

**PRESENT:** Mayor Tim Goenner, **Council Members:** Sabrina Miller, Lance Gilliland, Stefany Janish, and Chad Nelson

**Absent:**

**Also Present:** Evan Johnson, Public Works Superintendent, City Engineer Keith Yapp, Ryan McCan City Clerk, Matt Lunser

Mayor Tim Goenner called the Council meeting at 7:00 P.M.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

**MOTION:** Motion made by Janish, seconded by Miller to approve the agenda as written. Motion approved by majority vote of all members present.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR APPROVAL**

- City Council Meeting Minutes – October 20<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- Accounts payable, receivables and EFTs for October 2025

**MOTION:** Motion made by Nelson, seconded by Janish to approve October 20<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Consent agenda items as listed. Motion approved by majority vote of all members present.

**OPEN FORUM:**

**SHERIFF REPORT**

40 calls out for Sheriff. O’Brothers had a series of liquor thefts, sheriff thinks it is a sporadic incident, but the county investigator is looking into the thefts.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

14 calls for Fire Department. 12 Medical and 2 other responses.

Increase in PERA SVF Benefit. Matt Lunser from Fire Department presented retirement benefits for firefighters and increasing the disbursements given after retirement.

**MOTION:** Motion made by Miller, seconded by Janish to increase benefit level to \$4300. Motion approved by majority vote. Chad Nelson Abstained

Resolution 25-17 Increase Firefighter Benefit Level

**MOTION:** Motion made by Miller, seconded by Janish to increase benefit level to \$4300 through resolution. Motion approved by majority vote. Chad Nelson Abstained

CLFD Budget Line -Item Adjustment/Creation. Fire Department is looking to move \$126,000 from an Assigned fund to their Committed Fund Balance. As well as approving the funds balance for 2024 for the committed funds from excess in 2024.

**MOTION:** Motion made by Janish, seconded by Gilliland to move funds of \$126,000 from assigned to committed funds and approving of 2024 committed funds and line items. Motion approved by majority vote of all members present.

### **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:**

Evan Johnson, Public Works Director reported on computer being hacked from an outside source. On-site has responded to hack and isolated PC, while working to restore to functionality.

Evan Johnson, Public Works Director and Keith Yapp, City Engineer presented the water study for the city. Advising what next steps are to proceed to an eventual new well and water tower.

**MOTION:** Motion made by Miller, seconded by Gilliland to move forward with next steps on water study. Motion approved by majority vote of all members present.

### **SHERBURNE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR BRUCE MESSELT**

Bruce Messelt, County Administrator reported on the changes and updates happening throughout the state and county that affects the community.

First is that the North Star Rail is closing indefinitely. The bus from St. Cloud to Elk River is also closing. Sherburne County is establishing a bus route from Elk River to the Cities passing through other cities on the way for pick up as well.

Second, the county is facing an issue with vapes and smoking within the county and more importantly school districts. They are being confiscated all the way down to elementary and middle schools. They are addressing this issue at county level on November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Lastly, that a lot of projects and program funds that were promised to the county and cities will not be paid out or will be paid in half the amount promised. This is impacting the county where they will be making staffing cuts at the county level to help ease the burden of the shortfall in revenue.

### **RESOLUTION 25-15 ADOPTING LIEN FOR UNPAID CHARGES**

City held a meeting for individuals that have not paid their sewer and water bills prior to the council meeting.

**MOTION:** Motion made by Gilliland, seconded by Janish to approve Resolution 25-15. Motion approved by majority vote of all members present.

### **COST OF LIVING**

City Staff presented cost of living and that this is applied to budget yearly for other cities around Clear Lake. The increase varies each year and is set up by council approval for the percent increase, so that the budget is set for the next year. 2026 is set for 2.8% currently.

**TABLED:** Cost of living tabled by council to look into the cost of living more and decide a percentage increase.

### **MN PAID LEAVE 2026 PROVIDER**

City Staff presented two options for MN PAID LEAVE 2026 providers. First is with the Minnesota State Unemployment at 0.88% and the other is 0.83% with AT Group provider.

**MOTION:** Motion made by Nelson, seconded by Janish to stay with the Minnesota State Unemployment.

Motion approved by majority vote of all members present.

### **ORIDNANCE #1005 CANNABIS PRODUCTS**

City staff presented fees for businesses establishing Cannabis and Low-Hemp retailers. With the new Minnesota State Law Chapter 342, no city can prohibit the sale of Cannabis and Low-Hemp products from being sold within the city.

**MOTION:** Motion made by Gilliland, seconded by Janish to establish a \$500 fee for Low-Hemp Products.

Motion approved by majority vote of all members present.

### **SECURITY IN CITY HALL**

City Staff presented security risk of the records room. The room has only a window preventing possible theft and break in. Staff ask that council install security bars on the window to prevent breaking in through the window.

**MOTION:** Motion made by Gilliland, seconded by Janish to install security bars on City Hall window with a limit of \$2500.

Motion approved by majority vote of all members present.

### **FOOD DRIVE BY STEFANY JANISH**

Council Member Stefany Janish is looking to establish a food drive box in city hall for community members to donate for the Clearwater-Clear Lake Food Shelf.

**MAYOR REPORT:**

NOTHING TO REPORT

**CITY CLERK'S REPORT**

1. Sewage Flow Rate and Base Rate corrections  
The city has been incorrectly billing customers for their sewer portion on their water-sewer bills. Staff have corrected the issue, and the residents may see an increase in their water-sewer bills for November.  
Sewer Flow Rate was charged \$13.24 when it should be \$13.65 as of 2017.  
Sewer Base Rate was charged \$50 when it should be \$55 as of 2023.
2. Amended fee Schedule – Sewer Base Rate – Resolution 25-16  
Updating the fee schedule to reflect correct amount for Sewer Base Rate at \$55.
3. Salary Survey on City for DEED Grant  
City Staff presented on the possibility for the city to receive up to 1.4 million dollars in grant money for updating street and sewer. The city would need to do a Salary Survey on residents throughout the city to determine low to medium income areas.

**MOTION:** Motion made by Gilliland, seconded by Janish to do a Salary Survey on the City. \$10,000 limit on the cost of the survey.  
Motion approved by majority vote of all members present.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Motion made by Janish, seconded by Nelson to adjourn the Council Meeting. Motion was approved by majority vote of all members present. 8:50 PM

---

Ryan McCann, City Clerk