

Regular City Council Meeting

City Hall

October 6, 2025

Mayor DeBoer opened the meeting at 7:00pm and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Others Attending are:

Council: Kerri Baird and Justin Ferguson. Leonard Woehler and Jeff Davis attended via phone call.

City Staff: Hope Mosness, Clerk/Treasurer, and Jim Lippert, City Attorney

Public: Mike Shirley, Richard Christ, Anita Dore, Mark Curry, Lee Andreas, AJ Lorenzen, Christina Bowden, Nathan Bowden, Betty Alexander, and Linda Brunckhorst.

Councilwoman Baird made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting on September 15, 2025, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

Sheriff Ronneberg was not at the meeting.

Kris Novotny, Public Works Director, stated that the department has been preparing streets and getting them graveled. Two employees are going to school for two days to get their operator's certification. Parks, drinking fountains, and bathrooms are all winterized. Had some glitches at the water treatment plant from getting dirty power from Park Electric. Park Electric is going to put some phase regulators on the lines to help with the fault sensor problems. Councilman Woehler asked how the patching has been going around town. Kris reported that he thinks they got a majority of the potholes filled.

Mayor DeBoer presented different funding options for a new City Hall. Councilman Woehler updated that the engineer will be coming out soon to look at the city hall building for a second opinion. Councilwoman Baird stated that the taxidermy building is a fourth option. It costs \$595,000 and she estimated about \$200,000 to remodel it. It also includes a second lot that could be sold in the future. The different options were discussed by the Council. Councilman Ferguson suggested moving City Hall to the Dugout. Councilwoman Baird and Mayor DeBoer feel the Dugout is too important to the community to use and do not want to use it for City Hall. Public Comment: AJ Lorenzen stated that in his opinion we should allow the public to comment on what they would like for a City Hall and to allow the new administration coming in to make the decision. He thinks we should build up our cash for 2-3 years before purchasing a building. He asked about renting the extended care facility that the county owns or the two empty spaces on Main Street. Linda Brunckhorst asked how the grant money could be used in the Norem building. AJ Lorenzen stated that we should be able to use the grant money for the taxidermy building as well and thinks it is a great location. He also feels that there is not enough parking at the Norem building. Christina Bowden asked if we have a list of our needs for the new city hall and a current design for a new building. Richard Christ stated that we could save money by continuing to meet at the library. Betty Alexander mentioned that maybe there could be a joint effort with the

County to expand at the annex building. Mark Curry stated that the garage at the taxidermy building could be converted into a meeting space.

Mayor DeBoer stated that in looking at the annexation of the Fort back in 2009, it was discovered that the easement agreement was never signed or recorded with the County and a resolution was never passed to annex the Fort and adjoining property owned by Jeff and Laura Cowell into the City. They are currently on city sewer and water so they need to be annexed in. Jim Lippert stated that the property is now owned by their corporation and we need to have in writing what the owners would like to do. We also need to get the planning office involved. Hope Mosness stated that Mark Josephson is working with Page on getting the paperwork together. Mayor DeBoer explained that all three parcels would be done at once. The Council agreed that we need to move forward with the annexation. Councilman Ferguson asked about adding a fire hydrant close to the property. Kris stated that a fire hydrant is in the water plan and we could require them to do the water phase of the project first. Councilman Ferguson also is concerned about extending East 6th Avenue due to a building that is in the way. Public Comment: AJ Lorenzen asked if there would be any infrastructure cost to the city. Betty Alexander asked why an extension of E 6th Avenue is needed. Mayor DeBoer explained that all three parcels would be annexed at once rather than in phases.

Hope Mosness stated that the Insured Sweep Account started with a 5% interest rate, but has dropped down to 3%. The Council decided to have Hope go to all the banks in town and see what they can offer to put \$2 million of that money into CDs with staggered maturity on them so they do not all mature at the same time. Public Comment: AJ Lorenzen asked if the city goes to all the banks every time a CD is maturing. He also asked if the banks complain about the difference in amounts invested at each bank.

Jim Lippert asked for approval from the Council to put notice in the paper for a property survey for the second water tank. Councilwoman Baird, made a motion to approve the ad for bids to survey property for the second water tank, seconded by Councilman Woehler. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

Kris Novotny asked for credit cards for his two public works operators and Hope Mosness asked for a credit card for the new Library Director, Misti Titeca. Councilman Woehler made a motion to approve credit cards for the Public Works Operators and the new Library Director, seconded by Councilwoman Baird. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

Councilwoman Baird made a motion to untable the cardboard recycling rates, seconded by Councilman Ferguson. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council. Mayor DeBoer asked the Council to set rates for the cardboard dumpsters that are being serviced by Republic Services. Charges for the cardboard dumpsters will be in effect November 1, 2025. The Council debated charging \$5 or \$10 per yard. Hope stated that charging \$10 extra per yard would still make it less than half the cost of their trash. Public Comment: AJ Lorenzen asked if any of the council members had a conversation with the business owners about the new charge for cardboard recycling. Betty Alexander stated that because it is a convenience to the businesses, they should pay for it, but agrees it should be cheaper than garbage. Councilman Ferguson made a motion to tack on \$10 per yard to the cardboard recycling rates, seconded by Councilman Woehler. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

Councilman Ferguson made a motion to approve the 3rd Quarter Pledged Securities Report, seconded by Councilman Davis. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

Councilwoman Baird made a motion to approve the claims, payroll, and overtime for the month of September, seconded by Councilman Woehler. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.

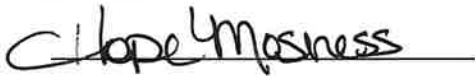
Public Comment: Anita Dore asked for an update on moving forward with the city doing our own garbage service. AJ Lorenzen asked what happened to the steel siding that was removed from the City Hall building as well as the signage and the lighting. He wanted to know if it was being recycled and if the city would receive some funds from it. Councilwoman Baird stated that a concerned citizen mentioned that there is a Tik Tok trend going on with people peeing on the slides and asked if it would be possible to have surveillance cameras at the park.

There being no further business to go before the Council, Councilman Woehler made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:26pm, seconded by Councilman Davis. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Council.



Greg DeBoer, Mayor

ATTEST:



Hope Mosness, Clerk/Treasurer



