

CITY OF CRYSTAL FALLS

May 11, 2026

A regular meeting of the City Council for the City of Crystal Falls was held in the City Council Chambers on Monday, May 11, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. Central Time.

Roll Call: Mayor Bean; Councilors Fabbri, Maki, Cudnohufsky, and Smith

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Gerard Valesano, Deputy Clerk Tammy Hendrickson, and City Attorney Daryl Waters.

Mayor Bean led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Fabbri, moved to approve the proposed agenda with the removal of Item A, First Reading of City Ordinance No. 2.05 – Regulating Trapping Within the City Limits.

Ayes: Mayor Bean; Councilors Cudnohufsky, Fabbri, Smith, and Maki

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Public Comment

Chief of Police Brian Zelakiewicz explained that the Crystal Falls Police Department has not changed, nor intends to change, Ordinance No. 2.21 regulating the use and operation of off-road vehicles within the City of Crystal Falls. He stated that dirt bikes and ATVs have been traveling at excessive speeds and operating illegally on city streets, and due to citizen complaints, the Police Department will continue enforcement efforts.

Floyd Bowman stated that he has experienced issues with neighboring cats and expressed opposition to trapping domesticated cats.

Robert Damski commented that he has not been hired to trap cats within the city limits.

Todd Loehr reported observing baby foxes on Forest Avenue and requested that they be removed.

Sue Alexa asked why the City was writing off an uncollectible utility account. Utility/Deputy Clerk Tammy Hendrickson explained that when a property is foreclosed upon, the County does not reimburse delinquent utility bills.

Nicki Loehr spoke regarding the ORV ordinance and expressed concern that prohibiting ORVs, ATVs, and dirt bikes from operating in town could negatively impact local businesses.

Mayor Bean clarified that there is no change to the ordinance, only a correction for clarification purposes.

City Manager Gerard Valesano presented the City Manager's Report.

Presentations

The first reading of City Ordinance No. 2.21, an ordinance regulating the use and operation of off-road vehicles (ORVs) within the City of Crystal Falls, was presented.

Current language:

“ORVs shall not be limited to streets, alleys, sidewalks, parks, cemeteries, golf courses, or pedestrian trails unless hereinafter provide.”

Suggested revision:

“ORVs shall not be operated on streets, alleys, sidewalks, parks, cemeteries, golf courses, or pedestrian trails unless otherwise provided in this Ordinance.”

Councilor Cudnohufsky, seconded by Councilor Fabbri, moved to schedule a public hearing for Ordinance No. 2.21 at the regular meeting on June 8, 2026.

Ayes: Mayor Bean; Councilors Cudnohufsky, Fabbri, and Maki

Nays: Councilor Smith

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Bid Openings

Bids were opened for the construction of a 24' x 24' pavilion and driveway to be located east of the City parking lot behind the Harbour House.

- Ponchaud Contracting and Excavation Inc. – \$29,950.00
- Nocerini Construction Inc. – \$59,755.13
- Lato Pole Buildings, Inc. – \$42,880.00

Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Maki, moved to award the construction bid to Ponchaud Contracting and Excavation Inc. in the amount of \$29,950.00, with the stipulation that the project be completed within six months (by November 11, 2026).

Ayes: Mayor Bean; Councilors Cudnohufsky, Fabbri, Smith, and Maki

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Public Hearing – Fire Protection Special Assessment

Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act of 1976 PA 267, Mayor Bean recessed the regular meeting at 5:16 p.m. to conduct a public hearing regarding the Act 33 Special Assessment of 2.75 mills for fire protection.

Public Comment: None

Mayor Bean closed the public hearing at 5:16 p.m.

Public Hearing – EGLE DWSRF Program Application

Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act of 1976 PA 267, Mayor Bean recessed the regular meeting at 5:16 p.m. to conduct a public hearing regarding an EGLE DWSRF Program application for a water system improvement project.

Seth Miatech, representing Wickwire, P.C., explained that the proposed project includes:

- Replacement of the water main along US-2 from North 5th Street to North 6th Street,
- Elevated storage tank improvements,
- Construction of a chlorination station building,
- Installation of water sampling pits at three DPW locations, and
- Replacement of all 17 remaining known lead service lines throughout the City.

Alyson Ayers asked how the project would affect water service. Mr. Miatech stated that no significant impact is anticipated.

Mayor Bean closed the public hearing at 5:30 p.m.

New Business

Councilor Cudnohufsky, seconded by Councilor Smith, moved to approve Resolution No. 26-12, approving the special assessment pursuant to Act 33, Public Act 33 of Michigan, 1951.

Ayes: Mayor Bean; Councilors Cudnohufsky, Fabbri, Smith, and Maki

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Councilor Cudnohufsky, seconded by Councilor Smith, moved to approve Resolution No. 26-13, adopting the final planning document for the City of Crystal Falls Water System Improvements Project and designating City Manager Gerard Valesano as the authorized project representative.

Ayes: Mayor Bean; Councilors Cudnohufsky, Fabbri, Smith, and Maki

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Fabbri, moved to approve Resolution No. 26-14, approving the write-off of an uncollectible account receivable for Larry Hund, 117 Marquette Avenue, in the amount of \$839.75.

Ayes: Mayor Bean; Councilors Cudnohufsky, Maki, Fabbri, and Smith

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Maki, moved to approve Resolution No. 26-15, adopting a Cash Rounding Policy.

Ayes: Mayor Bean; Councilors Cudnohufsky, Maki, Fabbri, and Smith

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Councilor Maki, seconded by Councilor Smith, moved to approve Resolution No. 26-16, approving the Crystella Community Recreation, Inc. lease agreement for a term of twenty years at \$1.00 per year.

Ayes: Mayor Bean; Councilors Cudnohufsky, Maki, Fabbri, and Smith

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Councilor Smith, seconded by Councilor Cudnohufsky, moved to approve Resolution No. 26-17, approving the second-quarter budget amendments.

Ayes: Mayor Bean; Councilors Cudnohufsky, Maki, Fabbri, and Smith

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Councilor Fabbri, seconded by Councilor Smith, moved to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

1. Reports for the month of April 2026:
 - o Regular Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2026
 - o Treasurer’s Activity Report submitted by Clerk/Treasurer Tara Peltoma
 - o Police Department Report submitted by Chief Brian Zelakiewicz
 - o Electric Department Activity Report submitted by Electrical Supervisor David Graff

- Public Works Department Activity Report submitted by Foreman Robert Fabbri
- Assessor's Report submitted by Assessor Tammy Hendrickson
- Payroll and Disbursements submitted by Clerk/Treasurer Tara Peltoma
- Treasurer's Quarterly Investment Report

Ayes: Mayor Bean; Councilors Cudnohufsky, Fabbri, Smith, and Maki

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Mayor Bean adjourned the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

PRESIDING OFFICER _____

PRESIDING CLERK _____