

City of Gladstone
2027 Budget Hearing Minutes
Gladstone City Hall
September 8, 2026 – 5:45pm
Subject to Approval

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

The Budget Hearing was called to order at 5:46 PM by Mayor Gary Richardson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council Present: Dannielle Parkin, Bill O'Connor, Mitchell Kovash, and Mayor Gary Richardson.

Council Absent: Niki Larson.

Also Present: Auditor Maria Kolling.

PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED BUDGET

Maria presented the proposed budget for Council consideration.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was requested; none was received.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Council discussed the proposed budget, including questions regarding the Water Fund. Maria explained the current status of the fund and the need to continue rebuilding reserves.

BUDGET ADOPTION

Motion to approve the proposed budget was made by Bill. Second by Mitchell. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Budget Hearing was made by Dannielle at 5:50 PM. Second by Bill. Motion carried.

– Minutes Prepared by the Auditor and Approved by the Council –

Auditor

Date

Mayor

Date

**City of Gladstone
City Council Meeting Minutes
Gladstone City Hall
September 8, 2026 – 6:00pm
Subject to Approval**

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

The regular meeting of the Gladstone City Council was called to order by Mayor Gary Richardson at 6:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council Present: Dannielle Parkin, Bill O'Connor, Mitchell Kovash, and Mayor Gary Richardson.

Council Absent: Niki Larson.

Also Present: Auditor Maria Kolling, City Attorney Christina Wenko, and City Inspector Mel Zent.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND SECOND READINGS

Second Reading – Fireworks Ordinance Amendment

Motion to approve the second reading of the Fireworks Ordinance Amendment was made by Mitchell. Second by Bill. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

MINUTES

Motion to approve the Council Meeting Minutes dated August 3, 2026, made by Bill. Second by Mitchell. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Planning & Zoning Public Hearing Minutes dated August 24, 2026, made by Bill. Second by Mitchell. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes dated August 24, 2026, made by Bill. Second by Mitchell. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Motion to approve paying the August 2026 bills made by Mitchell. Second by Dannielle. Motion carried.

AGENDA REQUESTS – None.

CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL

Local Permit Application – St. Thomas Church

The local permit application for St. Thomas Church was presented for Council review. Motion to approve the application was made by Mitchell. Second by Dannielle. Motion carried.

SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

Deputy Andrew Awender reviewed the August calls for service and stated twelve of those incidents were specific to the City of Gladstone. He also advised that Deputy Ray Kaylor will be retiring this month.

CITY ATTORNEY

Parker Property Updates

Maria advised she received no update from Vicki or Debbie regarding moving forward with removing the mobile home using the Abandoned August Grant.

Municipal Court Update

Christina presented the Council with a draft list of potential municipal citations. She asked Council members to review the list and determine which items should be kept or eliminated, noting that some may not be applicable. Based on Council direction, the items may remain as fines and fees or be changed to criminal citations.

Christina explained that the City had previously changed certain violations from criminal penalties to fines, but the fines may not provide sufficient enforcement authority.

Criminal violations would need to be processed through Christina, with associated costs. She recommended Council identify the violations most applicable to the City that may benefit from criminal enforcement.

Any changes would be made through ordinance updates, which would require public hearings and provide citizens with an opportunity for input.

The goal is to potentially have updates become effective at the beginning of 2027.

CITY ENGINEER

Stark County Grant Projects / Waterworks Project Updates

James requested that Maria confirm whether the Council would still like to move forward with the prioritized projects identified at the August meeting. The Council confirmed they do, and noted that once his estimates are available, the City can proceed with the loan and grant application process.

Lorraine Erdman mentioned the possibility of applying for a Commerce grant.

CITY MAINTENANCE / PUBLIC WORKS

Basketball Court Crack Seal Quote

Maria reported receiving a rough estimate of \$3,500 for crack sealing the basketball court.

Dannielle expressed concern that the work may not sufficiently address the condition of the court. Council agreed the matter could be investigated further next year.

Water Meter Registers

Maria asked whether Council would consider selling the City's used meter registers to Killdeer. Council discussed asking \$20 per register and having Maria contact Cameron regarding the proposed amount. Motion to recommend selling the used registers to Killdeer for \$20 each was made by Mitchell. Second by Dannielle. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Employee Reviews

Council reviewed Don Markwardt's one-year evaluation and current wage of \$21.00 per hour. Council agreed that Don had earned a pay increase. Mitchell suggested increasing his wage to \$23 per hour. Motion to approve the increase was made by Bill. Second by Dannielle. Motion carried.

Council reviewed Dean Forster's three-month evaluation and current wage. Council agreed that Dean had earned a pay increase. Motion to approve increasing Dean's mowing wage by \$1 per hour and maintenance wage by \$1 per hour was made by Bill. Second by Mitchell. Motion carried.

Closed Utility Accounts with Unpaid Balances

Christina provided a resolution to write off closed accounts with unpaid balances. Motion to write off the unpaid accounts and approve Resolution 08-2026 was made by Bill. Second by Dannielle. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

Shop Door Code Change

Maria explained the reason for the shop code change, noting it related to City property security.

Building Permit Issued / Consolidated Easement

Maria advised that the building permit had been approved and discussed the related easement with Consolidated.

Evenson Storage Container

Council discussed that conditions for the Evenson storage container had not yet been determined and would be considered by the Planning and Zoning Committee at the appropriate time.

Zoning Violation Discussion

Council discussed the definition of a multi-family residence and the circumstances under which a property owner may rent one floor while occupying another. It was noted that if the owner does not occupy the property and multiple levels are rented, the use may be considered multi-family.

Lorraine stated there are smoke alarms and a window that may be used for egress, though she was unsure whether the window meets the required size. She also asked whether every basement in the City has an egress window. Council responded that it can only address the matter currently before it.

Christina stated that the City needs a clear consensus on what is required. Mitchell stated he would like Mel to inspect the property. Council indicated that the variance would still need to be approved and did not anticipate an issue with approval if the required inspection and code requirements are satisfied.

Lorraine expressed concern that the City was aware of the matter years ago and had not acted. Maria stated that everyone is now on the same page and the matter should move forward. Mel noted he could inspect the property promptly using his checklist, including review of egress, smoke alarms, and carbon monoxide detectors. Christina stated the City Inspector should confirm code compliance rather than relying on verbal assurances, and she would review the matter further and advise the City how to proceed.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS – None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Mitchell at 7:01 PM. Second by Bill. Motion carried.

END OF MONTH BALANCES:

General Acct:	\$248,064.61
Park Acct:	\$45,402.30
CD 0832:	\$55,149.09
CD 9423:	\$112,471.20

AUGUST PAYROLL

Employee	Wages
Dean Forster:	\$432.00
Maria Kolling:	\$3,697.50
James Leintz:	\$823.00
Don Markwardt:	\$1,197.00
Debbie Rallens:	\$730.00
Total:	\$6,879.50


AUGUST BILLS

Vendor	Amount
A-1 SANITATION	\$320.00
BEK CONSULTING	\$23,707.24
CHADS AUTOMOTIVE CLINIC	\$865.46
CHS	\$191.15
COG	\$351.00
COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC	\$504.11
DAKOTA WEST INSPECTION	\$3,721.25
DEBRA RIGHTER-RALLENS	\$234.15
DIAMOND MAPS	\$132.00
GRONDAHL RECREATION, INC.	\$4,975.00
GRZADZIELESKI UTILITY SERVICES LL	\$450.00
MACKOFF KELLOGG LAW FIRM	\$815.40
MGM SANITATION	\$4,740.47
MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS	\$170.47
MONTANA DAKOTA UTILITIES	\$1,308.73
ONE CALL CONCEPTS	\$4.50
PARK ACCOUNT	\$1,509.07
RAILROAD MANAGEMENT CO.	\$458.76
STARK COUNTY AUDITOR	\$1,000.00
SW DISTRICT HEALTH	\$30.00
SW WATER AUTHORITY	\$5,059.83
VISA	\$1,599.62
Total:	\$52,148.21

– Minutes Prepared by the Auditor and
Approved by the Council –

 Auditor

 Date

 Mayor

 Date