

**CITY OF AU GRES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026
7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mayor Jon Sanford, Jane Barbour, John Popovich, Joe Warr

ABSENT: Dan Heinrich

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Dale Wiltse, Sarah Dettloff, Rakash Agrwal, Nicholas Hodgkinson

1). CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jon Sanford called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2). PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

3). ROLL CALL

Roll call noted all members present.

4). MINUTES

MOTION (Popovich) to approve February 3, 2026 regular meeting minutes as presented; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

5). SET AGENDA

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

6). CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None

Sarah: Wanted to know if City Council needed to approve nomination for Park & Recreation Board. This appointment is made by the Mayor and no approval needed.

7). AU GRES CITY POLICE CHIEF REPORT

Police Chief Charles Allen was absent tonight but had stat sheet for the month of February included in packet. NO further discussion or comments.

8. OLD BUSINESS: None

9). NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Budget Adjustments

MOTION (Warr) to approve budget adjustments as attached for the 2025/26 fiscal year; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

9.2 New City Building Inspector

City Manager explained there is a process to switch Building Departments since it is filed through the State. Sims Township is going through it right now and we are just mirroring off of them. There will be a cost of \$2000-2500 to file paperwork. Switch occurs every quarter and if get paperwork in, will not be effective with the switch until July 1. Any permit that the County has started will continue with them until final inspections are done and closed out. Any new permit after July 1 will be Area Code Enforcement.

MOTION (Barbour) for City to proceed with changing from Arenac County Building Department to Area Code Enforcement; support (Popovich). Motion carried.

9.3 MDOT Signature Resolution

This resolution is needed to move forward with the MDOT paving grant for Michigan Avenue, Saginaw, Water and Albert Street. City will receive \$250,000 from MDOT towards this project.

MOTION (Warr) to approve MDOT resolution authorizing signatures for MDOT Contract 25-5639; support (Popovich). Motion carried.

10). CITY MANAGER REPORT

- Southcourt: Gas and electric installed and working on HVAC and finishing up buildings; April 1 timeline to going to be tight.
- Park Expansion: Waiting for Bilacic Trucking to return to work. Ordered 2 new ADA cabins that will be paid with MiDNR grant money. Chris working on upgrading current park bathrooms with new epoxy for the floors, new faucets, etc.
- New DPW employee Kody Gordon was hired and started Monday, March 9.
- Great job Au Gres-Sims Fire Department on handling the Rousseau Apartment fire.
- TIFA Grants due March 31.

- City will be ordering 18-20 America “250” Year Celebration Banners this year to put in with the veteran banners.
- Ballfields: Dale sent a list to the ballfield group of what still is needed to do. Fence will be put in mid-March and group lined up to do dugouts. Power still needed for concession stand.

11). COMMENTS

11.1 Citizens: Nick Hodgkinson wanted to confirm TIFA Grant application due March 31. Sarah Dettloff inquired again if the City could do something about the small pavilion inside the Michigan Avenue park; it is in real bad shape.

11.2 Mayor: Very unfortunate about Rousseau Apartment fire and hopefully it will be rebuilt soon! Thanked Sarah for volunteering on Park & Recreation Board. Casino Night was a great success and fundraisers for the fireworks this year. Welcomed Kody Gordon aboard!

11.3 Councilmembers:

Barbour: Nothing

Popovich: Arenac County hosting “Meet the Candidates” on April 6, 2026. Event Center rates have been set to rent out and will be having an open house soon.

Warr: Southcourt/Ashdale Street- when are those roads up for re-paving? Might need to mudjack curb in certain areas as well. West Street also getting really bad from the marijuana facilities and all the traffic they had. Thanked AGS Fire Department for a job well done!

11). PAYMENT OF BILLS

MOTION (Warr) to approve payment of bills as submitted; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

12). APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

13). ADJOURNMENT

MOTION (Popovich) to adjourn meeting at 8:04 p.m.; support (Barbour). Motion carried.

Jon Sanford, Mayor

LaVonne Pritchard, City Clerk