local Permit-Bingo – Hazen Public School – Health Task Force: Commissioner Folkerts moved to approve local permit #2025-18, as requested by Hazen Public School Health Task Force to conduct Bingo games at school events from December 2025 to March 2026, second by Commissioner

Wiedrich. Motion unanimously approved.

INTRODUCTION, READING, AND APPROVAL OF ORDINANCES

Floodplain Ordinance Amendment (Compliance with NDCC): Commissioner Wiedrich moved to approve the second reading and adopt the proposed amendment to the Floodplain Ordinance, as presented, second by Commissioner Stern. On roll call vote: Wiedrich, “Aye”, Stern, “Aye”, Folkerts, “Aye” Schiferl, “Aye”, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS AND BUILDING PERMITS

Liquor License Applications: The commission reviewed liquor license applications of Bison Sports Bar, Box’s Bar, Jimmy’s Lounge, Long Shots Bar and The Hub for calendar year 2026. Commissioner Wiedrich moved to approve the liquor licenses, as presented, second by Commissioner Stern. Upon discussion, Commissioner Folkerts asked about any concerns of establishments selling alcohol after closing time and Chief Wolff indicated that he was not made aware of any concerns. On roll call vote: Wiedrich, “Aye”, Stern, “Aye”, Folkerts, “Aye”, Schiferl, “Aye”, motion carried.

REPORTS

Water/Sewer/Garbage: Commissioner Stern had nothing to report at this time.

Street/Cemetery: Commissioner Haack absent. PW Director Brousseau reported that city staff are working to remove ice from the streets during warmer weather. Several commissioners commented on the good work of the staff to keep the streets clear and passable.

Finance/Busing/Library: Commissioner Folkerts had nothing to report at this time.

Police/Fire/Forestry: Commissioner Wiedrich had nothing to report at this time. Chief Wolff commented that vehicles that were tagged during snow removal have been addressed. Commissioner Folkerts asked about a vehicle on 2nd Ave NW and was advised that it has been moved within the forty-eight-hour parking period. Commissioner Wiedrich spoke of sharing the forester position with Hazen Parks and Recreation. This will be discussed further when more information is available.

HCD: Myra Savelkoul absent. No report.

President: President Schiferl informed the board that he was not aware of the amount of special assessments remaining on the water plant building and the commission was advised that the offer to purchase the property has been withdrawn.

CORRESPONDENCE

Election Agreement – Mercer County: The commission reviewed the joint election agreement with Mercer County to conduct the city election in 2026. Commissioner Wiedrich moved to accept the agreement, as presented, second by Commissioner Folkerts. Motion unanimously approved. The lone polling location for the 2026 elections will be in Beulah.

NEW BUSINESS

Arbor Day Proclamation: Commissioner Folkerts moved to approve a proclamation designating December 23, 2025, as Arbor Day in the City of Hazen, second by Commissioner Stern. Motion unanimously approved. The city celebration will be incorporated with story time at the Hazen Public Library at 10:00 AM.

Copier Replacement Proposals: The commission reviewed proposals to replace the current copier/fax/printer at city hall. The current copier lease is with Marco Technologies, and a proposal was also received from Fireside Office Solutions. Commissioner Wiedrich moved to proceed with the lease of Marco Technologies at a proposed

cost of \$277.36/month, second by Commissioner Folkerts. On roll call vote: Wiedrich, "Aye", Folkerts, "Aye", Stern, "Aye", Schiferl, "Aye", motion carried.

Christmas Eve – Early Closure: Commissioner Wiedrich moved to authorize closure of city offices at 12:00 PM on December 24th, second by President Schiferl. Motion unanimously approved.

FY2027 Transit Grant(s): Commissioner Wiedrich moved to authorize the Transit Director and City Auditor to complete the FY2027 transit grant and address any questions that may arise, second by Commissioner Folkerts. On roll call vote: Wiedrich, "Aye", Folkerts, "Aye", Stern, "Aye", Schiferl, "Aye", motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were received.

Approval of Bills and Financial Statements: Commissioner Wiedrich moved to approve the bills and financial statements, as presented, second by Commissioner Folkerts. Pre-paid and bills approved for payment are as follows: Elan Financial, 682.40; Verizon, 462.68; Cenex, 3707.94; City of Hazen, 953.26; Cory Beery, 300.00; D&E Supply, 273.39; Donovan & Kaffar PLLP, 1750.00; Evolv Inc, 19.95; Further, 3.25; Global Safety Network, 76.05; HCD, 433.41; Hazen Motor Co, 309.95; Hazen Star, 927.86; ITD, 34.50; KDKT Radio, 150.00; Loren Wiest, 300.00; Lucky's Towing, 350.00; Meissner Contracting, 1600.00; Menards, 89.80; Mercer Co Treasurer, 5779.85; Mercer Co Weed Board, 445.00; MDU, 4563.06; Mosca Design, 2460.85; ND Dept of Health, 54.00; ND League of Cities, 1000.00; OK Tire, 684.20; Power Plan, 2313.76; Radar Shop Inc, 128.00; Ronnie Blekestad Jr, 8.51; Roughrider Electric Coop Inc, 3832.76; Safeguard Business Systems, 245.32; Sletten Excavating, 12560.00; Stamps.com, 115.73; Stein's Inc, 402.94; The Hub, 1305.90; Vanguard Appraisals Inc, 2770.65; Vestis, 429.09, West River Telecommunications, 925.68. On roll call vote: Wiedrich, "Aye", Folkerts, "Aye", Stern, "Aye", Schiferl, "Aye", motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM CT. The next regular meeting of the commission is scheduled for Monday, January 5, 2026, at 5:30 PM CT in the Commission Room of the Hazen City Hall.

Approved: _____
Jesse Schiferl, President

Attest: _____
Monte J. Erhardt, Auditor