

Mayor Kletscher called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll showed Councilpersons Ross, DeGross, Kraft, Schone and Stoner were present. Absent was Councilperson Buhr. Also present were CT LaBeree, Fire Chief Greg Holden, Ambulance Director Julie Lee, Lynn McIntyre from Cedar Corp, Steve Wilcox, Carlton Dewitt, Angela Jeske, Mike Barstad, Kristin Barstad, Katie Swenby, David Olson, Library Director Rochel Karlson, Kristen Curvello, Rollie Smith, Heidi Wagner, Joan Bartz, and Tori Kamm.

DeGross moved and Schone seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Voice vote carried.

Ross moved and Kraft seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2026 Regular meeting. Voice vote showed all councilpersons present voting yes.

Kraft moved and Stoner seconded a motion to approve all presented disbursements. Roll call vote showed all councilpersons present voting yes.

Angela Jeske indicated that she was very concerned about open records requests for images from the trail camera that was put up at Hinman Park and that she would also be making an open records request to find out who was making the requests.

No representative for summer rec was in attendance so no report was given.

A report was given by Library Director Rochel Karlson. She is getting ready for summer reading and is planning to do a mini-American flag scavenger hunt around town to celebrate the 250-year anniversary of the USA. She is hoping to have a guest author coming in over the summer. She also noted that she is working on writing a federal grant for the postage reimbursement for the Dolly Parton reading program the library held this spring. She also has 2 upcoming conferences that she is looking forward to.

Public Works Director Caress was not in attendance so no report was made. Mayor Kletscher did note that the 1<sup>st</sup> Street section of road that was ripped up for the water line repair has now been resurfaced. He also noted the signals going up near the Tiffany Creek bridge as well as the flashing sign outside City Hall notifying every one of the upcoming road construction.

A written report was submitted by Police Chief Klatt who was not in attendance. Council person Ross spoke up about the numerous open records requests that the police department has been dealing with in the last few months. She indicated that the Chief's valuable time was being redirected over multiple requests for open records. She calculated the open records requests for the month of May alone totaled around \$980 and that in a years' time, around \$12,000 has been spent on open records requests as well, between time and resources spent as well as fees for consulting the city's attorney with questions on legalities of the requests.

Chief Holden reported that they got in on a grant with Dunn County and received \$11,185.95, which they will use to purchase 2 portable radios and 1 mobile radio. The Fire Department will be responsible for 20\$ of the cost. He also mentioned that the new truck is just about ready to be put in service. The lights have been switched out. The old engine has been sold and delivered to the new owners as well. It was also noted that the ATV fundraiser the department held in the beginning of May was a success.

Ambulance Director Lee reported that it is EMS week. They served dinner the night before, served lunch to elementary students, are planning to award trophies for the coloring contest on Thursday as well. Director Lee noted that they had been approved for the leave behind program that they applied for. It was also mentioned that they are still providing service to the Boyceville EMS on occasion due to lack of coverage in Boyceville.

The Clerk-Treasurer's office reported they the DNR annual recycle grant was approved, providing the city with around \$9,000. She also mentioned that she had won a scholarship to attend the Clerk's & Treasurers Institute in July covering in full tuition costs in the amount of \$499.

Mayor Kletscher said that the Katie Leising Memorial Run was a great honor to fallen officer Leising. He indicated that there were 63 vehicles that took part in the processional.

A presentation was given by Joan Bartz regarding the playground equipment project at Hinman park. Paper handouts were provided to council showing the layout of the new equipment as well as detailed photos of all of the pieces they will be getting. She inquired as to which council members were on the Park Committee. She also inquired as to whether the city would be able to find any money to help support the project, specifically noting that the city gave \$10,000 in years past to Nextgen for the fiber upgrades that were put in around the city. Mayor Kletscher made mention that he had never in the past been asked by this committee for \$10,000, but that he had been asked for \$100,000 at one point. He noted that the public works department puts a lot of time into maintaining the park with mowing, caring for fields and other duties.

A site plan review for a shed project for Steve Wilcox at 101 Windmill Way was reviewed. Lynn McIntire from Cedar Corp went over the plan with respect to zoning, measurements and our current ordinances. It was determined by Cedar Corp that the shed would follow all of the ordinances and that they suggested the site plan be approved. Kraft moved and Schone seconded a motion approving the closure. Voice vote showed DeGross and Stoner voting yes, with Ross opposed.

Library Director Rochel Karlson presented a Storybook Garden Project she would like to start up this summer. She discussed a couple of options for location, one being the city owned park on 1<sup>st</sup> Street, as the park could use a little sprucing up anyway. She also said that Hinman park could be an option. She will be working the 4H kids on the project, with the option of asking more groups to participate such as Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. She would start with 3-4 stations this summer and then add on over the years. It was recommended by a couple of council members that the project happen at Hinman park, so to piggy back off of the new playground project that will be happening. Rochel will work with Public Works to determine a layout and where the best location in the park will be. It was noted that the 1<sup>st</sup> Street park is very dark and hasn't had the best reputation, leaving the project open for potential vandalism. It was decided to table further discussions until the June meeting.

Clerk-Treasurer LaBeree indicated that the IT Department we work with is pushing for upgrades to the server, as well as upgrades to our email platform. They sent a quote to the city with a rough estimate of around \$5000 for all of the upgrades. CT LaBeree also mentioned that the Cyber Security Grant that she applied for in January still has not been decided on or awarded. A follow up email the week prior indicated that they were getting close to a decision. LaBeree also noted that she had another company stopping on Tuesday to give an estimate on IT Services. Topic has been tabled for the June meeting in hopes that the information on the grant award will have been decided on.

Discussions on the ditch washout on Misty Lane were held. The site has been looked at by the public works department along with Mike Barstad. Mike offered to do all of the labor involved if the city would provide the materials. He's looking for a permanent solution to address the continuous washout and wants to try to redirect the water so it follows the ditch versus running across the road.

Discussions were held as to the future of the 1<sup>st</sup> Street park (park near the Catholic Church). Mayor Kletscher noted that the park is rarely used and that it really has only attracted the occasional vagrant and sometime teens who are up to no good. Kraft discussed the fact that the city has a lot of debt, and that the possibility of the sale of this park could bring in some income that could help offset some of the debt. Kraft noted that the total debt the city is carrying he believed was over 2 million dollars. Clerk-Treasurer LaBeree said she believed it to be at least that. Kraft discussed how he would like the sale of the park option to be floated and further discussions continued. It was mentioned that the park may have

been used as part of the “Green Space Initiative” at some point, so it would need to be looked into as to whether that was still the case.

At 8:19 p.m. DeGross moved and Kraft seconded a motion to adjourn. Voice vote carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kristin LaBeree  
Clerk-Treasurer