

MINUTES
Lake Crystal City Council
Monday, February 17, 2026, 7:30 pm
City Council Chambers
100 E. Robinson St.

Mayor Todd Wiens called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. Members present: Councilors Brett Hanson, Gina Cooper, Michael Windsperger, and Jennifer Bierma.

Staff members present: City Administrator Angela Grafstrom; Tonia Turner, Administrative Assistant.

Others present: Keith Zacharias

Staff Reports

Fire Department: Crysteel is wrapping up work on the tanker. Decals and installation of the emergency equipment are scheduled. The department will hold its annual banquet on Saturday, February 21. As part of the event, recent retirees will be paraded around town. The Truck Committee met and has decided to move forward with Rosenbauer as the builder for the replacement of the GMC pickup (4602). Preliminary pricing is estimated at \$408,000. The committee will be meeting with Rosenbauer to review specifications in detail and finalize the build to meet the department's needs. The current estimated build time is approximately 400 days.

Police Department Update: No report

Street & Maintenance: No report

Parks Department Update: Safety Council members were identified as follows: Water – Jackson; Electric – Madison; Streets – vacant. The first meeting is scheduled for March 18. The direction on the PPE/Clothing Policy remains pending. Once determined, staff will coordinate ordering with department heads. A quote was obtained for backstop repairs at Jaycee Field and Welsh Acres, with repairs scheduled for the first week of March. Discussions regarding potential land acquisition for the Jones Park offset; no asking price has been received. Arbor Day planning continues. Funding was approved through the Crystal Waters Project for native plants at the Robinson Park rain garden. A Park and Recreation Commission meeting will be held this month to discuss potential spring programming.

City Administrator Update: New glass installed at City Hall. Looks great, and it has also helped with reducing sound carrying in the building. EDA Director Schuetz and City Admin Grafstrom met with Chance Briscoe, the new CEO of BENCO, They discussed the service territory transfer and transformer situation. The ambulance got into a small accident, and they are currently getting bids on the repairs. Do to the city's bonding bill request, boundaries at the wastewater treatment plant must be cleaned up and we are working on this with Bolton-Menk. Lake Crystal ambulance has received the okay to provide parttime ALS ambulance service.

Consent Agenda *(The following agenda items are considered to be non-controversial and routine innature. They will be handled with one motion of the City Council. Councilors may request that specific items be removed from the Consent Agenda and be acted upon separately)*

1. Minutes of February 2, 2026, Regular Meeting of the City Council
2. Payment of bills totaling \$595,162.59
 - reviewed by Councilor Windsperger and Councilor Bierma prior to the meeting.

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3. Surplus Granite Countertop 2 x 8 with an estimated value of \$1,000
4. Change Emergency Manager from Matt Gangelhoff to Chief Prescher

Motion made by Councilor Bierma to approve consent items 1 through 4, motion seconded by Councilor Windsperger and carried unanimously.

Action Items

Approve 1st Estimates for Tanker from Equip Reserves: Totaling \$11,301.71

The City Council reviewed the 2 estimates from Mike's LLC, including parts and labor for the tanker. The first estimate for the parts was for \$7,659.46 and was already invoiced to the city as well. The second estimate for labor is \$3,643.25 and this will be billed when they do the build. This is a rural tanker, but the city is responsible for the decals and the emergency equipment install.

Motion made by Councilor Cooper to approve 2 Estimates from Mike's LLC totaling \$11,301.71 to be paid from Equip Reserves, motion seconded by Councilor Hanson and carried unanimously.

Chamber and Letter from Kennedy

Mayor Wiens mentioned this has already been discussed at the EDA meeting and they are looking at options. They have created a list of questions for Kennedy on how the EDA can help the Chamber. They understand the City needs to meet the requirements of public purpose.

No Action needed

Information/Discussion Items

Mayor Wiens mentioned that the EDA is looking at parceling this our and selling it to developers. The EDA approved the park in the drawing provided by Bolton-Menk.

The Council and staff received an anonymous letter expressing concerns. The letter did not include contact information, making follow-up or clarification difficult. The letter was also shared with the Police Department. Chief Prescher noted that receiving anonymous letters is not uncommon. He stated that staffing levels have been minimal in the past, but the city is addressing this by increasing officer presence in town. This increase in staffing is expected to improve officer visibility and overall presence moving forward.

Upcoming meetings and events:

- Monday, March 2, 2026, 7:30 PM Regular Council Meeting
- Tuesday, April 28, 2026, Board of Appeal and Equalization, 9:00 AM

Council Comments and Observations

Councilor Cooper reported going to the League of Minnesota Cities leadership training for existing council members. She encouraged others on the City Council to go if they even have the chance and has some literature to share if anyone is interested.

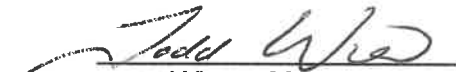
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Mayor Wiens and Administrator Grafstrom met with the union representative and stewards to clarify wording in the contract. The meeting went well.

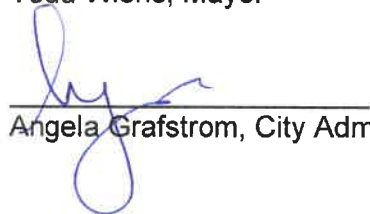
Adjournment:

There being no further business of the Lake Crystal City Council, Councilor Hanson motioned to adjourn the regular meeting of February 17, 2026, motion seconded by Councilor Windsperger and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Minutes prepared by: Kenzie Doering



Todd Wiens, Mayor



Angela Grafstrom, City Administrator

