

Walnut Grove, MN

January 2, 2026

The City Council met in a special session on Friday, January 2, 2026 at 4:00PM at the Walnut Grove city offices.

Present: Ron Stubbe, Yeng Yang, Dylan Albertson & Dale Shannon

Absent: Sue West

Also Present: Clerk Paula McGarvey, David Bender and Andy Foster.

Mayor Stubbe presided at the meeting

The primary purpose of the special meeting was to go over Bar & Grill hours of operation, Sunday opening, equipment needs and fixes needed for off-sale area and storeroom.

Bender reported to the council that based on sales data for Monday and Tuesday noon hours, he would like to consider changing hours for those days at least during the wintertime. Additionally, he asked the council to allow the Bar & Grill to be open on Sundays to pick sales. The council agreed that it would change the ordinance to allow for Sunday openings at the Bar & Grill. Motion by Dylan Albertson, seconded by Dale Shannon to approve having the city attorney amend the city ordinance to allow for Sunday openings for both on and off sale. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Yeng Yang, seconded by Dale Shannon to approve the modified hours for Monday and Tuesday and opening on Sundays as presented by Bender for the Bar & Grill. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Discussion was held on the HVAC system at the Bar & Grill and why it is so hard to regulate the temperature. Bisbee Plumbing & Heating explained that the return air on the furnace is not large enough. The first thing they recommended would be to relocate the thermostat and to make sure that they run the furnace fan continuously while occupied. They recommend installing two return air grills and four supply air grills to the bar area for a cost of \$3450. Additionally, they recommend adding an auxiliary ac unit to the kitchen. Bender will have the thermostat moved and make sure the fan is running and will hold off on the other recommendations at this time.

Bisbee Plumbing & Heating investigating the plumbing issues for the restrooms. The toilets are back to back in the men's and women's restrooms and are piped underground incorrectly causing the one toilet to be sucked dry when the other is flushed causing the sewer smell. To fix this, they would have to break up 2-3 feet of the floor and replace with the correct drainage fittings with new flanges for both. The quote to repair this is \$7500. The council determined they would hold off on this at this time.

Discussion was held on removing the wall between the office and the storeroom to allow for more storage space and make room for a larger ice maker and eventually more freezer space. Additionally, discussion was held on fixing the drain system for tap beer and rebuilding the cabinet underneath it along with rebuilding the checkout cabinet to allow better sales area for off sale. Motion by Dylan Albertson, seconded by Yeng Yang to approve the quote of \$4485 from Plum Creek Cabinets to remove the wall, rebuild both the tap beer drain cabinet and the checkout cabinet and rework the checkout area. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Discussion was held on purchasing new shelving for off sale at a cost of \$2500 and the purchase of a larger ice maker for \$3500 to produce enough ice to allow for them eventually bag and sell their own ice. Albertson asked that he make sure and talk to someone about the filter system that would be recommended for the ice machine. Motion by Dale Shannon, seconded by Dylan Albertson to approve the purchase of a new ice maker and new shelving for a total of approximately \$6000. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Yeng Yang, seconded by Dale Shannon to adjourn. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Paula McGarvey
Clerk-Treasurer