

Minutes
City Council
Monday, November 10th, 2025
5 pm

The meeting opened with the recitation of the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Pitzl called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with council members Chad Altermatt, Roger Baumann and Mike Remiger present.

Also present were Clerk/Treasurer/Administrator Brandon Baune, Engineer Matt Miller and Attorney Matt Novak.

EDA Update – Mr. Baune provided a brief update noting that they are still working through a solution for a new duplex. He also noted that the EDA had applied for a childcare grant which they should find out if they received it in the next couple of weeks.

Engineering Report – Mr. Miller provided the engineering report which included the following:

1. **Sanitary Sewer System** – Mr. Miller noted that most items are on hold until the government reopens.
2. **Water Treatment Plant and New Well Project** – Mr. Miller noted that contractors have begun working on the new supply line for Well #2. The new well is up and running and supplying water to the city
3. **LRIP Grant Opportunity** – Mr. Miller noted that the window for applying for this year's LRIP grant dollars. He gave the council an overview of the possible areas for which this grant money could be used for, including sidewalks downtown. He also noted that Mr. Baune could apply for the Grant Navigator Grant through the LMC, which gives \$5,000 to apply for grants. Bolton & Menk would then cap their expenses for applying for the grant to \$5,000. It was also noted that even if the city received the grant, they would not be obligated to take the funds. Motion by Altermatt, second by Remiger to apply for LRIP Grant as well as the LMC Grant Writers Grant.

Pitzl – yes; Altermatt – yes, Baumann – yes, Remiger - yes

Parks Report – Mr. Baune provided a parks report where the following items were noted:

1. **Drinking Fountain** – It not already removed, make sure the drinking fountain is put in storage.
2. **Winterizing** – Mr. Baune noted that all park bathrooms, fountains, etc. would be winterized in the next couple of days.

Clerk/Treasurer/Administrator – Mr. Baune provided the CTA Report which included the following item:

1. **LINC Redwood County/Veteran's Day** – Mr. Baune reminded the council Tuesday was LINC as well as Veteran's Day, so the office will be closed.

Street Report – Mr. Baune provided a street report which included the following:

- 1. Burn Permit** – Mr. Baune noted that council asked him to review the city's burn permit. He noted that our permit has been kept up-to-date, and that we would renew it on January 1st of this year, and every year going forward for simplicity.
- 2. Snow Removal Expectations** – There was a discussion on snow removal and what expectations could be set. It was a consensus of the council to have streets, at least through routes, open by 7:00 a.m. It was also noted that if the council was out plowing, the city should be as well.
- 3. Black Dirt** – It was noted by the council that conversations were had about use of the city's black dirt. It was the consensus of the council to keep the black dirt for city-use only.

Water/Wastewater Report – Mr. Baune provided a water/wastewater report which included the following items:

1. Class C Wastewater License/People Service – There were discussions about alternatives to PeopleService until Jim can take his exam again. Mr. Baune was given option to research before the next meeting.

Verizon Quote – Mr. Baune gave an overview of the quote provided in the packet. He noted that the quote was for company phones for the three employees who currently receive reimbursement for use of their personal phones. The quote also included an iPad which will be used with the locating equipment. By going this route, the city would save money and separating work and personal phones would provide great security. Motion by Remiger, second by Baumann to approve the Verizon quote for 3 phones, and 1 iPad.

Pitzl – yes; Altermatt – yes, Baumann – yes, Remiger – yes

Global Life Supplemental Benefits – Mr. Baune noted that he was approached by Gabrielle Cohrs about adding supplemental benefits through Global Life to the city's benefits package. He explained some of the benefits they offer, as how their benefits would be administered if we agreed to add them to our benefits package. It was the consensus of the council to add Global Life to our benefits package, as it only benefits current and perspective employees and does not place a burden on current administrative staff. It was also noted that the Fire Department has partnered with Global Life and they are very satisfied with the experience. Motion by Altermatt, second by Baumann to add Global Life to the city's benefits package.

Pitzl – yes; Altermatt – yes, Baumann – yes, Remiger – yes

PFML / Paid Leave – Mr. Baune provided an overview of the new PFML /Paid Leave law in Minnesota. He also noted that the packet included a lot of good information about the law, how it worked, and what cities needed to consider at this time. He noted that the most important item that the city needed to be concerned with is the percentage of the 0.88% tax the city was going to cover with a minimum percentage of 0.44%. Motion by Baumann, second by Altermatt for the city to cover the entire 0.88% tax for 2026.

Pitzl – yes; Altermatt – yes, Baumann – yes, Remiger – yes

Curfew Ordinance – Mr. Baune noted the final draft curfew ordinance in the packet, which was consistent with the draft provided last month. Motion by Baumann, second by Remiger to approve Curfew Ordinance #251.

Pitzl – yes; Altermatt – yes, Baumann – yes, Remiger – yes

Consent Agenda – Motion by Baumann, second by Altermatt to approve consent agenda as follows:

1. Approve Council Minutes – October 13th, 2025
2. Approve Pay Estimate #3 to Bolton & Menk in the amount of \$1,918.75
3. Approve the Application for Fireworks from Curt Serbus for the Wabasso Area Commercial Club for Winterfest on December 5th
4. Approve building permits for the following:
 - a. Chad Altermatt – 602 Hope Street
 - b. Israel and Jackie Ramos – 375 June Street
 - c. Eric Maasch – 1163 Dewey Street
 - d. Jeff and Angie Luepke – 377 June Street

Pitzl – yes; Altermatt – yes, Baumann – yes, Remiger – yes

City Bills – Motion by Guetter, second by Baumann to approve the bills as follows:

General Checking

101 General Fund	\$24,459.23
225 Fire	\$1,446.52
230 Ambulance	\$6,104.72
601 Water	\$8,178.69
602 Sewer	\$10,203.11
603 Refuse (Garbage) Fund	<u>\$8,466.98</u>
Total Checks	\$48,656.98

Pitzl – yes; Altermatt – yes, Baumann – yes, Remiger – yes

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m. with a motion by Altermatt and second by Baumann.

Pitzl – yes; Altermatt – yes, Baumann – yes, Remiger – yes

Brandon Baune

Clerk/Treasurer Administrator