

**UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF WALHALLA CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MONDAY JANUARY 05, 2026**

Mayor McDonald called the regular meeting of the Walhalla City Council to order at 7:00 P.M., Monday January 05, 2026, at City Hall.

Council Present: Jackson, Carpenter, Kalis, Horgan, Dumas, Schill

Others Present: Christopher Trupe, Austin Dearing, Cheryl Trupe, Kathy Kopf, Neil Dame, Rebecca Ripple, Robert Ripple, Larry DuBois, Auditor Cook.

Motion by Schill to approve the minutes of the December 1st regular meeting as read. Second by Horgan. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Motion by Schill to approve the financial report. Second by Kalis. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Communications:

Hwy 32: The City was notified that the Hwy 32 improvement project tentatively scheduled for 2026 has been rescheduled for 2027.

Keil Bradley: Mr. Bradley is considering purchasing a property with the intended use being residential. He also has plans to construct a large garage on the property. The lot is currently zoned commercial. The council would need to grant a variance to allow this property to be used for residential purposes with conditions in the variance relating to required backsets if a garage was constructed.

Dale Phillips: Mr. Phillips had asked about using the cabinets in the restrooms at the legion for storing the decorations used at the annual community Christmas event. The auditor will get more information from Mr. Phillips and coordinate with the City Buildings Committee on a recommendation.

Committee Reports:

Municipal Services, Building Permits, Streets, and Alleys: Discussion was held on Lagoon deficiencies in cell #2. Mr. DuBois has been in contact with the NDDEQ and is waiting on additional information from the state. Motion by Carpenter to hire Rocky Trupe at \$25.00 per hour for on call snow removal with the position not eligible for health insurance or retirement contributions. Second by Dumas. Roll Call: Carpenter, yes; Horgan, yes; Jackson, yes; Dumas, yes; Kalis, yes; Schill, yes. Motion Passed.

Police, Fire, and Traffic: Discussion held on pursuing hiring county deputies to patrol in Walhalla on their off hours. Motion by Schill to grant approval to the fire department to sell the decommissioned Ford van. Second by Jackson. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Financial & Economic Development Corp: Nothing.

Board of Health, City Buildings, and Recreation: Motion by Jackson to adopt resolution 26-01 regarding projects related to the Rural Catalyst Program. Second by Horgan. Roll Call: Carpenter, yes; Horgan, yes; Jackson, yes; Dumas, yes; Kalis, yes; Schill, yes. Motion Passed. Discussion was held on availability of Knutson Towing relating to the violation letters mailed this past summer.

Motion by Horgan to approve all bills presented. Second by Schill. Roll call: Carpenter, yes; Kalis, yes; Schill, yes but abstaining from his bill; Jackson, yes; Horgan, yes; Dumas, yes. Motion passed.

Old Business:

-DOT Speed Sign: Cost estimates for purchasing signs are \$2,500.00 per unit. The City of Cavalier had an engineering firm assist with the permit process at a cost of \$2,000.00. The DOT will be contacted to potentially coordinate this with the Hwy 32 project timeline.

-Website Update: The website developer is ready to move forward with revamping the city website and is open to suggestions and input.

-Tree Expenses: Expenses were submitted and accepted by the state. Approval from The Arbor Day Foundation is pending.

-Floodplain & Sales Tax Ordinances: Mr. DuBois will have these ordinances ready for the first readings at the February meeting.

New Business:

City Parcels: The council recommended combining the parcels associated with the firehall but leaving the legion building separate. The auditor will contact the county to pursue this process.

Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan: Motion by Jackson to adopt resolution 26-02 regarding adoption of the Pembina County Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan. Second by Kalis. Roll Call: Carpenter, yes; Horgan, yes; Jackson, yes; Dumas, yes; Kalis, yes; Schill, yes. Motion Passed.

Statement of Interests: The auditor informed that it is now required that currently elected or appointed officials need to complete and file with the auditor a statement of interests form annually.

Designate Depositories: Motion by Carpenter to designate city funds for deposit into two (2) city banks, including Choice Bank and Koda Bank. Second by Jackson. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Library: Motion by Dumas to increase Tammy Olson's hourly wage to \$17.00/hr. Second by Schill. Roll Call: Carpenter, yes; Horgan, yes; Jackson, yes; Dumas, yes; Kalis, yes; Schill, yes. Motion Passed. Motion by Jackson to approve the appointment of Hadley Romfo to the library board replacing Teresa Bjornstad. Second by Schill. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Other Business: None

Motion by Schill to adjourn. Second by Carpenter. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned 8:03 P.M.

John Rock McDonald _____
Mayor

Michael Cook _____
Auditor

January 05, 2026