Regular Meeting Minutes of the

Plankinton City Council

November 2, 2026, Meeting Minutes of the

Plankinton City Council

The Plankinton City Council met on November 2nd, 2026, for a regular meeting.

Members present included Mayor Carl Bode, Council members Jim Nielsen, DeEtte Bohr, Amber Green, and Terry Schuldt. Nathan DeGeest had an excused absence.

Finance Officer Cindy Geiman and Electrical Superintendent Chance Boyd were among city employees present.

Kent Melcher, Cory Tobin, Sheriff Briggs, and Gayle Van Genderen, representing the South Dakota Mail, were also present.

Mayor Bode called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Bode asked Finance Officer Cindy Geiman to summarize the roll call. Cindy stated that "Amber Green, DeEtte Bohr, Jim Nielsen, Terry Schuldt, and Mayor Bode were present. Nathan DeGeest had an excused absence. We have a quorum."

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Bode suggested moving Electric Cash Transfers from Sewer to Electric and Rate Study before the consent agenda. Nielsen also wanted to add Building Permit and Request for Funds.

Schuldt moved to approve the agenda as modified, with Green seconding. All voted aye; motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

N/A

JUNK VEHICLES /PROPERTY HEARINGS (ACTION ITEM)

Councilperson Jim Nielsen addressed the council that the individuals who were sent letters two weeks ago have not responded and suggested the matter will again be discussed at our next meeting in regard to having those vehicles towed.

CONSENT AGENDA

BILLS TO PAY

A&B BUSINESS- COMPUTER IT-$780.84; AFLAC- INSURANCE PAYMENT-$358.08; AURORA BRULE WATER- WATER-$7796.50; AURORA COUNTY AUDITOR- 2ND HALF OF CONTRACT LAW-$39831.00; AVERA HEALTH PLANS- EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE-$4705.16; AVERA HEALTH PLAN- OCTOBER-$4705.16; BELL BANK- MINI -$919.42; BORDER STATES-ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES-$486.08; CENTRAL ELECTRIC- WHEELING FEES-$1316.21; CJT DEVELOPMENT- POWER FORWARD REBATE- $1000.00; CNH CAPITAL- SKIDLOADER PAYMENT-$959.11; CORE AND MAIN- SUPPLIES-$408.03; DAKOTA LANDSCAPING- BLOW OUT SPRINKLER SYSTEMS-$130.00; DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP- SUPPLIES-$29.09; DELTA DENTA-EMPLOYEE DENTAL-$277.60; DEMCO- LIBRARY SUPPLIES-$123.42; DEMCO- SENSORY TABLE-$1214.48; DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY- POWER PURCHASED-$15194.60; DGR- RATE STUDY-$2160.00; DOLLAR GENERAL-HALLOWEEN SUPPLIES-$58.94; DOLLAR GENERAL-POWER FORWARD REBATE-$1000.00; DOT- FUEL-$416.13; EAST RIVER- POWER PURCHASE-$4569.12; FARMERS AND MERCHANTS STATE BANK- OCT 9 PAYROLL FEES-$7.50; FARMERS AND MERCHANTS STATE BANK- UB ACH FEES-$14.40; FARMERS AND MERCHANTS STATE BANK- OCT 23 PAYROLL ACH FEES- $7.55; GOLDEN WEST- INTERNET/PHONE-$147.83; GUARDIAN- LIFE INSURANCE-$381.81; HEARTLAND- POWER-$16514.89; HEARTLAND-METER LOANS-$2483.36; J&D CONTRACTING- MOWING #11-$1500.00; OVERWEG REPAIR-REPAIRS-$941.80; PLANKINTON LUMBER- SEPTEMBER 2026 SUPPLIES-$82.39; ROADSIDE-FUEL SEPT 2026-$553.89; RON'S MARKET- SEPT 2026-$6.59; SCHOENFISH- AUDIT 2024-2025-$22,000. SD 811- MESSAGE FEES-$14.70- SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH- WATER TESTING=$250.00; SDRS RETIRMENT-$497.99; ATILTECH DO US PART LLC- $ FIRST RESPONDERS LUNCH-$320.00; TITAN MACHINERY- SUPPLIES- $187.00; TOSHIBA- COPIER CONTRACT-$211.11; VERIZON WIRELESS-HS/SURFACE-$ 131.80; VISA- SUPPLIES-$2462.78; VISION- EMPLOYEE PLAN-$114.23; WEALTH MANGAGEMENT-CLEAN WATER LOAN-$11190.58; WEALTH MANAGEMENT- WATER LOAN- $ 7818.59.

- PAST DUE BILLS
- MINUTES 10-5-2026
- BUILDING PERMITS

1. Paul Payne- Carport at 202 E 4th Street on Lots 13,14,15 Block 8, Miracle and Clark's 1st Addition
2. Hugo Maquin- at 409 N Kimball is working with Nielsen and Iseman Homes and should be requesting a building permit within the next 15 days.

Nielsen moved to approve the consent agenda, with Bohr seconding. All voted aye; motion passed.

SHERIFF ROMAN BRIGGS

Sheriff Roman Briggs arrived at 6:35 p.m. and addressed the council on some of the issues they have dealt with, which include: 1200 calls, 106 Criminal, 139 civil, 23 arrests, 12 warrants, and 17 warrants issued. Sheriff Briggs also addressed some concerns, such as kids on scooters. Saying they have stopped a few kids and let them know what they did wrong. Sheriff Briggs said he will look into educational pamphlets and see if the school would assist him in scooter safety education. The council also said it's the parents' responsibility to teach them what stop/yield signs mean. Another issue brought to Sheriff Briggs' attention is semis on Main Street instead of on the truck route. There are fewer, but some are still using Main Street.

ELECTRIC CASH TRANSFER FROM SEWER TO ELECTRIC

Electrical Superintendent Chance Boyd addressed the council about transferring some of the money we have in Sewer to Electric, so we start about even in the electrical account instead of negative $250,115.97. He isn't looking for action now, but at the year-end meeting we will have better numbers, so he can present the actual transfer amount to the council.

RATE STUDY

Blair Metzger with DGR Engineering reviewed our financials and told Chance that a 3% increase next year (2027) would be sufficient to get us where we need to be for any future projects. Chance went through and estimated possible monthly increases for residents. Chance projected that, on average, households with 1000-2500 kWh would increase by $4-$8. Larger residents with 3000-5000 kWh would see an increase of $10-$15. For small commercial, anywhere from $5-$17 for around 1000-5000 kWh. It is hard to tell with large commercial because of the demand usage. Out of City limits looks like 1000-2500 kWh will be $6-$10, and 3000-5000 kWh will be $11-$18.

After reviewing the resolution, Bohr moved to adopt the resolution with the increase of the electric rate by 3% starting January 1st 2027. Nielsen seconded the motion; all voted aye. Motion carried. Resolution is as follows.

RESOLUTION NO. 1-1-2027

A RESOLUTION REVISING THE ELECTRIC UTILITY RATE SCHEDULE IN THE CITY OF PLANKINTON, SOUTH DAKOTA.

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Plankinton, South Dakota that the following rates, charges and regulations for municipal electrical service are hereby adopted and will be in effect until changed by further resolution of the City Council.

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Definitions & General Rules Applicable to All Classes of Service

1. FACILITY CHARGE: The monthly fee to partially cover the cost of bringing electricity to the customer's location. It is based on expenses the City incurs regardless of how much electricity is used and is a fee for accessing the City electric grid whether any energy is used or not. The facility charge continues so long as a meter is installed at any location.

2. ENERGY CHARGE: The energy is what the City charges a customer for electricity usage based on the energy consumed in terms of kilowatt-hours (kWh) in a given billing cycle and the rate for that energy. The charge is calculated by multiplying the number of kWh consumed during a billing cycle by the rate for energy in terms of cents per kWh.

3. ENERGY COST ADJUSTMENT: The City may, at its discretion, implement an energy cost adjustment to compensate the City for variations in the cost of purchased power. At the time the adjustment is implemented, the calculation used to arrive at the adjustment will be developed, and the adjustment will be applied to all kWh billed by the City to its electric customers.

4. PROMPT PAYMENT PROVISIONS: All charges are net. If the bill is not paid or mailed and postmarked by the 20th day of the month following the billing date, a late payment charge of 10 percent of the balance due will apply. If the 20th of the month falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Holiday, the due date will be the next working day.

5. SALES TAX: Sales tax will be added to all electric bills to be in compliance with the provisions of the laws of the state of South Dakota.

6. CONNECTION FEE: A deposit made to the City to be held and retained by the City so long as the customer has a meter installed, whether energy is used or not. Upon either removal of the meter or transfer of the service at the customer's specific location to another customer, and payment by the transferor customer of all outstanding energy charges and payment by the transferee customer of an appropriate connection fee, the original customer's connection fee will be refunded to the original customer, without interest.

NOTE: Additional rate and charge definitions are applicable to Large Commercial Service and are set forth separately in the section relating to such customers.

Residential Service

APPLICABLE TO:

Residential customers for all domestic uses in single-family dwellings and individually metered apartments within the service territory of the City of Plankinton Electric Utility, including use of motors of not more than 5 horsepower individual capacity.

SERVICE AVAILABLE:

Single-phase, 60 hertz, 120/240 volt, 400 amp max., 3-wire, single meter.

CONNECTION FEE:

$250.00 for all services.

MONTHLY RATE:

Facility Charge (No kWh) $22.93 per meter

Plus

Energy Charge

First 600 kWh @ 14.33¢

Next 600 kWh @ 10.89¢

Over 1200 kWh @ 9.06¢

2. Small Commercial Service

APPLICABLE TO:

Any commercial, industrial, city, or farm load within the service territory of the City of Plankinton Electric Utility, for all purposes, where the average monthly energy usage in a consecutive twelve-month period does not exceed 5,000 kWh.

CONNECTION FEE:

$250.00 for all services.

SERVICE AVAILABLE:

Single-phase, 60 hertz, 120/240 volt, 400 amp max., 3-wire, single meter; or three-phase, 60 hertz, 240/120V, 208Y/120V, or 480Y/277V, 4-wire, single meter.

MONTHLY RATE:

Facility Charge (No kWh) $31.53 per meter

Plus

Energy Charge

First 500 kWh @ 15.48¢

Next 3500 kWh @ 11.35¢

Over 4000 kWh @ 10.78¢

3. Large Commercial Service

APPLICABLE TO:

Any commercial, industrial, city, or farm load within the City of Plankinton Electric Utility service territory, for all purposes, where the average monthly energy usage in a consecutive twelve-month period exceeds 5,000 kWh.

CONNECTION FEE:

$250.00 for all services.

SERVICE AVAILABLE:

60 hertz, three-phase, 240/120 V, 208 Y/120 V, or 480 Y/277 V, 4-wire, or standard primary voltage available at point of delivery. Special voltages may be provided at the discretion of the utility. Utility furnishes only one transformer bank and/or one meter.

MONTHLY RATE:

Facility Charge $57.32 per meter

Plus

Energy Charge

All kWh @ 5.16¢

Plus

Demand Charge

All kW @ $16.05

METERED DEMAND:

The metered demand for any month shall be the maximum kilowatt demand established by the consumer for any thirty-minute interval during the month as indicated or recorded by a demand meter.

POWER FACTOR ADJUSTMENT:

If the customer's average monthly power factor falls below 90%, leading or lagging, the utility may adjust the metered demand by the ratio of 90% to the measured average monthly power factor in percent. Example:

Metered Demand = 739 kW

Ave. Mo. Power Factor = 73.0%

Ratio = 90/73 = 1.2329

Adjusted Demand = (739)*(1.2329) = 911 kW

ADJUSTED DEMAND:

The adjusted demand consists of the metered demand adjusted for power factor, if applicable.

BILLING DEMAND:

The billing demand shall be the maximum measured thirty-minute integrated demand in the billing month, but not less than fifty percent (50%) of the maximum thirty-minute demand established in any of the twelve preceding months.

PRIMARY METERING:

The utility will furnish and install primary metering when service is taken by the consumer and metered at primary voltage. The consumer owns and installs all necessary primary and transformers beyond point of service. A 2% discount will apply to demand and energy charges to allow for losses and investment return.

If service is taken at primary voltage (that is, customer owns primary and transformers) and metered at secondary voltage, a 1% discount will apply to demand and energy charges to allow for investment return.

MEASUREMENT OF DEMAND AND ENERGY:

When there are two or more demand and energy metering installations on the customer's premises, the metered quantities shall be determined by adding together the separate meter

readings before application of the rate, unless special provisions are agreed to by the utility. At the customer's request, and at the customer's expense, and at the Utility's discretion, the Utility may install special metering that will allow coincident demand billing.

4. Outside City Limits Service

APPLICABLE TO:

Residential, commercial, or farm customers within the service territory of the City of Plankinton Electric Utility and outside of the City limits of Plankinton, including use of motors of not more than 5 horsepower individual capacity, where the average monthly energy usage in any twelve-month period is less than 5000 kWh.

CONNECTION FEE:

$250.00 for all services.

SERVICE AVAILABLE:

Single-phase, 60 hertz, 120/240 volt, 400 amp max., 3-wire, single meter.

MONTHLY RATE:

Facility Charge (No kWh) $28.66 per meter

Plus

Energy Charge

First 600 kWh @ 17.77¢

Next 600 kWh @ 12.95¢

Over 1200 kWh @ 10.66¢

5. Property Owner's [Landlord's or Lessor's] Responsibility for Renter's [Lessee's or Tenant's] Unpaid Electrical Charges

The owner of any real estate connected to the City electrical system is responsible for payment of all electrical service rates, charges, and energy cost adjustments upon read out and final

billing to a tenant who is vacating such property. The owner will remain responsible for such electrical service rates, charges, and energy cost adjustments until such time as a new tenant applies for service at such property and pays the required deposit in full. Upon read out and final billing on rental property which is actually known to the Municipal Finance Officer to be rental property, the Finance Officer will, within a reasonable time not to exceed ten (10) business days, notify the owner of such property that read out and final billing to the tenant has occurred and that the owner is responsible for payment for continued electrical service to the property. Such notice may be by telephone, email, or by first class mail as determined by the Finance Officer. It is the duty and obligation of the owner of such property to properly notify the City and authorize a complete disconnection if the owner does not wish to remain responsible for continued electrical service rates, charges, and energy cost adjustments to the property.

Adopted this 2nd day of November, 2026.

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Mayor

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Attest:

Cindy Geiman

Finance Officer

PUBLIC HEARING FOR LIQUOR LICENSES

On this day of November 2nd, 2026, no one showed up to appeal the transfer of the liquor licenses from Teresa Bathke to Plank Inn LLC. Nielsen moved to accept the transfer of the license; Green seconded. All voted aye; the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL

Bohr moved to renew the city's Avera health insurance plan, with the 10.84% renewal rate with Bultsma Agency for a yearly total of $62,582.39. Green seconded the motion. All voted aye; motion carried.

LANDLORD BILLING FOR DELINQUENT UTILITY ACCOUNTS

After some review by the council members, it was decided that if this subject came up, we would refer them to our city lawyer, Mr. James Taylor.

YEAR-END SPECIAL MEETING

After the council members reviewed their calendars and after a suggestion from Finance Officer Cindy Geiman. The year-end special meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 30th, 2026 at 6:30 pm.

COPIER

The copier contract is ending. When Toshiba reached out to the Finance Office, Cindy Geiman sent the council the old contract, which has a base price of $174.87 monthly, with overages of 3000 black at .01214 and 750 color at .05592. The new copier will be priced at $196.91 monthly, with 3000 black toners at .0134 and color toner at 825 at .0626. The Deputy Finance Officer found a free program that will supply a QR Code for the Gallery at council meetings so they can follow along. That, along with the iPad the council is already using, will save an average of 1000 pages during council meetings. Toshiba also said prices will increase by 10%-15% on the first of the month if we don't renew the contract. Bohr made a motion to lease a new copier from Toshiba. Nielsen seconded the motion. All voted aye; motion passed.

REQUEST FOR FUNDING

Councilman Nielsen reported that the senior citizen committee is holding fundraisers to try to buy a new Bingo Machine. Nielsen spoke with Sherry Staller about the new Bingo Machine, and a new one costs around $2500.00. They are about halfway there. So, Nielsen came to the council to ask if we could help in any way? The Finance Officer noted there was $400.00 in the ROCs Donation line item that we won't be using, and that we could use it. Schuldt made a motion to give the $400.00 to the Plankinton Senior Citizens towards the purchase of the new bingo machine. Green seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

REPORTS

MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

I spent several days helping Chance with elevator electrical work and other electrical tasks.

I worked at both RU sites again this month.

I spent 3 days flushing sewer lines.

We winterized both the ballfields and the pool bathrooms.

I did some fall weed spraying.

The bushes and trees are planted, so the sewer project is officially complete.

I had some shop equipment work done.

I completed an RU site application renewal and additional lead/copper water line computer work for DANR.

We got 1 hydrant installed on Wednesday. I have more to do if the weather and our time allow.

Equipment has started moving here to grind the concrete. A couple of pieces are there now, with more to come. That will start soon.

I got my reviews done.

Lots of other little things. We've been busy.

ELECTRICAL SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

No outages

We installed the conduits and transformer base for the new elevator bin site. We also ran the secondary side to the electrical room for our metering equipment. We had issues pulling with the rope we were using, so I had to order a proper pulling rope. They poured some concrete this week, so we will wait until they are out of the way to pull in the cable.

Helped Darin change out a fire hydrant on Vine and Pennington. We plan to do 1 a week until the weather turns.

Filled some holes in alleys and gravel areas.

We had a meter that was sending Brown out alerts. We ended up replacing the meter socket because the lugs were burned off inside, and the connection on top of the pole was also bad.

Converted the last service between 5th and 6th streets to underground; cleaned up the alley, and disconnected the overhead to eliminate any issues.

Worked on the rate study intermittently. We do have an increase from East River again; it looks like it will be around a $2,000 increase based on past Demand.

No change from WAPA; they are also leaving the Drought Adder the same as last year. They will monitor drought conditions and may make changes for 2028. Last time I talked to the Rep from WAPA, she thought they would look at doing their rate studies more often than every 5 years.

I haven't been contacted yet, but I assume we'll need to get power to this new shed being built off of 16 at some point. We did get a conduit across Madison Street when we did the other service on this lot for future use.

We were contacted this week about getting power to an out-of-city customer. I will set up a time to meet with them to understand their needs.

We winterized the bathrooms at the ballpark and poolside park.

We swept Main Street before Trunk or Treat.

I signed up to attend the Heartland Winter Conference. This takes place November 12th. This is completely free to attend.

I have some vacation to use up before the end of the year, so I have been working with Darin on days to take off so at least one of us is here. We have been taking turns picking up Barry's on-call weekends.

FINANCE OFFICERS REPORT

Spent roughly two weeks in the hospital with Barry. Kept in touch with Kyanna every day to see if there was anything I needed to address right away. One day, she was having trouble with her computer, so I checked in to see if she had it working. A customer wanted to speak to me, so she called me, and I talked to him over the phone. It wasn't anything serious.

Carl and I met with the auditors on the 19th. Only about 3 issues were within my control. 1) Analyzing billing and usage totals month to month for consistency. I do that now, but I never presented it to the auditors. That's one thing they didn't ask for. 2) We should issue duplicate receipts for all revenue received. I will make sure that gets done. The last thing is reports that needed to be printed at the end of the year that I wasn't aware of. The next audit will be for 2026-2027 in 2028. 3) That all buildings are locked when employees are not in the building. The auditors found only one adjustment I must make in 2025. And that had to do with interest accounts.

I got back in time to do penalties and billing toward the end of the month. Next month, I will start a supplemental budget, show Kyanna how to do one, and we will work on that until the end of December.

MAYORS REPORT

Participated in the Safety Days on Oct. 9TH and 10TH. The events Magdalena organized were very nice.

Reviewed the budget increase analysis Cindy put together, with health care premiums going up 10.84% under the existing policy, rather than the 8% we provisioned in the 2027 budget. Between the higher premium or increasing the employees' deductible by an additional $500, the two options come out about even overall between the city and the employees. Overall, it seems better to offer employees the current policy without raising their deductible.

Met with the auditor from Schoenfish on Oct 19. The deficiencies noted were not significant (some were not new from previous audits). The audit report is available for public inspection.

Sat in on a teleconference with Blair Metzger from DGR on Oct 22 to go over his electrical rates study. The negative balance on the city's electric fund has improved since this time last year,

but Blair recommends the city increase electric rates by 3% early next year to improve the electric fund balance and plan for upcoming rate increases from our providers.

I am in the process of completing the employee performance evaluations and plan to sit down with each of them in the coming week.

ADJOURN

Nielsen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Schuldt. All vote aye motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

CITY OF PLANKINTON

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Mayor, Carl Bode

ATTEST:

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Cindy Geiman