

*(The following is a synopsis of the minutes of the West Branch City Council meeting. A video recording is available for inspection at westbranchiowa.org. The minutes are not approved until the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting.)*

**West Branch, Iowa  
Council Chambers**

**City Council  
Regular Meeting**

**March 16, 2026  
7:00 p.m.**

Council person Miller called the West Branch City Council regular meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Roll call: Council members present; Colton Miller , Mike Horihan, and Chantry Noel.

City Staff present: City Clerk Alycia Friis, Parks & Rec Director Erin Laughlin, City Engineer V&K representative, Leland.

Attending by Zoom: Library Director Jessie Shaffer

**APPROVE THE AGENDA**

Motion to Approve the Agenda made by Noel, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Horihan. Motion carried on a voice vote.

**APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**

Approve Minutes from the March 2, 2026 City Council meeting.

Approve New Special Event Permit Form

Approve a Special Event Permit for Heartland Fiero’s Car Show.

Approve Claims for March 16, 2026.

EXPENDITURES	3/16/2026		
CEDAR COUNTY RECORDER		RECORDING FEES	29.00
HD SUPPLY, INC.		BLDG & CLEANING SUPPLIES- TH	229.04
MOPPY MO'S LLC		CLEANING SERVICES - POLICE	840.00
STEEN, CATHERINE		MILE REIMB-STEEN	<u>122.10</u>
TOTAL			1,220.14
PAYROLL-WAGES, TAXES, EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	3/13/2026		61,479.79
PAID BETWEEN MEETINGS			
ALLIANT ENERGY		ALLIANT ENERGY	19,667.30
AMAZON.COM		VARIOUS ITEMS - CITY, TH, LIBRARY	526.16
AT & T MOBILITY		WIRELESS SERVICE	256.98
CEDAR CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE		PATROL RESERVES - XMAS PAST	490.00
CJ COOPER & ASSOCIATES		CLEARINGHOUSE QUERY - PW	45.00
COMMERCIAL RECREATION SPEC		CUBBY PARK SHADES - P&R	6,698.00
DOG WASTE DEPOT		DOG WASTE BAGS	759.95
KANOPY		ON DEMAND VIDEO SERVICE	9.00
KIRKWOOD COMM. COLLEGE		BLS PROVIDER FEE - POLICE	2,430.00
LEAF CAPITAL FUNDING		COPIER LEASE - LIBRARY	142.02
LIBERTY COMMUNICATIONS		LIBERTY COMMUNICATIONS	1,582.87
LRS HOLDINGS		TRASH & RECYCLING FEB 2026	20,100.50
LYNCH'S EXCAVATING		WATER MAIN BREAK	3,773.60
MENARDS		SHOP SUPPLIES	364.56
VARIOUS VENDORS		UB REFUND	42.87
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY		METERS & RADIOS	4,365.00
OVERDRIVE INC		DIGITAL & AUDIO BOOKS	104.82
PYRAMID SERVICES		CHAIN SAW REPAIR PARTS - PW	38.92
STATE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS		CHEMICALS	265.62
VEENSTRA & KIMM		CHANNEL WIDENING FLOOR IMPROVE	11,223.50
WEST BRANCH REPAIRS		EXPLORER BREAKPADS - PD	798.01
WEX BANK		VEHICLE FUEL	1,240.20
SISCO		HEALTH CLAIMS 3-2-2026	3,519.54
SISCO		HEALTH CLAIMS 3-9-2026	590.15
TOTAL			79,034.57
GRAND TOTAL EXPENDITURES			141,734.50
FUND TOTALS			
001 GENERAL FUND		57,957.83	
022 CIVIC CENTER		1,201.56	
031 LIBRARY		6,541.72	
110 ROAD USE TAX		8,655.79	
112 TRUST AND AGENCY		14,923.15	
308 PARK IMP - PEDERSEN VALLEY		6,698.00	
321 WIDENING WAPSI CREEK		6,446.50	
332 W MAIN ST IMPROVE		4,256.00	
600 WATER FUND		21,924.20	
610 SEWER FUND		12,652.32	
740 STORM WATER UTILITY		<u>477.43</u>	

Motion by Noel, second by Horihan to approve the Consent agenda. AYES: Noel, Horihan, Miller. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

## **PRESENTATIONS / COMMUNICATIONS / OPEN FORUM - NONE**

### **PUBLIC HEARING / NON-CONSENT AGENDA**

Resolution 2026-24 Approving the Final Proposed Budget for FY27 and Ordering a Notice of Public Hearing for April 20, 2026./ Move to Action.

Motion by Noel, second by Horihan to approve Resolution 2026-24. AYES: Noel, Horihan, Miller. NAYS: Motion carried.

Resolution 2026-25 Approving the proposed 1 year enrollment into the Lexis Nexis system./ Move to Action.

Motion by Noel, second by Horihan to approve Resolution 2026-25. AYES: Noel, Horihan, Miller. NAYS: Motion carried.

Resolution 2026-26 Approving the Job Description and Pay Scale for the Fire Chief position./ Move to Action.

Chief Stoolman shared that after multiple meetings and looking at other job descriptions like Tipton, the full job description for the West Branch Fire Chief is complete and now ready to post.

Motion by Noel, second by Horihan to approve Resolution 2026-26. AYES: Noel, Horihan, Miller. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Resolution 2026-27 Approve 28E Agreements between the City of West Branch, Iowa and the Boards of Trustees of Cass, Gower, Graham, Iowa Scott and Springdale Townships for the Purpose of Fire Protection and Aid and Assistance for other emergencies or disasters relating to Life and Property or Hazardous Materials./ Move to Action.

Motion by Noel, second by Horihan to approve Resolution 2026-27. AYES: Noel, Horihan, Miller. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

First Reading of Ordinance 836 – Section 65.02 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Branch adding a stop sign intersection./ Move to Action.

Motion by Noel, second by Horihan to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 836. AYES: Noel, Horihan, Miller. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

### **DISCUSSION-**

- a. Main Street Reconstruction Project (From the roundabout to Pederson Bridge). Leland with V&K Engineering, answered questions from the Council members on the project. He stated that in looking at accident reports throughout the intersections in town, it was shared that the Dawson Street and Main Street intersection had the highest number of accidents. All have resulted in only property damage. With the congestion that is currently seen in the morning and afternoon at this intersection each weekday, the main concern of one council person, was that if we decide in the future to add a turn lane in this area after completing the Main Street reconstruction project, how much more would it cost to add the turn lane then versus adding it into the project now and constructing during this street and shoulder widening project. It was shared that it would roughly be the same \$232,000.00 amount that was shared at the last meeting on 3/2/26, if we add the turn lane in front of the High School now with the street reconstruction project, or if we add it down the road, with the exception of standard inflation added in. There was some discussion about the survey that was posted on the City Facebook page last week asking the community to vote on “Should the City construct a turn lane before other projects?”, along with the results of that survey showing 85 votes with a result of 68.2% sharing a No vote and 31.8% sharing a Yes vote. With the vagueness of the survey request and low number of responses in comparison to the , it was requested from Council members that this survey be redone with more communication to the community that it is out there and with more depth into the project and future expansion before considering the results for a true community voice.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – None**

**CITY ATTORNEY REPORT - None**

**CITY ENGINEER REPORT - None**

**STAFF REPORTS- None**

**COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS –**

Council person Miller brought up the topic of moving the regular council meetings to 6:00 pm, instead of 7:00pm. This was first brought up 2 meetings prior by the Mayor and has not been addressed again. There will be a discussion item added to the April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting agenda for this topic. Council person Horihan shared what a great job the Public Works department has done with the snow removal this season and wanted to share gratitude to their work, which was agreed up on with the other council members present.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn by Noel, second by Miller. Motion carried on a voice vote. City Council meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

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Colton Miller, Council person appointed by the Mayor

ATTEST:

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Alycia Friis, City Clerk