

Maple Lake Chamber of Commerce, Inc.

The noon meeting was called to order by President Nick Pawlenty on January 7th, 2026. There were 16 voting members present. Current paid membership is 71.

Secretary's Report: Lorie Hegle asked for the minutes to be amended to reflect that Lori Hegle and Kathy Hennen should be made authorized signers on all Chamber accounts at the bank. Mark Redemske is still listed on a couple of accounts, so it was also amended to remove him as authorized signer. A motion was made by Mike Rowe and second by Julie Hudek to approve the amended secretary's report from the December 3, 2025 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Balances were read as follows: Chamber checking account total was \$6,650.82 with \$2,468.69 for the general fund and \$4,002.13 for the Industrial Development Group. Maker's and Grower's Checking is \$21,322.23, Gearhead checking is \$27,173.84, and Lord Abbett Investment \$28,403.43. A motion was made by Mike Rowe and second by Lorie Hegle to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Government Report: The search for a City Administrator has begun, with many applicants from around the country inquiring.

School Report: Superintendent Mike Rowe wanted to emphasize the large amount of donations the school received for the Christmas baskets donated to families in need. This included, but not limited to, an anonymous donation of \$9,000 for gift cards for the families.

Committee Reports:

Gearhead Get Together: The Wall of Death will be returning this year. The committee is also still looking for a Food Coordinator for the event. The Snow Machine event will be taking place on February 22nd.

Maker's and Grower's Market: Sponsorship letters were mailed on Monday. There is also a Pizza, Puzzles, and Pitchers fundraiser event at the Maple Lake Legion on February 15th.

Industrial Development Group: No update.

St. Patrick's Day Parade: The parade will be taking place on March 14th, 2026. Registration for the parade via Parade Cloud has opened and we already have 20 applicants. Nick Pawlenty is chairing the event again this year, and he is looking for volunteers to help him plan the event. If you're interested in volunteering, contact Nick.

Spring Craft Sale: Registration forms are on the chamber website and registration is open.

Old Business:

New Chamber Dues format: Due to rising costs, the Board worked out a new system for the chamber dues for 2026. After looking at other area chambers, the Board decided to enact a tiered system for membership dues. Tiers are as follows:

- \$75: Nonprofit organizations/Individuals
- \$150: Small Businesses with 1-6 employees
- \$200: Mid-Size Businesses with 7-40 employees
- \$300: Large Businesses with 41+ employees

Membership forms for dues were sent out yesterday.

New Business:

Chamber Business & Member of the Year nominations: If you have nominations for Chamber Business and Member of the Year, please email them to a board member or submit them to PO Box 461, Maple Lake, MN 55358. Deadline for nominations is February 6th.

New Business Recruiting: The chamber is always looking for new businesses to grow our community. If you know a business that may be interested, please contact Kathy for a folder from the chamber to invite the business to join.

Our next noon meeting will be held at The V by HH on February 4th, 2026. A motion was made by Lorie Hegle and second by Mike Rowe to adjourn the meeting.

Caleb Haag, Secretary