

North Powder Council Meeting
Special Session
Minutes
January 6, 2026
City Hall (340 E Street)
6 PM

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor John Frieboes called the meeting to order 6:02 PM. The pledge of allegiance was said.

Roll Call: Don McClure, John Frieboes, Becky Sturm, Lindsey Thompson, Midge Clause, Josh Guthrie and Alan Brown was present.

Mayor John Frieboes announced that the City received a resignation letter from Tonya Diaz

Public Works Report:

Attorney recommendations: City Recorder spoke to Dan Van Thiel, City Attorney, on 12/31/2025. It was explained to him that we did not have an active Public Works Maintenance person. A council member volunteered to do what needed to be done. Questioned the Ethic position that we were in at this time. He stated that the City had to do what needed to be done to operate. Yes, Don can work and get paid for his time, until the position is filled. It is an ethics situation, however, we need to meet the City's needs. Having a working public works department and being in compliance and having a working council needs to be met. He would like to hear discussion on this.

Mayor stated that Council member Don McClure has stepped in to read meters and taking care of necessary requirements to keep the city up and running and staying in compliance with the state regulations. Councilor Brown has been helping when needed. The discussion is should Don continue on as Public Works Maintenance until position is filled with pay? No else has shown availability to do this. Don stated that he has been working with Levi Tickner on water samples. Don has done work that has needed to be done.

The door at the lagoon was broken and Mayor Frieboes, Councilor Don McClure and Councilor Alan Brown put in a new one on 1/6/2026. The door wouldn't close or lock. The insurance stated that there was a \$1,000 deductible to file a claim. Mayor Frieboes found a door for \$499 and some change. A claim was not filed to insurance. There has been quite a few application turned in for this position

Barbara Weeks volunteered to be on the Interview committee for the Public Works Maintenance job. Council approved.

Interview committee will be Alan Brown, John Frieboes, Becky Sturm, Midge Clause and Barbara Weeks.
Decision to Keep Don McClure for Interim Public Works Maintenance.

Alan Brown made motion, "Don to stay on and be put on payroll, 4 hours or less per day, for the duration until someone is hired then to stay on and train. As of 1/1/2026 he will receive same job, same hours and same pay as previous person. Midge 2nd, approved unanimously with Don excusing himself from vote.

Don has been making notes on the "procedure s", getting weatherproof tags to help the next person.

Josh stated that we need to have procedure manuals for the job.

Alan Brown: Motion for Committee to narrow down applicant pod to 10 interviews. Approved unanimously

Will check with attorney on drug testing. Would like to see the top 3 application brought to council, hold the other 2 "in case"

Motion by Josh; vote unanimously

Meeting adjourned: 6:55 pm