

Announcement of Meeting
City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

5:00 PM

Council Chambers

A. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Patrick Baustian, Council Member Caroline Thorson, Council Member Kevin Aaker, Council Member Dan Nath, and Council Member Marlin Kracht

Additional : Benjamin Vander Kooi, Jessica Mead, Jill Wolf, and Tyler Reisch

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND SPECIAL ORDERS

A motion was made by Council Member Nath, seconded by Council Member Thorson, that the Agenda and Special Orders be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING(S)

D.1. [2025-101](#) City Council Minutes from March 11, 2025.

A motion was made by Council Member Aaker, seconded by Council Member Kracht, that the Minutes be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

E. RECOGNITION OF GUEST(S)

Lori Sorensen and Jane Lanphere.

F. PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPORTS

F.1. [2025-98](#) Luverne Aquatics & Fitness Minutes from January 13, 2025
EDA Minutes from February 10, 2025
HRA Minutes from February 12, 2025

A motion was made by Council Member Thorson, seconded by Council Member Nath, that this Other Boards and Commission Minutes be received and filed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

G. STAFF AND CONSULTANT REPORTS

G.1. [2025-103](#) Wastewater Treatment Facility Operational Award Presentation.

Mayor Baustian presented the award to Water/Wastewater Director Ykema. Ykema credited his staff for the award.

G.2. [2025-104](#) City Administrator Report.

Last Friday, we bid farewell to Public Works Technician Carter Riphagen, who is relocating to Sioux Falls with his wife for new employment opportunities. Carter was an exceptional worker, and while we are sad to see him go, we wish him all the best in his new adventure.

Public Works is making good progress with tree trimming, thanks to the favorable weather, and is also preparing for the apple scab treatment. The LAF team successfully replaced a fill pump in the pool. Meanwhile, the Electric Department has installed three new residential services and is collaborating with Wesco Distribution to test the 3-phase meters for CT and meter accuracy.

The Water Department has started potholing for lead service lines, completing the stretch from Barck to Dodge and beginning work on Estey today. They aim to finish the section from Estey to Main by the end of the week, managing about three potholes per hour, though progress can be slowed by tree roots.

Additionally, we sold the old jetvac trailer to a private contractor in Pennsylvania for \$25,000 through the state government bid site Munibid. It departed today on its journey to its new home.

H. FINANCE AND BUDGET**H.1. [2025-99](#) Second Claim Report for March 2025 (Check No. 164290-164414) for \$668,350.58.**

A motion was made by Council Member Aaker, seconded by Council Member Kracht, that this Motion be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

I. PERSONNEL

I.1. No items under personnel to consider.

J. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**J.1. [9-25](#) PROPOSED RESOLUTION
RESOLUTION FOR AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT AGREEMENT
FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT EXCLUDING LAND
ACQUISITION**

This proposed resolution authorizes the execution of a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation for airport improvement, specifically for the purchase of a new finishing

mower at the airport. The State will cover 70 percent of the cost, while the City will cover the remaining 30 percent. The city received a governmental discounted quote for \$28,828 for a Bush Hog Tri-Deck Finish Mower, the city share would be approximately \$8,648. The agreement outlines the responsibilities, financial contributions, and compliance requirements for the project, which must be completed by June 30, 2029.

A motion was made by Council Member Thorson, seconded by Council Member Aaker, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

K. MOTIONS AND GENERAL BUSINESS

- K.1. [2025-83](#)** Interconnection Agreement by and between Premium Minnesota Pork, LLC and City of Luverne, Minnesota by and through Luverne Municipal Utilities.

This agreement is to provide Premium Minnesota Pork an interconnection at the point of common coupling and operate a distributed energy resource (solar array) with a nameplate of 1.2 megawatts with the area EPS. The solar array Premium Minnesota Pork installed is ready to produce electricity and this agreement must be approved by the City Council acting as the Public Utilities Commission before production begins.

A motion was made by Council Member Nath, seconded by Council Member Kracht, that this Motion be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- K.2. [2025-96](#)** Application for Exempt Permit for the Luverne Baseball Association to Conduct a Raffle on July 20, 2025 at Redbird Field.

On behalf of the Luverne Baseball Association, Barry Shelton has submitted an application for exempt permit to conduct a raffle fundraiser on July 20, 2025 at Redbird Field.

A motion was made by Council Member Thorson, seconded by Council Member Nath, that this Motion be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- K.3. [2025-102](#)** Application for Exempt Permit for the Luverne Softball Association to Conduct a Raffle on June 28, 2025 at Joe Robert's Fields.

On behalf of the Luverne Softball Association, Michelle Dekam has submitted an application for exempt permit to conduct a raffle fundraiser on June 28, 2025 at Joe Robert's Fields.

A motion was made by Council Member Aaker, seconded by Council Member Kracht, that this Motion be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- K.4. [2025-97](#)** Private Use of Public Right-of-Way Request for Luverne Area

Chamber on July 11, 2025 at Redbird Field

Representing the Luverne Area Chamber & CVB, McKenzi Klein has submitted an application to host an event at Redbird Field from 4 pm - Midnight on July 11, 2025. The event includes food trucks, and a family friendly street dance from 8:00 pm to midnight following the Redbird baseball game. A stage will be placed on the cement area north of the baseball field and street closure is requested for Redbird Road from Main Street to Warren.

A motion was made by Council Member Thorson, seconded by Council Member Nath, that this Motion be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

L. COUNCIL REQUESTS - GENERAL DISCUSSION

Kids Rock presented at Rotary today, which included a tour. The Kids Rock! Board is continuing to adopt policies and prepare for the opening. Nath attended the LIFT Gala last Friday. Rotary also toured Blue Mound Towers, where apartments are being renovated between tenants.

M. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Council Member Aaker, seconded by Council Member Kracht, to adjourn the meeting at 5:22 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Jessica Mead, City Clerk

Patrick T. Baustian, Mayor