CITY OF NISSWA
AGENDA – CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026 – 10:30 AM
NISSWA CITY HALL

A. Call to Order

B. City Administrator/City Clerk Interviews

C. Closed session pursuant to MN Statutes 13D.03 labor negotiations. For the purpose discussing employment agreement and negotiations for the City Administrator/City Clerk.

D. Adjourn

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Nisswa Announces Finalists for City Administrator

Nisswa, MN – The City of Nisswa is pleased to announce the finalists for the position of City Administrator. Each candidate brings a unique blend of experience, leadership, and dedication to public service.

After an extensive recruitment and selection process, completed by the executive search team from South Central Service Cooperative, the following candidates have been named as finalists:

Jessica Albrecht
Current Position: Agent, New York Life Insurance Company

Jessica Albrecht is an insurance professional with a diverse background spanning financial law, nonprofit leadership, and operational management. She currently serves as an Agent at New York Life, guiding clients through financial decisions with clarity, empathy, and strong product expertise. Albrecht previously led high-volume restaurant operations as a general manager and served as CEO of Empowering Women Foundation. Earlier in her career, she spent more than a decade as a finance attorney.

Albrecht holds a J.D. from the University of Michigan and an A.B. from Harvard University, bringing analytical rigor, service-focused leadership, and cross-sector experience to her work.

Emily A Burns
Current Position: Finance Director, City of Austin, MN

Emily Burns brings over 15 years of experience in local government administration and finance and currently serves as Finance Director for the City of Austin, Minnesota. She previously served as Finance Director for the City of Owatonna, Minnesota, and as Assistant Director of Finance for the City of Garden City, Kansas. She has also held senior leadership roles in full-service cities, including Assistant City Administrator for Cimarron, Kansas, with responsibilities spanning budgeting, human resources, economic development, capital projects, and regulatory compliance.

Burns regularly works with elected officials to provide clear financial information and policy guidance. She holds a Mast of Public Administration from Wichita State University and is a Certified Public Manager. Burns is an active member of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA),

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and is known for her ethical leadership, strong financial stewardship, and collaborative management style.

Zeke Jackson
Current Position: Village Administrator, Waterford, WI

Zeke Jackson brings 14 years of experience in municipal leadership and currently serves as Village Administrator for Waterford, Wisconsin. He oversees a wide range of municipal services, including public utilities, public safety, finance, parks, and community development.

Throughout his career, Jackson has led major infrastructure and downtown redevelopment initiatives, supported economic growth through tax increment financing, secured more than $4 million in grant funding, and overseen more than $150 million in development projects in Sister Bay, Wisconsin; the City of Exon, Virginia; and the Town of Fremont, North Carolina. He has worked extensively with state and federal partners and brings valuable experience from multiple waterfront communities. Jackson holds a Master of Public Administration from Wayland Baptist University and leads with a style that emphasizes transparency, accessibility, and strong community engagement.

Jamie R Lawrence
Current Position: City Administrator, Sac City, IA

Jamie Lawrence currently serves as City Administrator for Sac City, Iowa, and brings more than eight years of experience leading full-scope municipal operations. An International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Credentialed Manager, he oversees budgeting, infrastructure planning, capital improvements, economic development, and regulatory compliance. Lawrence works closely with elected officials to prepare council materials, provide policy analysis, and support transparent, informed decision-making.

Lawrence holds a Master of Public Administration from Murray State University. In his career, he has secured and administered more than $75 million in federal and state grant and loan funding and has developed extensive expertise in water and wastewater planning. His leadership style emphasizes collaboration, accountability, and fiscal responsibility.

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Next Steps

Interviews will be held on February 17, 2026. The day will begin with staff interviews from 8:20 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., followed by two City Council interviews starting at 11:00 a.m. After a lunch break, two additional interviews will be conducted in the afternoon. The City Council and Mayor will deliberate later that afternoon and select the next City Administrator for the City of Nisswa. Employment negotiations and final terms of employment will be announced at a later date.

Media Contact

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