

Feb. 21 Meeting Agenda



WARD-WIDE MEETING AGENDA

Order of Business and Rules

FEBRUARY 21, 2026 | 2:00PM - 4:00PM | MT. PLEASANT LIBRARY

Order of Business

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| Registration | 1:30 PM |
| 1. Call to Order | 2:00 PM |
| 2. Adoption of the Agenda and Special Rules of Order | |
| 3. Reports of the Officers | 2:10 PM |
| - Establishing Public Access to the Records of the Ward One Democrats | |
| 4. Reports of the By-Laws Committee | 2:15 PM |
| - Making Corrections and Permitting Bylaws Flexibility in the Endorsement Process | |
| - Permitting Ranked-Choice Election of Precinct Representatives | |
| 5. Special Precinct Caucuses | 2:30 PM |
| - Adoption of Special Rules of Order | |
| - Caucuses | |
| 6. Announcements | |



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Special Rules of Order

For adoption as special rules of order:

Minutes of Ward-Wide Meetings

The minutes of a special ward-wide meeting may be read and approved at a meeting of the Ward 1 Democratic Committee.

Bylaws Amendments

Any report or recommendation of the By-Laws Committee properly noticed in the call of a ward-wide meeting shall be considered as read, and for each report with more than one recommendation, the chair may state the question on the recommendations of the report in gross.

For adoption as special rules of order following the adoption of the bylaws amendment permitting preferential voting:

Special Precinct Caucuses: Nominations

A candidate in a special election for precinct representative whose nomination was submitted to the Ward 1 Democrats in advance shall be printed on the relevant ballot. Nominations from the floor and write-ins are in order.

Special Precinct Caucuses: Voting

Ranked-choice ballots shall be used in a precinct representative election. Counting shall be conducted manually with the specified ranked-choice ballot process or electronically with an equivalent counting method.

Special Precinct Caucuses: Ranked-Choice Ballot Process

Filling out the ballot

On the ranked-choice ballot—for each precinct to be filled—indicate the order in which you prefer **all** the candidates, filling the bubble below the first (1st) column beside your first preference, the bubble below the second (2nd) column beside your second preference, and so on for every possible choice.

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Note: Declining to indicate a second or other choice does not increase the chances of your first choice. In fact, it may prevent any candidate from receiving a majority and require the voting to be repeated.

Counting the ballots

In counting the votes for a given office or question, the ballots are arranged in piles according to the indicated first preferences—one pile for each candidate. The number of ballots in each pile is then recorded for the tellers' report. These piles remain identified with the names of the same candidates throughout the counting procedure.

One open seat

If there is only one open seat available in a given precinct, the following procedure is followed:

If more than half of the ballots show one candidate indicated as first choice, that choice has a majority in the ordinary sense and the candidate is elected. But if there is no such majority, candidates are eliminated one by one, beginning with the least popular, until one prevails, as follows:

The ballots in the thinnest pile—that is, those containing the name designated as first choice by the fewest number of voters—are redistributed into the other piles according to the names marked as second choice on these ballots. The number of ballots in each remaining pile after this distribution is again recorded. If more than half of the ballots are now in one pile, that candidate is elected or decided upon. If not, the next least popular candidate is similarly eliminated, by taking the thinnest remaining pile and redistributing its ballots according to their second choices into the other piles, except that, if the name eliminated in the last distribution is indicated as second choice on a ballot, that ballot is placed according to its third choice. Again the number of ballots in each existing pile is recorded, and, if necessary, the process is repeated—by redistributing each time the ballots in the thinnest remaining pile, according to the marked second choice or most-preferred choice among those not yet eliminated—until one pile contains more than half of the ballots, the result being thereby determined.

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Multiple open seats

If more than one person is to be elected to the same precinct, voters can indicate their order of preference among the names in a single list of candidates, just as if only one was to be elected. The counting procedure is continued as above until all but the necessary number of candidates have been eliminated.

Tellers' report

The tellers' report consists of a table listing all candidates, with the number of ballots that were in each pile after each successive distribution.

Ballots missing a numerical preference

If a ballot having one or more names not marked with any numerical preference comes up for placement at any stage of the counting and all of its marked names have been eliminated, it is not placed in any pile, but instead is set aside.

Resolving ties

If at any point two or more candidates are tied for the least popular position, the ballots in their piles are redistributed in a single step, all of the tied names being treated as eliminated. In the event of a tie in the winning position, the election is resolved in favor of the candidate that was strongest in terms of first choices (by referring to the record of the first distribution).



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Standing Rule on Public Access to W1D Records

For adoption as a standing rule for the Ward 1 Democrats:

Resolved, That the current bylaws, rules, and approved minutes of the meetings of the Ward One Democrats shall be made publicly accessible online, except for any content protected by executive-session secrecy.

DRAFT