

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

Absent: Council Member Sabrina Miller

Also Present: Evan Johnson, Public Works Superintendent, Sandy Borders, Interim City Clerk, Ron Koren, Fire Chief, Matt Lunser. Assistant Fire Chief, and Barry Schultz, Assistant Fire Chief

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

AGENDA APPROVAL

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

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

- City Council Meeting Minutes – August 5, 2025
- Accounts payable, receivables and EFTs for August 2025
- Resolution 2025-11 – Accepting Donation of \$10,000 for Fire Fighters PERA
- Date Change for September meeting to Tuesday, September 2nd because of Labor Day

MOTION: Motion made by Nelson, seconded by Janish to approve August 18, 2025, Consent agenda items as listed.

Motion approved by majority vote of all members present.

OPEN FORUM:

Chris Goenner asked about some items that the Public Works had for sale.

SHERIFF REPORT:

Sherburne County Sheriff was presented and gave a report for the month of July. There were extra patrols in the city during the month and a total of 40 calls for service.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Koren presented the monthly call report to the council. There were 19 calls of which 16 were medicals, 1 fire, 2 auto accidents.

Job Descriptions: The council was presented with the proposed job descriptions for the Clear Lake Fire Department officers. This had been reviewed at the last meeting.

MOTION: Motion was made by Janish, seconded by Gilliland to approve the job descriptions as written.

Motion approved by majority vote of all members present.

Koren spoke about the Fire Department open house that is held in October. He inquired about the Department hosting an Open House. There was discussion regarding giving away items for the public. The Council discussed that the items to be given away would be available for all the public and sponsored with money from the department budget, but if individual items were given out they would need to come from a donation.

Assistant Chief Lunser inquired about having an Amazon account. Staff will check about opening an account. He also mentioned the 2026 Budget and that there would be about a 14% increase. A bigger increase would be needed because of the inflation that has drastically increased the price of equipment. The department will be in discussions with the townships regarding the budget.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Evan Johnson, Public Works Superintendent, was present and reported about the activities within the department. The road repairs within the city have been completed. There were several ball tournaments. Rural Water is assisting with the completion of the Lead Pipe inventory and the notification of the Lead/copper pipes. This needs to be completed by October 1st. Water samples have been done for testing, no parking signs on Church Street will be installed, and he has been working with MidCo regarding internet connections.

PROPERTY TAX NOTICES:

Sherburne County is requesting a date for the Property Tax Public Hearing. The Truth in Taxation Public Hearing will be held on Monday, December 1, 2025, at 6:30 pm at City Hall. Notices of the Public Hearing will be sent out by the County.

REQUEST FROM NANCY SCOTT, BUILDING OFFICIAL FOR A MEETING WITH THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE CITY ATTORNEY:

Ms. Scott had requested a meeting with the council and the city attorney to discuss some of her concerns. The council will ask the attorney when he can make it to a regular City Council Meeting and keep Ms. Scott informed of that.

CITY AUDITOR ENGAGEMENT LETTER:

The city auditor BerganKDV has requested an engagement letter to be approved by the city council. The 2024 audit will be at a cost of \$30,000. Staff is in the process of working with the auditors to complete the audit. This is an annual item. The auditor have also asked for a 25% convenience fee if the deadlines for the audit are not completed on time. Council is not approving the 25% additional fees.

FIRE CONTRACT WITH CLEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP:

The township met with Council members Janish and Miller to discuss the Fire Contract with the township.

Council Member Janish reported on the following items that the Township would like to have the city and fire department consider:

1. Extend the contract to 2 -3 years with no rate increases
2. Next year's rate increases to be 3%
3. To be able to have a working budget available to see line items and where things stand.
4. Any mandated gear changes to be brought to the table to be paid for, not added to the budget. It was also requested that vehicles and scba's be taken out of yearly budget.
5. A preliminary budget to be presented to townships by February for the following year. (2/26 for 2027 budget)
6. The township has requested a fire department report at each of their meetings.

The fire contract for 2026 was included in the packet for review.

2026 BUDGET WORK SESSION:

The Council will be conducting a 2026 Budget Work Session on Tuesday, August 26 at 6:30 pm.

MAYOR REPORT:

Mayor Goenner expressed concerns regarding the overgrowth of some trees along the city street boulevards. Public Works will look into the situation.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported that there will be letters going out in September to residents/property owners about past due water/sewer bill and that the past due amount will be certified to the property taxes for 2026. There will be a Public Hearing regarding this matter at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion made by Nelson, seconded by Janish to adjourn the Council Meeting. Motion was approved by majority vote of all members present. 8:45 PM

Sandra Borders, Acting City Clerk