

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Matt Montgomery and Council Members Ryan Jeppesen, Chad Johnson, Diane Johnson, Chris Nobach, and Lisa Zimmerman; Council Member Laura Kronenberger was absent. Also present were Jon Radermacher, City Administrator; Sara Peer, City Clerk; Jed Petersen, Public Works Director; Izzy Carlson, License & Permit Technician; and Jeffrey McCormick, Police Chief.

- Call to Order Mayor Matt Montgomery called the City Council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- Roll Call Roll call was conducted. Mayor Montgomery and Council Members Jeppesen, C. Johnson, D. Johnson, Nobach, and Zimmerman were in attendance.
- Pledge of Allegiance Mayor Montgomery led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Approval of Agenda A motion was made by Council Member Zimmerman, seconded by Council Member Jeppesen and unanimously carried, to approve the Agenda as presented.
- Public Input Mayor Montgomery reviewed the public input procedure.
- Tim Dehmer stated that he was feeling emotionally abused and requested an opportunity to meet with a City representative to discuss his concerns.
- Public Hearing: Resolution 2848, Adopting 2026 Tax Levy and Budget City Administrator Radermacher reviewed the budget planning process and provided an overview of the proposed 2026 tax levy and budget. He noted that the preliminary tax levy increase of 10.8 percent has been reduced to a 3.17 percent increase in the proposed final budget. He stated that this calculates to an approximately \$38 property tax impact for a median-priced home in Cannon Falls.
- Mayor Montgomery reviewed the Public Hearing procedure and opened the Public Hearing at 6:35 p.m. No one spoke during the Public Hearing. Mayor Montgomery closed the Public Hearing at 6:36 p.m.
- Council Member D. Johnson expressed appreciation to Administrator Radermacher and City staff for their work on the budget.

A motion was made by Council Member D. Johnson, seconded by Council Member Zimmerman and unanimously carried, to adopt Resolution 2848, approving the 2026 tax levy and budget as presented.

Consent Agenda

- A. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending December 11, 2025
- B. Meeting Minutes for December 2, 2025, City Council Meeting
- C. Resolution 2849, Accepting \$1,000 Donation from Invenergy to the Ambulance Department
- D. Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance 413 and Summary of Publication, an Ordinance Amending City Code Title II Relating to Fees, Charges and Rates
- E. Approve Sewer Credit for 101 Timber Lane
- F. Approve Sewer Credit for 102 Bavarian Circle
- G. Approve Sewer Credit for 107 Maple Court
- H. Approve Sewer Credit for Mill Street Tavern
- I. Approve Purchase of Sewer Inspection Camera System  
*This item was pulled by Council Member C. Johnson*
- J. Approve Hiring of Part-Time EMTs for the Ambulance Department
- K. Resolution 2850, Accepting \$1,500 Donation from Invenergy to the Police Department
- L. Approve Memorandum of Agreement with Law Enforcement Union to Extend Probation Period
- M. Approve Police Officer Althoff Promotion
- N. Resolution 2851, Establishing Fire Department Officer Stipends
- O. Approve Cannon Falls Fire Department Relief Association Bylaw Change
- P. Approve Final Pay Request for 2023/2024 Street Improvement Project

A motion was made by Council Member Jeppesen, seconded by Council Member Zimmerman and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agenda, minus Item I, which was moved to the Council Business portion of the meeting for discussion.

Council Business:  
Resolution 2852,  
Authorizing Budget  
Transfers for Year-  
End 2025 Cannon  
Falls City Audit and  
Revised Transfers for  
2025

City Administrator Radermacher provided background information and detailed the requested budget transfers. He also discussed project funds.

Council Member D. Johnson asked about transfers from the park capital fund, and Administrator Radermacher provided clarifying information and referenced future park dedication fees from the Tract project.

A motion was made by Council Zimmerman, seconded by Council Member Nobach and unanimously carried, to adopt Resolution 2852, approving the requested budget transfers.

Approve Purchase of  
Sewer Inspection  
Camera System

Council Member C. Johnson asked how the equipment would be used and inquired regarding the return on this investment. Public Works Director Petersen discussed the benefits of the proposed equipment and provided comparison information relating to the use of contractors to complete this work. He reviewed the cost of the equipment and discussed how the purchase would be budgeted. Administrator Radermacher provided additional background information. Equipment warranty and maintenance were discussed.

A motion was made by Council Member C. Johnson, seconded by Council Member Jeppesen and unanimously carried, to approve the purchase of a sewer inspection camera system.

Reports:  
Council Committees,  
Commissions, and  
Nonprofit  
Organizations

City Administrator Radermacher summarized topics of discussion during a recent EDA meeting, including bedrock that was encountered during the second phase of the Hardwood Estates project and the additional work that was required, at a cost of approximately \$40,000. He stated that the lot prices had been adjusted to accommodate for additional work. Council Member D. Johnson referenced an upcoming Public Hearing in January.

Public Works Director Petersen summarized topics of discussion during a recent Public Works & Park Board meeting, including sewer credit requests.

Council Member D. Johnson described topics of discussion during a recent Planning Commission meeting, including discussion of the proposed amendment to the City Code that would create a Fairgrounds zoning district. She noted that the public had previously been invited to stop by City Hall and express their thoughts and concerns to License & Permit Technician Carlson, who shared feedback with the Planning Commission.

Staff

Administrator Radermacher provided additional information and an update. He noted that the Planning Commission and members of the public do not feel comfortable with the proposed ordinance language. He stated that an ad hoc committee has been formed to discuss the concerns and a potential compromise solution, inviting two members of the Cannon Valley Fair Association Board, two members of the Planning Commission, two members from a fairgrounds neighborhood group, and a Council Member to participate. He stated that this group plans to meet in early January to find common ground to preserve the Cannon Valley Fair. Council Member Nobach commented regarding the timing of the process and referenced Fair Board planning activities. Administrator Radermacher reviewed the anticipated timeline.

Administrator Radermacher provided a Chamber update. He stated that the Chamber Board recently met to discuss the hiring of a new Chamber Director and the current office location. Administrator Radermacher stated that he indicated that the Chamber may potentially be able to utilize space in City Hall.

Public Works Director Petersen reported that the next Public Works and Park Board meeting has been scheduled for January 8, 2026. He also discussed snowplowing and snowblowing procedures in the Downtown area. He referenced parking restrictions during snow events.

Police Chief McCormick provided additional rationale for winter parking restrictions. Council Member D. Johnson inquired regarding designated overnight parking areas for Downtown residents. City Administrator Radermacher and Chief McCormick provided additional information in this regard.

City Clerk Peer reported that the auditors were at City Hall earlier in the day conducting a preliminary audit. She noted that the annual financial audit will be conducted in May.

Administrator Radermacher expressed appreciation and gratitude to City staff and the City Council for their hard work and assistance over the last year. He stated that it has been an honor to serve the community. He referenced the Comprehensive Plan update project and commented regarding the value of community engagement.

Mayor and Council  
Members

Council Member D. Johnson reported that Jesse Fox has resigned from the Planning Commission and expressed appreciation to him for his service to the community.

Council Member Zimmerman wished everyone a happy holiday season.

Council Member C. Johnson expressed disappointment that Planning Commission action related to the proposed Fairgrounds zoning ordinance has been delayed. He commented that micro sprint racing has been discontinued, but now other activities at the fairgrounds are being over-regulated. He recommended moving the process forward in January.

Mayor Montgomery expressed appreciation for coverage during his time off. He thanked Jesse Fox for his service on the Planning Commission. He encouraged members of the community to apply to serve on City boards and commissions and reviewed the appointment process.

Mayor Montgomery referenced City accomplishments over the past year and wished everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Council Member D. Johnson, seconded by Council Member C. Johnson and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026.

ATTEST:

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Matt Montgomery, Mayor

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Jon Radermacher, City Administrator