

# Police-fire

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police-sheriff station in 2025. City Council members were apprehensive about the cost but agreed to move forward in a split vote to get a better estimate on the project costs after years of discussion. "I think that price tag gave everyone pause," City Council member Sam Zierden Shortridge said. "That's a lot of money we're talking about." She added that everyone would like to see the cost come down, but that there is still a long process ahead to figure out what those reductions will look like.

City Council member George Borzyskowski emphasized that the architect's latest figure is an estimate and that they don't yet know the actual cost of the potential station. "Is it \$60 million? Is it \$70 [million]? Is it \$50 [million]? We don't know, but this [design agreement] will give us an actual number that we can say, 'All right, public, here's our concrete number for those two facilities going there.' And then we'll decide from there ..." Borzyskowski said. He compared the process of whittling down the price tag of the police-fire station project to remodeling one's kitchen. "You're going to remodel your kitchen, take the high number. I want everything, boom, boom, boom ... \$40,000 to redo your kitchen," Borzyskowski said. From there, certain things are taken out, such as a garbage disposal, until you reach a lower price tag, such as \$10,000.

While the city will get more accurate figures for the costs of the project and its

amenities as design progresses, some City Council members agreed an indoor gun range won't likely make the final cut. The police department currently shares an outdoor range with the county; an indoor range is part of the new station's current draft design. Zierden Shortridge and City Council member Jason Dicus said they weren't supportive of including a gun range, and Borzyskowski and City Council member Jeff Hyma also agreed that a gun range won't likely make the final cut. "They have a [gun range] right now. We allocated some funding to it to modernize it and share it with the county," Borzyskowski said. On other items, City Council members said they will need more information. "Right now, the pricing still feels a little too up in the air to feel confident saying, 'Oh, yeah, we got to take out this line item because it costs too much,'" Zierden Shortridge said. "I'm not really sure what things cost yet. That's part of the process we're going through."

The new increased cost estimate from city architects have also made some City Council members rethink other sites for the station and other partnerships. "I don't want to fully commit to something until I've seen all the data and been able to sort through it a little bit better," Hyma said. He added that he feels there is still some desire from the community for a standalone fire station and to keep the WPD and WCSO together. "I want to make sure that we are getting the absolute best bang for the buck for taxpayers, and that we're going to meet the needs, you know, for the next 50 years, but we're also going to do it the most economical way and reasonable way that we can," Hyma

said. He added, "I don't want to leave any stone unturned in pursuing that. And I still think there's a couple of stones to turn over, plain and simple."

Dicus said he feels partnering with the county on a new joint station is still an option, but added that he would not support remodeling the LEC. "I think that building is too far gone and way too small for a police department of our size," Dicus said. Zierden Shortridge said she is also open to exploring other options as the city moves forward.

Borzyskowski said he wants to move forward at the Central School site but said that once the city gets the final number for a police-fire station there, it could consider other options.

No matter where the station is located, funding it will be another challenge for the city. Previously, the city won \$7.5 million from the state for land acquisition and design. For multiple years, the city has also been unsuccessfully requesting construction dollars from the state for the project. City Council members said the city will have to be creative and use multiple funding sources. Hyma said that would likely entail state dollars. Dicus agreed and said the city should look for federal money as well. Borzyskowski emphasized that the city cannot fund the entire project locally and will need outside funding in some form. "We have to find a way outside of just taxing the property owner. We have to find a way to generate revenue to help pay for this project," Borzyskowski said. Dicus added, "We're going to have to look at other options. I'm not going to double everyone's taxes just so we can get this done." While

Dicus is hopeful for the city's chances at winning state money, Hyma feels those chances are slim to none.

On Monday, the City Council met with its financial advisors to go over various types of bonds and other funding sources. According to the financial advisors, Winona's debt limit is \$105 million. With two equipment certificates totaling \$4.9 million, Winona's remaining debt capacity is \$100 million. The advisors estimated that a 25-year general obligation bond of \$65 million for the police-fire station would incur \$43.9 million in interest, equating to a \$4.3 million average annual debt service payment.

Hyma questioned how taking out that much debt would impact the city's credit and added, "The most important thing is what taxpayers are going to have to pay." He added, "But, any estimates as to the impact of this on taxpayers using these various options would also be greatly appreciated because ultimately, that's going to be the most important thing. We've got to pay for this, meaning the community has to pay for this. And so it would be nice to know how these different options are going to affect individual people's pocketbooks."

Ubl said estimating how locally bonding \$65 million would impact local taxpayers' property tax bills would be premature and was not calculated because \$65 million is not an accurate cost for the project. He added that putting off projects, such as a new fire station, creates greater impacts and costs to taxpayers as needs become greater and costs increase.

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## legals

**First Publication Date:** Wednesday, January 7, 2026  
**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
WINONA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SESSION HELD December 11, 2025 6:00 PM WINONA COUNTY BOARD ROOM

These published proceedings are incomplete in that they simply summarize the actions of the Winona County Board. A complete copy of the proceedings is on file in the Office of the Winona County Administrator and online at the Winona County Website ([www.co.winona.mn.us](http://www.co.winona.mn.us)) and may be examined by the public.

The Winona County Board of Adjustment of Commissioners met in the Commissioners Room on the above date with the agenda as presented.

Commissioner Dwayne Voegeli; Commissioner Josh Elsing; Commissioner Marcia Ward; Approved Conditional Use Permit for James F Allen and Sharlene L Allen.

County Administrator Approved Conditional Use Permit for Arnold Hoffe.

Sadler; Finance Director Approved Extension of Interim Assessor and Sharlene L Allen.

Attorney Karin Sonnenman; Professional Services Director Jill Chaffee; Agreement with Mower County; Chelsi Wilbright; Planning and Environmental Services Director Ross Dunsmoor; Approved LG220 Gambling Application for Exempt Services; Permit-SE MN Qual Zoning Administrator Eric Johnson; Water Resource Planner-Natural Resources Planner; Sheila Harms; Approved Resolution to Adopt 2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Olivia Stronski; Sheriff Ron Ganrude; Chief Deputy Jeff Mueller; Emergency Management Director Ben Klingler; Accounting Support Assistant Colleen Werlein; Approved Renewal of Executive Assistant Heidi Hund; Chairperson Ward called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public comments were heard from Chelsi Wilbright, Purchase of Service Auditor-Treasurer, Wiscoy Agreement with Catholic

township, regarding valuation and proposed tax bills; Jacqueline Venibole, Winona County resident, regarding Ripple Program; Jessie King, Winona County resident; regarding Ripple Program; Amanda, Winona resident, regarding Ripple Program; Linda Johnson, 27476 Farmview Rd, regarding outside agency funding; Sam Schultz, Winona County resident, regarding Ripple Program; Ted Hazelton, 1073 W 5th St., regarding advisory committees.

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Charities Diocese of Winona-Rochester Opened for Hearing on 2026 Budget, Guardian-Conservator 2026 Fee Schedule and Services.

Approved Renewal of Projects at 6:29 p.m. State of MN Joint Powers Public comments were

Agreement with Career heard from Pat Moga; Force to Provide MN Family 5th; Kelley O'Neill, 29182 Investment Program and 5th; Kelley O'Neill, 29182 Diversionary Work Program Hartford Dr.; Becky Clark Employment and Training 18635 CR 114; Chelsi Wibright, Wiscoy Township; David Unruh, 24163 CR 110; Mark Clark, 22199 Hwy 110; Dr. Patti Bartsch, CR 1; Tom Hall, business owner. Closed the Public Hearing Chip Seal Project.

Approved Updated of 2026 Budget, 2026 Insurance Policy 3.05. Approved Memorandum of Transportation Sales Tax

Agreement with Department Projects at 7:00 p.m.

Received Jail Update from Head Association.

Approved Memorandum of SEMMCHRA of Understanding with Supervisors Special Benefit Tax Levy

Association. Approved Memorandum of SEMMCHRA of Understanding with LELS 536 Detention Special Benefit Tax Levy Resolution and Approve

Approved Memorandum of Understanding with LELS 536 Detention Budget for Fiscal Year 2026 at \$130,000.

Denied Adopting Resolution B for Commissioners 2026 Salaries.

Approved Memorandum of Understanding with LELS 537 Dispatchers. Adopted Resolution A for Commissioners 2026 Salaries.

Approved First Amendment to Sub-Agreement with Adjourned the County Root River Soil and Water Board meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Approved 2026/2027 OF COMMISSIONERS

Approved First Amendment to Sub-Agreement with Adjourned the County Root River Soil and Water Board meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Approved Purchase of Dive/Rescue Equipment. Attest:

Monica Hennessy Mohan, County Clerk

Approved Payment of Disbursements.

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11/19/2025 - 12/02/2025

Fund Revenue \$ 253,723.60

1 Recycling & Solid Waste Fund \$ 2,399.15

2 Road and Bridge \$ 35,675.86

3 Health & Human Services \$ 399,338.43

7 Road and Bridge State Aid \$ 8,999.80

27 CLFRF (Coronavirus #21.027 \$ 144.94

76 Employee Benefit \$ 101,363.04

81 Settlement Fund \$ 1,004.00

83 State Revenue Fund \$ 12,227.88

Total \$ 814,876.00

276 Vendors Paid Less Than \$2000 totaling \$97,948.60

follows:

RFP Posting: Tuesday, January 6, 2026 Optional Walk-Thru at Airport, 10:00 AM, Tuesday, January 13, 2026.

RFP Questions Due: Tuesday, January 6, 2026

RFP Question Responses

Posted: 4:00 PM, Tuesday, January 27, 2026.

Proposals Due: 4:00 PM, Tuesday, February 10, 2026.

Council Selection of Contractor: Anticipated March 2, 2026.

Contractor: (507) 457-8231.

**APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO PREPARE THEIR CASE IN DETAIL AND PRESENT ALL EVIDENCE RELATING TO THIS PETITION AT THE TIME OF THE SCHEDULED HEARING.**

Chris Sanchez, Chairman

Board of Adjustment

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**First Publication Date:** Wednesday, December 10, 2025

**NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE**

**THE RIGHT TO**

**VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL**

**CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY THE**

**IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY**

**GIVEN, that default has**

**occurred in conditions of**

**variations from the following described**

**mortgage:**

**DATE OF MORTGAGE:**

**November 8, 2021**

**MORTGAGOR:** Zackary W

**ford, a single person.**

**MORTGAGEE:** Mortgage

**Electronic Registration**

**Systems, Inc., as**

**mortgagee, as nominee for**

**Wells Fargo Bank N.A., its**

**successors and assigns.**

**DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING:** Recorded

**November 10, 2021**

**Winona County Recorder,**

**Document No. A638513.**

**ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE:** Assigned

**to: U.S. Bank National**

**Association. Dated**

**October 6, 2025**

**Recorded October 6, 2025,**

**as Document No. A663065.**

**TRANSACTION AGENT:** Mortgage

**Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.**

**TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE**

**IDENTIFICATION NUMBER**

**ON MORTGAGE:** 10001130026590446

**LENDER OR BROKER AND MORTGAGE**

**ORIGINATOR STATED**