Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Bird Island City Council
Monday, January 12, 2026 at 7:00 PM

Members present: Sander, Prokosch, Lingl, Schneider, Leach
The meeting was called to order by Mayor Sander.
A motion was made by Prokosch and seconded by Schneider to authorize payment of the claims and to approve minutes from the last regular meeting. Passed unanimously.

Friend of 4-H	Lilly Bauman, representing the Renville County Trailblazers 4-H Club, presented the City of Bird Island with a Friend of 4-H award.
Resolution 3-09	Chief Deputy Jason Mathwig, Renville County Sheriff's Office, resumed discussion on penalty fees for ordinance violations. The City will no longer issue administrative citations and will switch to state citations. All fines and fees will be paid to the State of MN. This process will ensure violators are held accountable for fines. A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Prokosch to authorize Willmar Law to draft a new ordinance for the new fee schedule with fines to be paid directly to the State of MN. Passed unanimously.
Public Works	Supervisor Thompson reviewed his monthly report. Items included: lift station, ice rink lighting, and snow removal. Residents not removing their vehicles and garbage/recycling carts still continues to be a problem.
Water Fund Rates	Water fund rates were reviewed again. The Council agreed to uphold Resolution 7-25 which was approved at the December 8, 2025 meeting.
2026 Mayor Appointments	A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Leach to approve the 2026 Mayor Appointments as presented. Changes from 2025 include replacing Woelfel with Thompson. Brandon Baumgartner will be the new Civil Defense Director. Jeff Engelmann will be the member at large for Streets & Alleys, Weed Inspector, and Tree Inspector. Kory Eiler will replace Julie Osterfeld for Parks & Rec. Passed unanimously.
Fire Relief Donation	A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Leach to approve a donation of $6041.73 from the Fire Relief Association to pay for a heat shield and valves on pumper trucks. Passed unanimously.
Snow Plow Wage	A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Leach to approve increasing the hourly wage for CDL licensed drivers operating the plow trucks that require a CDL license to drive to $18 per hour when plowing snow. Passed unanimously
Part-Time Help	A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Leach to approve hiring Troy Dahlgren for Part-Time/On-Call Maintenance employee. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.
Tracey Ahl, City Administrator