

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
JANUARY 19, 2026

Mayor Ladehoff called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm, January 19, 2026, at the City Hall Council Chambers, 10 W State Street, and led the pledge of allegiance. Roll call-Present: Cahill, Fonseca, Mitchell, Nichols, Schneider, Yopez-Gomez; Absent: Thompson.

DISCUSSION

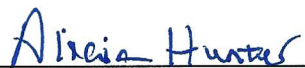
Carol Webb, City Administrator, presented a list of options for expenditure reductions and revenue increases to address the FY27 general fund shortfall of \$1.573 million. Each item was reviewed by staff and council and public comment was provided. General fund operating budget line items will be reduced for items like training, office supplies, maintenance, and mosquito spraying, volunteer furlough days will continue to be offered, vacant positions will remain open for at least 6 months, the aquatic center will open June 8-August 16, an increased portion of the Housing and Community Development Director's salary will be allocated to Housing Choice Voucher program, mowing contracts will be completed by a seasonal position; police recruiting bonuses will be removed, a rental inspector will be hired to replace the Safe Buildings contract, the banner program will be eliminated, the Communications Director position will not be pursued full-time, the electric car charging station fee will be increased to cover annual service fee, capital improvement software will be eliminated, the Arts + Culture Alliance contract will be reduced by 20%, a pet registration program will be discussed further, and Parks and Recreation fees will increase. Motion by Greg Nichols, second by Mark Mitchell, to reduce the library's general fund by \$125,000. Staff advised that this reduction could be captured through vacancy management with the library director's upcoming retirement. Motion carried 4-2, Sue Cahill and Marco Yopez-Gomez dissenting. Further discussion will be needed on the council-designated local option sales tax fund to determine a transfer amount.

Carol Webb, City Administrator, presented information on implementing a 3% franchise fee. The City Council previously pursued implementing a 5% fee, which was petitioned for a public vote and failed at the election on September 12, 2023. Staff recommend addressing community concerns about the proposed fee, establishing a more focused revenue statement, clarifying essential services versus broader use categories, and providing additional education and engagement earlier in the process. The council would like to proceed with the evaluation of implementing a 3% franchise fee.

ADJOURNMENT

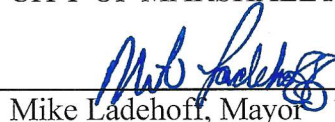
The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Alicia Hunter, City Clerk

CITY OF MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA



Mike Ladehoff, Mayor

ATTEST:



Alicia Hunter, City Clerk