

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**January 14, 2026**

**ACKLEY CITY COUNCIL** met in regular session January 14, 2026 in the Ackley Council Chambers with Mayor Michael Nuss presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Council members present: Mike Abbas, Mike Wessels, Dan Scallon, Steven Ackerman, Maliah Roelfs. Quorum present.

Scallon moved, Roelfs seconded to approve the January 14, 2026 agenda. Ayes-all. Motion carried.

Abbas moved, Scallon seconded to approve the Consent Agenda by one motion: a) December 10, 2025 Regular Minutes, as written. b) Bills approval, as listed. c) Place Reports on file: December 2025 Clerk Bank Reconciliation/Cash Report/Treasurer; December 2025 Clerk Budget; December 2025 Deputy Clerk Utility Billing Reconciliation; December 2025 Fire; December 2025 PeopleService; December 2025 Ackley Development; December 2025 Deputy Clerk Nuisance; 3rd Quarter 2025 Ackley Public Library Investment; 4th Quarter 2025 Investment Report; 4th Quarter 2025 Deputy Clerk Ambulance Write Off Report; 4th Quarter 2025 Prairie Bridges/Park Fest; and 4th Quarter 2025 Airport Board of Trustees. Ayes-all. Motion carried.

S. Siems requested a hearing regarding utility billing and lien notification at 129 Warbler Ave. Siems addressed Council regarding the hearing and lien processes of the city ordinance. Siems questioned the storm sewer calculation on this property. Siems informed Council he had requested information on the storm sewer and has not received that information. Nuss addressed Siems concerns by informing him that the calculation of storm sewer is in the ordinance book and a copy was provided to him along with the ordinances being available online. When the storm sewer ordinance was adopted, the State informed the city that they would not be able to pick and choose which property was being billed, it was an all or nothing. The city monitors and updates ordinances each year with legislature changes. Iowa codification company keeps the code book up to date. The ordinance does not require an annual study performed, only a review, which is done when property has had new facilities or new concrete. Nuss asked the Council members if there were any questions or comments regarding the hearing. There were none. The request to have the lien not placed was denied and hearing was complete. Siems exited the council chambers yelling at the Mayor and Council and threatening to post them on Facebook.

Scallon moved, Abbas seconded to open the public hearing for the first reading of proposed Ordinance No. 543 Amending Chapter 50 Nuisance Abatement and Chapter 51 Junk/Junk Vehicles at 6:18 pm. Ayes-all. Motion carried.

No comments received at City Hall. TJ Johnson addressed council regarding what constitutes a junk vehicle? Johnson was served a violation letter for junk/junk vehicle. Johnson informed council he has rode around town and has found many vehicles not moved since Johnson moved

here, windows broke out, and some on blocks. Johnson's vehicles were all licensed, insured, and ran. Why was Johnson served? Clerk Dennis responded on the process of how violation letters are done. If a complaint comes into City Hall, the clerks contact Public Works to verify a complaint exists, and if there is then a letter gets served. The city staff are not out looking for violators but rather dealing with complaints. Johnson felt he got targeted by the mayor once Johnson took out city council paperwork.

Roelfs moved, Scallon seconded to close the public hearing for the first reading of proposed Ordinance No. 543 Amending Chapter 50 Nuisance Abatement and Chapter 51 Junk/Junk Vehicles at 6:24 pm. Ayes-all. Motion carried.

Roelfs moved, Wessels seconded to approve the first reading of proposed Ordinance No. 543 Amending Chapter 50 Nuisance Abatement and Chapter 51 Junk/Junk Vehicles. Roll call vote: Ayes-Wessels, Scallon, Ackerman, Roelfs, Abbas. Motion carried.

Scallon moved, Ackerman seconded to set the public hearing for the second reading of the proposed Ordinance No. 543 Amending Chapter 50 Nuisance Abatement and Chapter 51 Junk/Junk Vehicles to February 11, 2026 at 6 pm in the Ackley Council Chambers. Roll call vote: Ayes-Roelfs, Abbas, Wessels, Scallon, Ackerman. Motion carried.

Dennis reported the city has received the proposed lease with some of the changes but not all the changes that the city had requested. Dennis has not heard back from City Attorney, S. Schroeder. One of the requested changes was the duration of the lease to avoid public hearing requirements. Friends of Prairie Bridges board members in attendance J. Schipper, M. Fistler, P. Williams, S. Scallon, K. Neuberger, and B. Schipper. Fistler spoke on the Friends behalf. Fistler requested the city to enter the proposed lease, as presented. Roelfs and Scallon shared concerns about entering without the city attorney reviewing the proposal. Wessels inquired as to if there was a current 28 E agreement in place, Fistler responded with yes. Consensus from Council was to have city attorney review lease and bring subject back to February meeting.

No update on 2020A GO Bond Street projects.

Roelf moved, Scallon seconded to send nuisance violation letter to the owner of the Pizza Ranch regarding their building causing damage to the civic center. Ayes-all. Motion carried.

Discussion on FY27 budget. Council consensus was to leave the health insurance the way it currently is offered, budget for mayor/council iPads (to be used at meetings only) as a way to go electronic and save on office supply costs, consolidated levy was addressed, budget schedule changes due to the spring clerk conference, and Dennis is awaiting 2 calculations from the IDOM for revenue.

Dennis informed council that the Iowa DOT VI Non-Discrimination Agreement and Assurances has expired. To receive any federal funding, the city needs to be in compliance. The agreement was presented for review and will be further addressed in the February meeting.

Steven Ackerman made a written request to council for livestock. Ackerman was not a part of the discussion. Abbas moved, Roelfs seconded to approve 6 chickens, as presented. Ayes-4. Recuse-Ackerman. Motion carried.

Scallon moved, Ackerman seconded to approve beer/liquor license for DolgenCorp DBA Dollar General #18911. Ayes-all. Motion carried.

Roelfs moved, Ackerman seconded to appoint Malena Dennis as City Clerk for a 2-year term. Ayes-all. Motion carried.

Roelfs moved, Ackerman seconded to appoint Seth Schroder as City Attorney for a 2-year term. Ayes-all. Motion carried.

Oath of office given to Dennis by Nuss.

Abbas moved, Roelfs seconded to pass Resolution 26-01 Setting Vehicle Mileage Reimbursement Rate for calendar year 2026. Roll call vote: Ayes-Abbas Wessels, Scallon, Ackerman, Roelfs. Motion carried.

Abbas moved, Ackerman seconded to pass Resolution 26-02 Designating Ackley World Journal as the official newspaper for the calendar year 2026. Roll call vote: Ayes-Wessels, Scallon, Ackerman, Roelfs, Abbas. Motion carried.

Resolution 26-03 Establishing Sanitary Sewer Special Rate for Friends of Prairie Bridges was tabled.

Scallon moved, Abbas seconded to pass Resolution 26-04 Updating Petty Cash Funds. Roll call vote: Ayes-Scallon, Ackerman, Roelfs, Abbas, Wessels. Motion carried.

Wessels moved, Roelfs seconded to pass Resolution 26-05 Entering into 28E Agreement between Ackley Fire Department and Grant Lee Fire Department. Roll call vote: Ayes-Ackerman, Roelfs, Abbas, Wessels, Scallon. Motion carried.

Scallon moved, Abbas seconded to pass Resolution 26-06 Authorizing Mayor to sign PeopleService Letter of Acknowledgement. Roll call vote: Ayes-Roelfs, Abbas, Wessels, Scallon, Ackerman. Motion carried.

Due to lightning damage, Abbas moved, Wessels seconded to approve payment to The Northway Corporation in the amount of \$23,809.08 for Well #2 damage to pumping equipment. Ayes-all. Motion carried.

M. White, PeopleService, J. Kurth will install a bonding agent to the water plant aerator tank once weather allows. White is awaiting the 5<sup>th</sup> Ave lift station pump valves to come in.

L. Gallentine, CGA Consultants., working on the IDOT revisions for the Franklin St N of the RR track street project, there has been no response from the owner of Traditional Meats on the easement for the Storm Sewer project, plans and specifications will be presented to council in February for a March bid letting for the Bonded Street projects, and guidance, given by council, to reach out to Blazek regarding the water treatment plant.

K. Meyer, Public Works Supervisor, reported T. Meyer has given his resignation.

Dennis reported the March 9 at 6 pm at the school will be the date for the joint meeting for the Cougar's Den, council packet deadline will need to be moved up a day or two in order for the packet to get out before Dennis' February vacation, update on 301 Mitchell St., FY25 annual exam was released and will be addressed during the February meeting..

No council comments. Nuss informed council due to T. Meyer resignation, there may be an issue with the February 6, 2026 garbage route being short a staff.

J. Wessels, public comment, inquired to Dennis on whether she recalled Wessels had requested iPads when Wessels was on Council. Dennis addressed the inquiry. M. Clemons, Library Director, inquired as to the numbers presented for the library budget.

Scallon moved, Roelfs seconded to adjourn at 7:35 pm. Ayes-all. Motion carried.

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Michael Nuss, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Malena Dennis, City Clerk

ACCESS SYSTEMS	TECHNICAL SUPPORT/BACKUP	1474.27
AFFORDABLE TREE SERVICE	809 10TH AVE/PLATTED ST TREE R	2400.00
BLACK HILLS/IAWA GAS UTIL	UTILITIES-GAS	1787.93
CARDMEMBER SERVICE	OVERALLS/BULBS/NAMEPLATES/STAMP/CALENDARS	975.51
CEDAR VALLEY ROOFING	DEPOT ROOF REPLACEMENT	56500.00
CENTER POINT LARGE PRINT	LARGE PRINT BOOKS	298.17
CENTRAL IOWA TELEVISING	CLEAN/TELEVISE ZONE 3/4 OTTER CREEK	2598.14
CENTURYLINK	PHONES/FAX	469.86
CGA	FRANKLIN ST N RR/DESIGN/EASEMENT TRADITIONAL MEA	2096.00
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP	PLOW BOLTS/SHIPPING/CURB BUMPER/PLOW BLADE	766.19
DEMCO	LABEL PROTECTORS/LABELS/POSTER	126.31
DUMONT TELEPHONE CO	INTERNET	80.00
EBS	HEALTH INSURANC	4987.47
ELECTRIC PUMP	REPLACE 5TH AVE LS CHECK VALVE	19864.64
FEDERAL W/H	FED/FICA TAX	7579.23
FORGY ELECTRIC	OUTLET REAPIR	154.22
GLOBE LIFE LIBERTY NATION	GLOBE PRETAX	217.82
HARDIN COUNTY ENGINEER	SAND/SALT MIX 36.9 TON	2398.50
HARDIN COUNTY SHERIFF	CONTRACT LAW ENFORCEMENT	3144.90
HARDIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE	DECEMBER LANDFILL FEES	1384.90
HEART OF IOWA	847-2222 COMMUNICATIONS	68.50

INGRAM LIBRARY SERVICES	BOOKS/SHIPPING	654.05
INNOVATIVE AG SERVICES CO	DIESEL/GAS	1510.56
IAWA PRISON INDUSTRIES	UTILITY BILLS/SHIPPING	880.00
IPERS	IPERS - REGULAR	3701.31
MID IOWA AUTO PARTS, LLC	OIL/FILTER/TUBING/DEF/SHOCK	316.27
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPA	ELECTRIC	7398.89
NORTH IOWA LIBRARIES COLL	PATRON BARCODES/SHIPPING	185.00
OTTER CREEK FARMS INC.	AIRPORT LEASE	750.00
PAYROLL CHECKS	TOTAL PAYROLL CHECKS	27804.96
PEOPLESERVICE INC.	WATER/WASTEWATER SERVICE	17899.00
PITNEY BOWES INC.	INK CARTRIDGE	63.90
POSTMASTER	UTILITY BILL POSTAGE	415.41
READER'S DIGEST	1 YR MAGAZINE	32.10
ROSS CLEANING	12/26/25 CLEANING	175.00
SALES TAX/LOST	SALES TAX PAYMENT	985.34
SHIELD PEST CONTROL	MONTHLY SERVICES	32.00
STATE WITHHOLDING	STATE TAXES	429.18
THE NORTHWAY CORPORATION	WELL #2 MOTOR STATOR/HOUSING	23809.08
TIMES-CITIZEN CO.	12/10/25 MINUTES/ORDINANCES/PUBLIC NOTICE	506.13
TITAN MACHINERY - GRUNDY	POWER BROOM/FREIGHT	455.77
USDA RF	MONTHLY PAYMENT	1151.00
VERIZON	PHONES/MODEM	132.05
WATER EXCISE TAX	WATER EXCISE TAX PAYMENT	2646.87
	CLAIMS TOTAL	201306.43

#### EXPENSES BY FUND

GENERAL FUND	33705.71
LIBRARY RESERVE FUND	330.27
ROAD USE TAX FUND	25389.48
CAPITAL PROJECTS - LOST FUND	56500.00
CAP PROJ-FRANKLIN ST N RR FUND	1856.00
WATER FUND	38299.48
SEWER FUND	35925.53
GARBAGE FUND	7889.83
STORM WATER FUND	1410.13
TOTAL	201306.43

#### REVENUE

GENERAL	61848.93
LIBRARY RESERVE TOTAL	175.60
FIRE TRUCK/EQUIP	6468.80
ROAD USE TAX	17763.09
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT TOTAL	1171.56
LOST	40997.64
LOST - DEBT SERVICE TOTAL	10399.41
	3062

CAPITAL PROJECT - LOST TOTAL	10099.42
WATER	48431.30
WATER DEPOSITS TOTAL	450.00
SEWER TOTAL	64170.00
SEWER - SINKING	35036.00
SEWER - RESERVES/SURPLUS TOTAL	22098.56
GARBAGE	12508.63
STORM SEWER	16905.88
TOTAL	348524.82