

**STANDISH CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
January 12, 2026**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor King called the regular meeting of the Standish City Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor King led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Link, Lincoln, Fleszar, Myers, Spencer, King, Niernberg

Absent: None

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Fleszar, supported by Myers, to approve the agenda with the addition of Item B – Brush Pile under Current Business.

All approved. Motion carried.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by **Fleszar**, supported by **Myers**, to approve the minutes of December 9, 2025, regular meeting.

All approved. Motion carried.

7. APPROVAL OF BILLS

Moved by Fleszar, supported by Lincoln, to approve payment of the invoices for the month of January.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Spencer, Lincoln, Myers, Niernberg, Fleszar, Link, King

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

8. CURRENT BUSINESS

A. Office Computer System

- The current system is outdated, making the city noncompliant with security requirements.

- The updated system will be compatible with BS&A Cloud.
- The City Manager's computer is the only unit that does not need to be updated.
- The current system is eight (8) years old or older.
- While the system is insured, losses would not be covered if the software is noncompliant.
- Equipment to be replaced includes one (1) server and six (6) computers: Assessor, City Treasurer/Clerk, Deputy Treasurer/Clerk, Water Treatment Plant, Sewer Plant, and DPW Building.
- An estimate provided by Network Services totaled \$19,917.59.
- Funding was requested through the 2% Tribal Grant but was not awarded for this project.

Moved by Link, supported by Fleszar, to move forward with updating the City's computer system.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Niernberg, Myers, Lincoln, Spencer, Fleszar, Link, King

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

B. Brush Pile

- Ruses provided an estimate of \$15,000 to remove the compost/brush pile located behind the DPW building.
- The City Manager stated this is a fair price based on the number of hours required for DPW staff to remove the pile, associated labor costs, equipment wear, and limited space available for relocation.
- Residents have added significant material to the pile over the past several years.
- The dump area is nearing capacity.
 - Ruses would need to be hired to push material back to allow room for the City dump truck to unload.
- Staff are working to prevent commercial lawn care companies from dumping grass clippings and other materials behind the DPW barn.

Moved by Myers, supported by Niernberg, to accept Ruses' offer to remove the brush pile from behind the DPW barn and dispose of the material on their own property.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Myers, Niernberg, Spencer, Lincoln, Fleszar, Link

Nays: King

Absent: None

Motion carried.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Valley United Insurance Agency – Appointment as Agent

- Staff discussed going out for bids on the City’s health insurance plan due to ongoing difficulties working with Teamsters.
- The City of Au Gres recommended utilizing an insurance agent and currently works with Valley United Insurance Agency.
- The agency does not charge the city for its services.
- The City would work through the agency for insurance-related issues rather than directly with the insurance provider.

Moved by Fleszar, supported by Myers, to contract with Valley United Insurance Agency.
All approved. Motion carried.

B. C.E. & A. Professional Services Company Inc. – Drug Testing Services

- C.E. & A. is a new drug testing provider for City employees with CDLs.
- The cost is the same as the current provider’s; First Advantage.
- First Advantage has experienced issues with repeatedly selecting the same individual for testing rather than providing a truly random draw.
 - Additionally, it has taken weeks to schedule testing after requests are made.
- The Arenac County Road Commission recommends C.E. & A. Professional Services Company Inc., citing prompt scheduling and ease of working with the company.

Moved by Spencer, supported by Niernberg, to contract with C.E. & A. Professional Services Company Inc. for the City’s drug testing services.

Roll Call Vote:

Yeas: Spencer, Lincoln, Myers, Fleszar, Niernberg, Link, King

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

10. CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Mason provided the following updates:

- **Sewer Project:** Remains at a standstill following the government shutdown this past fall.
 - **School Water Project:** Awaiting building and hookup, scheduled for August.
 - **307 N. Main St.:** No update has been received from EGLE regarding the testing that was completed.
 - **SPARK Grant:** Contractors have been selected, and the project is expected to begin in the spring as weather permits.
 - **Recovery Court:** The Recovery Court Director reached out to inquire whether individuals needing to complete community service hours could assist the city with work projects.
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11. MAYOR & FIRE AUTHORITY REPORT

- The Fire Authority has hired a company to assist with the new billing process.
 - The company will receive 15% of all payments collected.
 - A rate schedule will be established based on the type of call.
 - No updates were provided regarding the merger of the Sterling Fire Station.
 - Several flags were noted as needing replacement.
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12. COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

- **Spencer:** Suggested Council consider installing an LED sign at City Hall for posting announcements and meeting information.
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13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor King adjourned the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:

Champagne Southworth
City Clerk

Kevin King
Mayor