

Minutes
City Council
Monday, April 13th, 2026
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 Amanda Guetter, Roger Baumann and Mike Remiger present.

Also present were Clerk/Treasurer/Administrator Brandon Baune, Engineers Matt Miller and John Graupman and EDA President Patt Eichten.

EDA Update – Mr. Eichten provided the EDA update, which included the following:

1. **Duplex** – The EDA continues to discuss their options. They are working on a firm quote before moving forward
2. **Childcare Grant** – Mr. Baune reached out to all daycares eligible for the grant, making sure they had information, and encouraging them to apply. RADC has also assisted with outreach.
3. **DEEM Loan** – The consolidation loan will be signed this week
4. **Lot Sale** – The closing on the lot will be signed this week.

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

1. **Sanitary Sewer Project** – The following items were discussed:
 - a. **Sanitary Sewer Update** – Mr. Miller noted that the main part of the project is complete. It was also noted that the warranty period started and that there were concerns with some grassy areas. B&M will work with Brandon and Jim on areas that need to be fixed. Warranty period ends on August 11th.
 - b. **GIS System Update** – Mr. Miller noted that he had met with Mr. Baune and the Public Works Department to review the new GIS set up for the city. It is up and running and the city will slowly integrate it into their work as they become more comfortable with it.
 - c. **LRIP Grant Application** – Mr. Miller noted that grant recipients were announced, and the city was not awarded any money.
 - d. **Generator Improvements Update** - Mr. Miller noted that plans and specs were submitted. He also noted that RD is allowing some of the additional items that the city was hoping to have included; however, it would mean updating the plans and specs to include these items. Some other items, like the mixer, cannot be included. Mr. Remiger noted that the city used to have one that is like what they were asking for. Mr. Baune to chat with Jim about the possibility that the city already has one.
2. **Water Treatment Plant and New Well Project Updates** – Mr. Novak began with an overview of the issue and where we are today with the issue of Rubin Construction, LLC and their last of proper performance and payment bonds. He advised that there are two

options at this point. The first option would be to give Rubin Construction more time. The second option is to terminate the contract and go out for new bids on the remainder of the contract. He also noted that this option still provides a 10-day notice, effectively giving Rubin Construction more time. Mr. Miller noted that PFA was contacted regarding funding on this project. They stated that the funds already committed were secure and that if additional funds were needed, they would be available at the same 50/50 loan/grant split. Mr. Baune also noted that city personnel were working to secure materials on site that have been paid for and are meant for the project. Motion by Guetter, second by Roger to send Contract, Rubin Construction, formal notice of termination, pursuant to the contract.

Pitzl – yes; Guetter – yes; Baumann – yes; Remiger - yes

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

1. **LINC Redwood County/Office Closure** – Mr. Baune reminded the council Tuesday was LINC, so he had planned to close the office in the afternoon.
2. **2025 Audit** – Mr. Baune also noted that he was working on gathering information for Auditors and that they would be working on this over the next month or so.

Parks Report – The following was discussed regarding parks:

1. **St. Anne's Park Equipment** – It was noted that St. Anne's plans to give the old playground equipment to the city should they want it. The city expects to know more in the coming month or so.
2. **Fencing at Field** – It was noted that missing fencing at the ballfield where the parking lot was added should be replaced. There is some fencing that the city has and can use, the rest will need to be ordered. Mr. Baune to have Mr. Jenniges work on this.
3. **Slide at Lions Playground** – It was noted that a piece of equipment is cracked at the park behind the community center. The concern is that kids could get fingers caught. Public workers need to address this right away.
4. **Handicapped and no Parking Signs at new Ballfield Parking Lot** – Mr. Baune to ask Public Works to work on this.

Street Report – Mr. Baune noted the following items:

1. **Jake-Braking** – It was noted that residents have been complaining about semis using their jake break. Mr. Novak noted that the noise ordinance should be updated to specifically call this behavior out. Once this is updated, the city can install signs at each end of the highways coming into town. Mr. Baune to provide Mr. Novak sample ordinances to have ready for next council meeting.
2. **Compost Pile Issues** – It was noted by the council that miscellaneous trash had been dumped onto the compost pile, then further mixed in by public works staff. It was recommended that public works staff make sure that cameras are working on watch more carefully for that behavior going forward.
3. **Dumpsters in Alley** – It was noted by council that there were issues with downtown businesses keeping their dumpsters in the alleyways. Mr. Baune to reach out to make sure these are moved if still in the way.

Water/Wastewater Report – Mr. Baune noted the following items:

1. **Hydrant Flushing** – Mr. Jenniges plans to have hydrant flushing completed in the next 10 days to 2 weeks.
2. **Testing** – Mr. Baune noted that he spoke with Paul Plaetz about questions on wastewater exam testing. He found out that the test can be taken every month. There is no harm in failing a test too many times; however, you cannot take an exam for 3 months following a failed test. It was the consensus of the council to get Jim enrolled in the upcoming exam offered in May.

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

1. Approve Council Minutes – March 9th, 2026
2. Approve Council Minutes – March 17th, 2026
3. Approve Council Minutes – March 30th, 2026
4. Approve Draw #8 to Bolton and Menk in the amount of \$4,933.50
5. Approve Building Permit for Amber Beadell – 751 Main Street
6. Approve Building Permit for Mike and Carol Remiger – 573 South Street
7. Approve Building Permit for Michelle Fennern – 2025 W Main Street
8. Pitzl – yes; Guetter – yes; Baumann – yes; Remiger - yes

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

General Checking	
101 General Fund	\$20,829.38
225 Fire	\$3,025.77
230 Ambulance	\$5,646.53
320 USDA Sewer Rehab	\$7,020.00
601 Water	\$13,614.84
602 Sewer	\$12,490.42
603 Refuse (Garbage) Fund	<u>\$6,226.37</u>
Total Checks	\$68,853.31

Pitzl – yes; Guetter – yes; Baumann – yes; Remiger - yes

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m. with a motion by Guetter and second by Remiger.
Pitzl – yes; Guetter – yes; Baumann – yes; Remiger - yes

Brandon Baune
Clerk/Treasurer Administrator