

COLFAX CITY COUNCIL
December 15, 2025

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Retzer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

Golden, McRae, Schaefer, Mackleit, Guenthner and Sevedge: Present. Huntwork: Absent.
A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Schaefer to excuse Huntwork. Roll Call: All Yes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by McRae to approve the minutes from the December 1, 2025 Council meeting. Roll Call: All Yes.

GOOD OF THE CITY:

The Colfax Chamber of Commerce did a great job with Winterfest. Nice parade and no fog for the firework show.

BILLS AND CLAIMS:

A motion was entered by Schaefer, seconded by Mackleit to approve all bills and claims as presented. Roll Call: All Yes.

CLAIMS	PAYROLL
#11372-11374, 11382-11404 & EFT	#11375-11381 & EFT
\$140,541.59	\$64,552.37

GRAND TOTAL: \$205,093.96

CITIZENS REQUEST:

PUBLIC HEARING:

Ordinance 25-07- 2026 - Budget and Fee Schedule-

Retzer opened the public hearing at 7:02 p.m. for the 2026 Budget and Fee Schedule.

City Administrator Matt Hammer stated the only increase in the budget was for the loan for the water system improvement plan.

Retzer asked for public comment for the 2026 Budget and Fee Schedule. No comments.
Retzer asked for public comment against the 2026 Budget and Fee Schedule. No comments.
With no additional comments Retzer closed the public hearing at 7:03 p.m.

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A motion was entered by Schaefer, seconded by Guenthner to approve Ordinance 25-07 2026 Budget and Fee Schedule. Roll Call: All Yes.

PRESENTATION/WORK STUDY:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance 25-06 2025 Budget Amendment-

Hammer stated the budget amendment includes:

Transferring money from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), these were previously designated for pool renovations.

Hotel Motel Fund as the council agreed to spend down the reserves from this fund allowing the city to support more tourism related activities.

Street Fund to reflect unexpected revenues and expenditures related to finishing the Morton/ Sumner TIB project.

A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Guenthner to approve Ordinance 25-06 2025 Budget Amendment. Roll Call: All Yes.

Resolution 25-24 – Interfund Loan- General Fund to Park Fund-

Hammer stated this loan is necessary to complete the pool project, as the total costs exceeded the available balance in the park fund as well as the funds provided by the RCO Grant (\$350,000) and the Department of Commerce Grant (1,000,000).

Golden acknowledged this was expected and noted that there had been hope for more donations to supplement the grants received.

Golden requested that the Park Board be included in the budgeting process moving forward, the board had not been involved for the last few years. Any matters affecting the parks and park budget should be presented to the Park Board before going to the Council. Golden added that the go ahead was given to the mayor and the city with the understanding that this funding situation could happen.

Park Board Chair Al Vorderbrueggen expressed full support of the pool project, calling it a life changer for the community. Vorderbrueggen also noted park board meetings have been ill attended and suggested maybe making a point to meet at least quarterly. The parks will need to cut back on capital expenditures for a few years but this pool project was a priority.

Retzer apologized for the lack of communication and stated we did have intent to get the park board together but with members and city schedules it just didn't happen.

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A motion was entered by Golden, seconded by Schaefer to approve Resolution 25-24 Interfund Loan- General Fund to Park Fund. Roll Call: All Yes.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Police:

Police Chief Michael Melcher briefly discussed the year-end report distributed to council. Melchers's goal is to bring stability to the department and hopes to bring the department up to the authorized 5 officers. Melcher appreciates the continued support.

Melcher reported there is one still in the background process. Melcher hopes to hold more interviews mid to late January.

Public Works:

Hammer reported the water meter collectors are fully installed. Now we are waiting for the FCC License to be approved before they can begin using the devices.

Administration:

Finance Amanda Link reported the office is busy with year end and beginning of year projects.

COMMITTEE/BOARD/COMISSION REPORTS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

Metropolitan Park District-

Retzer adjourned the council meeting at 7:26 p.m. to enter into the Metropolitan Park District.

Retzer reconvened the council meeting at 7:29 p.m.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

MAYORS REPORT:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Retzer adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.


Jim Retzer, Mayor


Lynda Kramlich, City Clerk