

CITY OF FOLEY, MINNESOTA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – December 2, 2025

The Foley City Council held its regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on December 2, 2025, at Foley City Hall.

Members Present: Mayor Brandon Voit, Councilmembers Jeff Gondeck, Deb Mathiowetz, Gary Swanson, and Stephanie Lloyd.

Members Absent: None

Mayor Voit convened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Motion by Gondeck, seconded by Lloyd, to approve the agenda.

Motion carried, unanimous.

Motion by Gondeck, seconded by Lloyd, to approve the consent agenda.

- Approve minutes of November 4 & 7, 2025.
- Accept resignation of Jason McDonald, part-time police officer.
- Accept resignation of Jacob Isaacson, part-time police officer.
- Approve Fire Relief By-law change, updating active service requirements.
- Approve assessment deferment of 441 4th Ave N, per policy.
- Approve payment of bills.

Gondeck expressed concerns over the resignation of part-time officers. He recommended the council consider another full-time officer position for the Police Department.

Motion carried, unanimous.

Mayor's Comments & Open Forum

No one spoke.

Public Hearing – 2026 Fee Schedule

Voit closed the regular council meeting at 5:32 p.m. to conduct a public hearing on Ordinance #496 Updating Fee Schedule for 2026.

No one spoke.

Voit reconvened the regular meeting at 5:32 p.m.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gondeck, to adopt Ordinance #492 Updating Fee Schedule.

Motion carried, unanimous.

Department Reports

Police Department

Chief McMillin gave an overview of the November stat report. The department responded to 410 calls. Speed violations, child, and medical calls were up. City ordinance violations were down. Department will now focus on shoveling violations with the snow coming in. Last year during the same period the department responded to 347 calls in November. Cocoa with a Cop is scheduled for Dec. 11. Currently, there are 18 kids pre-registered. The new squad will arrive next week. Questions and discussion followed.

City Engineer

Jarod Griffith, City Engineer, gave an update on the Northside project. Everything is installed and completed as expected at this time in the season. Signs will be re-installed next week. Next spring and early summer crews will work on turf establishment items and tree planting. Questions and discussion followed. Griffith said there are a few adjustments needed to the private driveway side that will occur in the spring. Staff has mostly heard positive comments from residents. There will be a punch list of items to address in the spring. Swanson added that the landscaping looked really good. More questions and discussion followed.

Brunn added that there were a couple questions about seeding and why the city was doing it in November. The seeding was intentional as it's a good time of year to establish seeds. Griffith added that the seed won't germinate until spring when the snow melts. Reseeding will be done as necessary.

Griffith presented Pay Request #6 from Kuechle Underground for the 2025 Northside project for \$455,074.69. This includes all remaining curb, sidewalk, driveways, and topsoil. The project is at 94% completion. Questions and discussion followed.

Motion by Voit, seconded by Swanson, to approve Pay Request #6 from Kuechle Underground for the 2025 Northside project for \$455,074.69.

Motion carried, unanimous.

Griffith presented Pay Request #5 from Levanen Underground for the 2025 Lead Water Service Line Replacement for \$12,601.68. This project is suspended for winter. The pay app also reduces retainage from 5% to 1%.

Motion by Voit, seconded by Gondeck, to approve Pay Request #5 from Levanen Underground for the 2025 Lead Water Service Line Replacement for \$12,601.68.

Motion carried, unanimous.

Discussion and questions followed. Griffith said that staff is moving forward to bring preliminary plat forward for the Southside project to the Dec. 16 meeting. Brunn added that the project is on schedule for approval and bid in early next year.

Public Works and Fire Departments

Mark Pappenfus, Director of Public Works, said the crew has been busy with snow removal. Pappenfus also added that the department is hoping to be able to purchase more holiday lights next year.

Pappenfus stated the Santa Parade is scheduled for Dec. 17. It will start at 6 p.m. on the south side of town and plan to be on the north side by 7 p.m.

Administration

Sarah Brunn, City Administrator, gave an overview of the assessment rolls sent over to Benton County. Staff is still taking early payments through the end of the week. Brunn reminded the council of the Foley Area Chamber Christmas party and to RSVP if they plan to attend.

Brunn also stated that staff has received the 2026 contract from the Tri-County Humane Society. There were significant price increases. New prices add administrative fees and a per day fee. It could possibly double current expenses for the city from \$1,600 - \$3,200. Currently, the budget has \$2,000 for Tri-County expenses. Brunn asked if the council was okay with renewing the contract. Brunn also added Tri-County will no longer take holds on bites if the owner of the animal is known. Discussion and questions followed. Brunn stated staff can put a max of \$2,000 on the contract and will renew if no other concerns.

Additional questions and discussion followed. Swanson asked when the Southside project will begin construction. Griffith said that bids were expected to go out in March with a contractor selected by late April. Construction would start soon after that. More questions and discussion followed.

The council discussed the possibility of another Council Conversation event and possibly making it virtual.

Gondeck shared that the No Shave November event raised over \$600.

The Battle of the Badges Chili Cook Off is scheduled for January at the winery.

New Business

The council asked staff to add the discussion on PD staffing to the January meeting. Brunn added that staff doesn't currently know the impact of the paid family leave changes will have on staffing.

Public Hearing – Truth in Taxation Hearing

Voit recessed the regular meeting at 6 p.m. for the public hearing on Truth in Taxation Hearing. The proposed budget increase is 8.98%.

No one spoke.

Voit reconvened the regular meeting at 6:01 p.m.

Motion by Gondeck, seconded by Swanson, to adopt Resolution #2025-36 Approving the 2026 Tax Levy.

Motion carried, unanimous.

Motion by Lloyd, seconded by Gondeck, to adjourn.

Motion carried, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah A. Brunn".

Sarah A. Brunn, Administrator
(Minutes By: Sara Judson Brown, Administrative Assistant)