



TOWN OF St. JOHN
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MEETING OF January 26, 2026

Mayor Webb called the meeting to order. Councilmembers Blumenshein, Bezdicek, Howard, and Smick, Public Works Steve Gibson, Port of Whitman Kara Riebold & Karl Webber, Haley Aldrich Luke Reden & Ward McDonald, CE&C Matt Morkert, and the Town Clerk attended.

The January 12, 2026, meeting minutes were read and approved as read.

The payables were presented to the Council for review and discussion. Howard moved, Blumenshein seconded, and the motion carried by a vote of the Council.

CL# 16159-16166 & EFT's	\$ 10,130.95
PR# 16154-16158 & EFT's	\$ 14,213.57

Port of Whitman gave a brief update on the brownfield clean-up. Haley Aldrich gave an update on the deconstruction of the café building, with a completion date of March 30, 2026. They are hoping to do clean up this summer, with the possible start of construction at the end of summer.

Ordinance 496X – Adoption of the International Building Codes by reference was discussed. Approval for adoption was given with a motion from Smick and seconded by Bezdicek. Fees for the building codes will be discussed at the next meeting.

Fire protection agreement was discussed. The new agreement was approved by a motion from Howard and seconded by Smick.

The Clerk is working with Commerce and Ecology on a Critical Areas Ordinance update and Growth Management Act update. The Clerk applied for a grant to get the update done by a professional. She is trying to coordinate with an engineering firm to take charge of the update.

Matt Morkert gave an update about the Waste Water Plant. He has been working with Don Blumquist to review the reply to get back comments. He is hopeful that this should be complete by the end of January.

IEMC is having issues with the railroad when loading. They asked the public works if it would be acceptable to block the Road during these times. The council didn't have any objections, as there is still a route to get around in case of emergencies.

The liquor permit for Taco Trama was discussed. There were no objections from the council to approve the application for the Annual event.

Annual cost-of-living increases were discussed. After discussion, it was agreed that all 4 employees would receive a 3% increase in conjunction with the Cost of Living Adjustment of 2.7%. Days off for the clerk will be discussed at another time, along with compliance of the employee retirement policy contribution amount. The raise was approved by a motion from Bezdicek and seconded by Blumenshein.

Public Works gave an update on the loader and the completion of the water pump repair. With the weather, it is possible that they will be able to get some potholes repaired next month.

The sewer plant tablet ran into some issues and lost data. After discussion, it was approved to purchase an actual computer for the plant with a motion from Smick and seconded by Howard.

With no further comments requested, Mayor Webb moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. The meeting was officially adjourned at 8:35 PM.



F. Shani Hergert
CLERK-TREASURER



Michael G. Webb
MAYOR