



City Council
January 20, 2026
Special Session

Call to order

Mayor Chris Hoffman called the Tuesday, January 20, 2026, Special Session of the North Liberty City Council to order at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at 360 N. Main Street. Councilors present: Tonja Fortney, Brian Leibold, Paul Park, Brent Smith, and Brian Wayson.

Others present: Ryan Heiar, Grant Lientz, Alexis Miller, Ryan Rusnak, Shelly Simpson, Jennie Garner, Nick Bergus, Chief Diane Venenga, Chief Brian Platz, Greg Metternich, Guy Goldsmith, Michael Pentecost, and Drew Lammers.

Approval of the Agenda

Wayson moved; Smith seconded to approve the agenda. The vote was all ayes. Agenda approved.

General Fund

Heiar introduced the overall budget process.

General Fund Revenues

Heiar presented a summary of the proposed General Fund revenues.

Public Safety

Heiar presented a summary of the Police, Fire, Building Inspection, Animal Control and Emergency Management budgets. The council discussed Mental Health Liaison positions, engagement software, police cars, turnout gear replacement, fire coverage with new FTEs and turnout times, new station with better amenities effect on recruiting, and how busy animal control is.

Public Works

Heiar presented a summary of the budgets on the trash and transit programs.

Health and Social Services

The social services grant amount will remain status quo for FY 2027 due to the updated application process. Discussion included what happens if organizations ask for additional funding in FY 2027.

Culture and Recreation

A summary of the proposed Library, Recreation, Parks, Cemetery, Aquatic Center, and Community Center budgets was presented. Council discussed the Parks budget including the lifespan of mowers, the older truck in the fleet, staff cost increase, and public works campus expansions to assist with the Fire House Project.

Community and Economic Development

The Economic Development, Planning and Zoning and Communications budgets were summarized for the City Council. The council discussed the investment in UNESCO.

Hy-Vee Centennial Center

Heiar presented information on the first full year budget for the center. Council discussed the staffing of the facility, goal in revenues vs. expenditures, and rate adjustments.

General Government

Heiar summarized the Mayor/City Council, Administration, Legal, and Personnel budget proposals for FY 27. The council discussed the proposed IT budget.

The council discussed the General Fund budget overall including how many full-time equivalent positions were proposed that were not filled. There were no FTEs requested that were not budgeted.

Road Use Tax Budget

Heiar presented information on the proposed Road Use Tax budget. Discussion included the new patch machine and dump truck delivery time frames.

Storm Water Budget

The Storm Water budget for FY 27 was presented. Council discussed the budget including feedback from users on fees, adding FTEs vs. current list of priority projects, new growth vs. focus on the old part of town and aging infrastructure.

Water Budget

Heiar offered additional information on the draft Water budget for FY 27. The council discussed the draft the timing of capital projects.

Wastewater Budget

Heiar advanced the proposed budget for the next fiscal year. The council discussed the proposal including the Cedar Springs Lift Station Project.

Final Questions and Wrap Up

Heiar reported next week at the January 27 Council meeting, Capital Projects will be discussed. Council offered final thoughts on the proposed budget.

Adjournment

Park moved; Leibold seconded to adjourn at 7:09 p.m. The vote was all ayes. Meeting adjourned.

CITY OF NORTH LIBERTY

By: _____
Chris Hoffman, Mayor

Attest: _____
Tracey Mulcahey, City Clerk