

**CITY OF EAGLE LAKE
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2026**

The Special Meeting of the Eagle Lake City Council was called to order at 8:12 a.m. by Mayor John Whittington, following a brief delay.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken. Present were Mayor John Whittington, Council Member Beth Rohrich, Council Member Nick Lewis, Council Member Garrett Steinberg, Public Works Director Andrew Hartman, and City Administrator Jennifer Bromeland. Council Member Anthony White was absent.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Council Member Rohrich and seconded by Council Member Lewis. Motion carried.

Mayor Whittington asked Public Works Director Andrew Hartman to provide background information regarding the 2014 International plow truck engine failure and next steps. Director Hartman reported that updated pricing was obtained after the meeting packet was distributed. The cost to rebuild the engine totaled \$53,734.05, while the cost to replace the engine totaled \$53,848.90.

Council Member Lewis asked about the hours on the plow truck. Director Hartman stated that he did not know the hours off hand but explained that he consulted with Carriage Repair, which performs DOT inspections. It was determined that an oil change was not yet required due to low mileage. Maintenance records included in the packet showed the last oil change occurred in October 2023. He confirmed the engine issue was not related to the oil.

Director Hartman shared that North Central confirmed the engine failure was an unforeseen issue and not caused by a lack of maintenance. North Central's diagnosis indicated the issue was likely related to a cylinder head, head gasket, or a dropped cylinder liner.

City Administrator Bromeland explained that on January 15, while en route to pick up sand, the plow truck experienced engine failure and seized, preventing the engine from turning over. Affordable Towing transported the vehicle to North Central International for inspection.

Council Member Rohrich asked what type of inspection occurs before trucks are sent out. Director Hartman explained that the department conducts a walk-around inspection, particularly prior to anticipated snow events. This inspection includes checking oil, coolant, power steering fluid, hydraulic fluid, looking for leaks, checking lights, etc. He noted that the oil was full of coolant by the time the truck arrived at International. Director Hartman confirmed that the walk-around pre-trip inspection was completed on January 14 and no issues were observed at that time.

Council Member Rohrich asked how the new engine would be paid for since the expense was unplanned. City Administrator Bromeland stated that the Street Department has capital outlay funds set aside for

equipment replacement. In situations like this, the department must adjust its schedule and prioritize needs accordingly.

Mayor Whittington asked when the replacement was expected to occur, when the truck was scheduled for replacement, and whether the new engine would extend the life of the truck. Director Hartman stated the truck was scheduled for replacement in 2034 and that the new engine should be installed and ready within the week.

A motion was made by Council Member Rohrich and seconded by Council Member Steinberg to approve the proposal for a new engine for \$53,848.90, to be paid from Street Department capital outlay funds. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer J. Bromeland, City Administrator.

John Whittington, Mayor

Jennifer J. Bromeland, City Administrator