

**CITY OF AU GRES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026
7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mayor Jon Sanford, Dan Heinrich, Jane Barbour, John Popovich, Joe Warr
ABSENT: None
ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Dale Wiltse, Sarah Dettloff, Michael Vandenboom, Rakash & Angela Agrwal

1). CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jon Sanford called meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2). PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor led City Council and audience into the Pledge of Allegiance.

3). ROLL CALL

Roll call noted all present.

4). MINUTES

MOTION (Warr) to approve December 2, 2025 regular meeting minutes as presented; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

5). SET AGENDA

MOTION (Warr) to set agenda as presented; support (Popovich). Motion carried.

6). CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None

7). AU GRES CITY POLICE CHIEF REPORT

Police Chief Charles Allen was absent tonight but stat sheet for the month of December was done and handed out. No comments.

8. OLD BUSINESS: None

9). NEW BUSINESS

9.1 MDOT Annual Resolution

MOTION (Warr) to approve MDOT Annual resolution for the 2026 year; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

9.2 New DPW Employee

City Manager just wanted to inform City Council that employee Heath Christie will retiring December 2026. The City is accepting applications now to fill this position with licensing, training, etc. If the City receives applications with no licenses, it could take up to 3 years to pass all exams to run the sewer plant. Heath will plan on accordingly in his retirement to help out or be available to sign all sewer reports and continue his licensing, etc. City might have to make him contractual employee but never got that far in depth until after we see potential candidates.

10). CITY MANAGER REPORT

- Southcourt- house are set with roofs being finished this week. Garage and interior work to begin next week. City will advertise these houses on our billboard in Standish.
- Park Expansion- plugging away at it and hope to be open mid-June. Chris has been busy taking reservations for the 2026 season with 4th of July and Car Show weekend already full. He will keep a wait list of campers for 4th of July and Car Show weekend in the event the new expansion area is done and available for camping.
- Zoning issue of Eric & Morgan Mackenzie is being worked out with restrictive covenant instead of performance bond. Looking ahead, will have several more zoning non-use variances coming forth to the board.
- 2 pieces of city equipment sold and DPW happy with price coming in at \$23,500.
- Christmas Parade & Tree lighting was great!

11). COMMENTS

11.1 Citizens: None

11.2 Mayor: Christmas Parade was nice with increased participation. Thanked DPW and staff for all their efforts in snowplowing. Happy New Year!

11.3 Council Members:

Barbour: Been by the Southcourt Estate housing and looking great!

Popovich: Ditto on Christmas activities! County Board of Commissioners were interested in hearing of our housing project.

Warr: Christmas Parade was great and seemed bigger this year! Great job to ACE group and City for all the Christmas light display.

Heinrich: Always enjoys Christmas light display!

11). PAYMENT OF BILLS

MOTION (Heinrich) to approve payment of bills as submitted; support (Popovich). Motion carried.

12). APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MOTION (Warr) to approve November financial statements as submitted; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

13). ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (Popovich) to adjourn meeting at 7:25 p.m.; support (Heinrich). Motion carried.

Jon Sanford, Mayor

LaVonne Pritchard, City Clerk