



BALDWIN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 24TH, 2025

Present – Mayor Jay Swanson, City Council; Tom Rush, Alan Walker, Scott Case and Jeff Holm

Jeff Holm arrived at 7:45 p.m.

Also Present – City Attorney; Bob Ruppe from Couri & Ruppe and City Engineer; Matt Kind from Hakanson Anderson

Call to Order – The February 24th, 2025 regular meeting of the City of Baldwin was called to order by Mayor Jay Swanson at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance – All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer Request from Delmas Hines

Additions/Corrections to Agenda

Approval of Regular Meeting Agenda With/Without Additions/Corrections - Rush/Case unanimous to approve as amended.

January 2025 final Treasurer's Report – Beginning balance of \$975,411.07, Receipts of \$84,258.22, Disbursements of \$365,634.74; Check Numbers 28264 – 28317 and 49 EFT Payments which includes the Fire Department Payroll in January. This leaves an unaudited ending balance of \$694,034.55.

February 2025 Preliminary Treasurer's Report – The Clerk/Treasurer reported a beginning balance of \$694,034.55, Receipts of \$165,562.54, Disbursements of \$188,743.24, leaving an unaudited balance of \$670,853.85.

Public Comment Requests:

- Larry Doose: 900 Airport Road, Princeton – Mr. Doose attended the City Council meeting tonight to discuss the road agreement on 136th Street. Mr. Doose would like to limit the responsibility of Sylva Corporation for 136th Street only for the northern section of approximately 700 feet from County Road 3. Mr. Doose communicated that the business on this road has been scaled back to select vendors and not to include residents. Entrance will be designed for trucks to enter into the north only off of County Road 3. **Case/Walker unanimous to approve** City Attorney, Ruppe, to work on modifying 136th Street road agreement. This would be for 700 feet responsibility to Sylva Corporation and a resolution, if needed, for weight restrictions. City Engineer, Kind, to work on weight restriction signage.
- Anita Schneider: 14151 296th Circle NW – Questions about voting on the Fire Department ladder truck. Anita was at the February 10th, 2025 reconvened

meeting when the vote failed for the aerial apparatus infrastructure equipment/ladder truck for the fire department. The vote failed due to a 2-2 tied vote. Anita was under the impression that Roberts Rule was followed for Baldwin's City Council meetings. City Attorney, Ruppe, stated that Roberts Rule has not been adopted by the City Council. City Attorney, Ruppe, stated that the Council can govern the city as they feel appropriate.

Approval of Consent Agenda – Case/Walker unanimous to approve.

- Approve Claims List – Check Numbers 28346 – 28390 for \$104,913.97 and 7 EFT Payments for \$4933.66 for a total of \$109,847.63.
- Approve City Council Meeting Minutes for February 3rd, 2025 and Reconvene City Council Meeting Minutes for February 10th, 2025.

Engineering:

Discuss Soil Borings on 100th and 297th Street – City Engineer, Kind, indicated that additional soil borings were scheduled to be drilled Tuesday, February 11th, 2025. Due to the extreme cold, this did not get done. Braun is scheduled to drill for soil borings on February 25th, 2025 and the soil borings will be sent to Kind, the City Engineer. Braun is doing 10 new soil borings on these roads. There are several troubled areas and sinkholes on these roads. Baldwin's Public Works Supervisor, Zac Good, has been in contact with the City Engineer in the past regarding these areas. These areas previously communicated to our City Engineer by our Public Works Supervisor, Good, are South of 29038 100th St. West side of road 2 locations (75' sinkhole area), Re-drill near 29239 100th St. West side of Rd., East of 10659 297th Ave. South side of Rd. and 297th Avenue and 104th Street on the northside of the road and west of the intersection. Swanson questioned if 10 soil borings were enough and City Engineer, Kind, indicated it is enough based on previous soil borings.

Discuss Stormwater Projects for Sandy Lake and Lake Diann – City Engineer, Kind, received reviews and comments from Bogart & Pederson and they offered responses to the comments and recommendations that have been made in the review. Kind recommends Bogart & Pederson facilitate the request for proposals (RFP) since they completed the original plans. The Council agreed that Bogart should do the RFP's. Swanson said that the curve and gutter should be concrete. This is a cost share with Sherburne County Soil and Water (SWCW). Rush indicated that SCSW was to pay the engineering. Kind indicated that on the Lake Diann side there is an apron that is asphalt. This is to be replaced with concrete as well per the City Council.

Jeff Holm arrived at 7:45 p.m.

Discuss Culvert Repairs on 305th Avenue – Rush spoke that he is following up on the culvert repairs on 305th avenue from last fall. There were 4 culverts that dropped and they need to be replaced this spring. The culverts will need to be removed and replaced with the appropriate grade. Last fall the City Engineer, Kind, received the design plan for the removal and replacement of the culverts along with limited ditch grading. Kind is

asking if he can send these design plans out to get Request for Proposals. City Engineer, Kind, indicated that he has a list of contractors from Rush and the Public Works Supervisor, Good. Kind stated if the Council had any other recommendations for contractors that Kind should be reaching out to, that the Council should let him know.

Discuss MSA Funding – City Engineer, Kind, explained the 2 options for maintenance funding distribution of MSA funding. The default provision the city can get is \$1500.00/improved mile. The other option is 25% of the total annual distribution which the vast majority of cities opt for. The 25% maintenance distribution is received every year regardless of if the city has a road project or not. The 25% maintenance received yearly can be used for any road expenses and is not tracked by the State of Minnesota. For the construction distribution, the city must have a project that has begun construction activity to request any of the annual 75% allotment. The other 75% gets banked and doesn't ever go away per City Engineer, Kind. Kind indicated you can borrow for up to 5 years against the MSA Funding. An example of this would be if a city had large road projects. You cannot request money until a project has begun construction activity in order to get the remaining 75% allotment. City Attorney, Ruppe, indicated you can pledge the money up to 10 years to service the debt service fund.

Discuss 278th, 120th and 123rd Punchlist for Pavement and Culverts Repairs – Rush brought this up because of the pavement and culvert repairs needed in this area. The culverts were repaired in this area and additional repairs need to be done this spring. Kind indicated he doesn't have any concerns on the culvert flow, he does not have any concerns in this area and believes that nature will take care of this area. Kind indicated that Knife River will want to be paid for the pavement repair but this is corrective repairs and Hakanson Anderson is disputing these charges with Knife River.

Frontier Trails Update:

The Clerk received an email from Wastewater Manager, Mike Gwynn, stating the numbers look good for January 2025. Gwynn went on to state with the cold weather in February, the treatment is not as good and the limit for total nitrogen may need to be looked at.

The financials for Frontier Trails show total receipts of \$4228.80 and disbursements of \$55,033.95 which is due to the first bond payment in 2025. This leaves a negative balance for the month of January 2025 of \$50,805.15.

Road Report:

Discuss Public Works Report – Full Public Works report available in the Clerk's Office

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove 2024 Freightliner Plow Truck Change Order – With the revised change order, the price was reduced by approximately \$3000.00. The quote from Towmaster truck is \$47,248.00 and the quote from J-Craft is \$100,377.00. Towmaster quote is 15 weeks, so the middle of May for the plow gear. The truck build would then be slotted for a June/July 2025. Baldwin's Public Works Supervisor communicated that this timeline is probably going to be extended until

September or October. City Attorney, Ruppe, discussed that the City should look into Sourcewell out of Staples, MN. City Attorney, Ruppe, does not recommend Towmaster due to the liability that is stated in their contract. The City has the truck, just not the components. **Rush/Walker unanimous to table** until the March 3rd, 2025 City Council meeting in order for Public Works Supervisor, Good, to reach out to Sourcewell.

Discuss Enclosed Trailer for Public Works – Walker spoke that having an enclosed trailer for Public Works would be more efficient for putting signs in and lawn mowers for parks and cemetery. Swanson asked what size and Walker indicated 26 feet. Case asked new or used and Walker indicated new. Rush stated that we should look into used trailers as well. Walker to bring pricing back to the March 17th, 2025 City Council meeting. Swanson would like to see used and new pricing.

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove EMS Sign Charge Changed from \$30.00 to \$35.00 – Pricing from M-R Sign increased from \$30.00 to \$31.70. Pricing could increase due to tariffs. **Rush/Walker unanimous to approve** EMS sign increase to \$35.00 per sign.

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove EMS Signs Changing from Baldwin to the City of Baldwin – **Case/Rush unanimous to approve** all new EMS signs to continue to read Baldwin.

Discuss Obstructions in Road Right of Way – Rush spoke of obstructions in the road right of way. Rush stated that steel poles, cement and any obstructions should be removed due to safety of residents and snowplowing. Baldwin's City Attorney, Ruppe, said that it is the responsibility of the City to send letters and enforcement of obstructions in the road right of way. Rush would like Baldwin's Facebook page, website and newsletter to include communication on obstructions in the road right of way and the immediate need to be removed due to safety. Case indicated that we need to protect the City when there is obstructions in the road right of way. If Public Works or a Snowplow Driver sees these obstructions, they need to bring this to the attention of City Staff. Swanson would like the concrete slab removed at PID# 01-00551-0235. This is a safety issue and should be removed immediately. **Case/Rush unanimous to approve** removing cement slab at PID# 01-00551-0235 in the road right of way. The Public Works Supervisor, Good, is unclear of the fiberglass rods. Good thinks these rods are a benefit to the snowplow driver's. Case and Rush do not have an issue with these fiberglass rods in road right of way.

Tabled Items:

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove 136th Street Road Agreement – This has already been discussed under Public Comments Request's.

Discuss Yearly Goals for 2025 – City Council 2025 yearly goals were completed. The City Council 2025 yearly goals are attached as the last page of these meeting minutes.

New Business:

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove Infrastructure Committee Members – The City Council received 13 applicants. Holm would like the first meeting to be on goals, expectations and a tour of Baldwin's current facility. Holm stated that originally it was voted to have 7 members. The City Council liaison for these meeting is Walker and Holm. The recommendations would come in 6-7 months from the Infrastructure committee. The first meeting to be Thursday, March 27th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Holm/Walker unanimous to approve March 27th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. and to have all 13 applicants, 7 meetings with a \$40.00 stipend for a total of \$3640.00.

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove Purchasing Used Aerial Apparatus Truck worth \$2,000,000 for \$10,000 –

Mayor Swanson: That's me meaning I put that back on and so this is back on the agenda um and I'm just going to say that hindsight being 2020 what probably should have happened um we recessed the February 3rd meeting to give everybody a chance to take a look at that and we recessed that meeting on the 10th of February and in the hopes that we would have a full Council and we didn't. What probably should have happened at that point in time, and I'll take the onus on me whatever but it probably should have been tabled because we didn't have a full Council. That way at least we would have gotten the word of the full Council. And so basically what had happened is um that we a motioned, I made a motion and Mr. Case seconded it and that was to purchase this truck whatever and it failed due to a tie. So because of the way the statute is written, that is, if it's a tied vote, it's a failed vote.

Um, After that, I had sent a text to Mr. Holm, and I told him that because it had tied for a fail or failed because of a tie and also to now we had some words from our attorney earlier in the day whatever that says we can bring these things back up. I am just going to say as the Mayor, as me, my personal feelings is we didn't get a full, ahahah, the people of the town weren't fully represented. In other words, we did that, I should have tabled that at that point in time until we had a full council, and we didn't. I emailed or texted I should say, Mr. Holm and, whatever, asked him, cause I had not heard from his words if you would, was if he was up or down at this point in time and we ultimately ended up with a phone call and he said that he had enough information at that point in time, that he would be willing to entertain it if it was put back on the agenda. Mr. Holm, I will let you elaborate on that because I know it's your words from your mouth.

Holm: Sure, um, I wasn't able to attend that meeting due to work and um, you had sent that text I believe on Wednesday, and Thursday, and a, I came into the Town Hall and actually went over to the Fire Department and took a look at the truck. I had not seen the truck. And while I was over there, I did have a chance to talk to a couple of fire department members as they were getting ready for a grass fire call and got some insight from them and, kind of checked out the truck. Kind of realized it wasn't what I had quite in my mind and I reached out to Chief Case and I spoke with him for a good long while on the phone, and I also got in a got in touch with Bruce West because Bruce had made comment at the meeting on Monday of that week, and got his insight about it

and learned that it is actually a quint and then I, they explained, and I did my own homework on what is a quint and I found that, you know, the truck is in exceptional condition and there is a lot of different ways that it could be utilized and I think if I had been here on Monday at that meeting, I didn't have that much insight on it or have had the opportunity or made the opportunity to reach out to our fire department, um, folks to see where they are coming from on it and after that, I think it could be, a great value to the township in many ways that we would be able to utilize it.

Mayor Swanson: City, City

Holm: City, did I say township?

Mayor Swanson: Yeah

Holm: It's so hard to get that out. Anyways, so with that I'm going to make a motion to approve purchasing the truck for \$10,000.

Rush: Mr. Mayor, further discussion when Mr. Holm is done.

Mayor Swanson: Well, there is a motion on the table that needs to be seconded. So, there is a motion, is there a second?

Case: I'll second.

Mayor Swanson: Motion seconded. Any further discussion?

Rush: Yeah, before we move the vote here, I just want to say, I am disappointed in how this whole process came about. At the January 6th meeting, we had a discussion, Mr. Mayor found it on Facebook, it was here, it was brought for discussion only, to have the chief go out with fire department personnel to go look at it and then, um, January 27th, I chaired a meeting in your absence and there was no discussion about the fire truck, anything. January 28th, I come to, I am driving to the school board meeting and I'm about to drive off the road, the truck is sitting outside there. So, I called Joan the next day and asked her what's the truck doing here. I am a city council member, I knew nothing about this and...

Walker: I didn't know

Rush: and either did council member Walker or council member Holm. So, there has to be a new process in place going forward. And I understand, that you Scott, the Chief called the mayor, to bring it over here because there was interest from other parties are interested and it was kind of a show and tell for City Council. Problem is, there was no show and tell for the City Council because there was no email sent to the city council letting them know that the truck was there. I found out because I called. And, I know there was a text sent to the fire department to come look at the truck but there was no communication. Come February 3rd meeting, I am presented to vote on this, there is no

paperwork or nothing, no maintenance records, no um certification questions and as a city council member, I want to do my due diligence and that's why I made a motion to table it to the February 10th meeting. And you already explained it, two to two vote and then here we are. I thought the truck would have been returned back to the vendor, but here it is on the agenda, and that's where we are today. So going forward, whatever the vote is, I think we have to have better communication. As a city council member, I was very quite very disappointed in how this whole thing transposed. And going forward, I spoke to Bob about this, that we need to have a process that there is something in place cause, if I bought a plow truck and brought it back here, and just had the maintenance crew go look at it. Then have the snowplow drivers come and look and you guys didn't know about it. I would probably need a case of charmin, a truck load.

Holm: We didn't buy it

Rush: No, I'm saying bringing it back

Case: But you implied that we bought it. We didn't buy it. We brought it back to let everybody look at it. Tom, when you saw the truck here and you guys were aware of it here, had you gone over to look at it? Not, either one of you two have not gone over to look at it. It's been here a couple weeks. You haven't even bothered to look at it. If you want to do due diligence, at least look at the truck. If you had looked at the truck, and still decided yeah..

Rush: Ok that's your opinion Scott but for me..

Case: So if I shop for a car and I never look at it

Rush: There was no communication to send an email to the board or a personal phone call like it was made with Jeff that you discussed. Hey Tom the trucks here, come and look at it. I was out of town that weekend and I come to the February 3rd meeting and there is nothing in front of me. What am I suppose to vote on? I have no maintenance records, you brought a stack of books over. What am I suppose to vote on? Ok – If I'm going to purchase something, I want to see the maintenance records, the certifications are going to cost, I already gave my opinion about why I wanted

Case: By the end of the meeting, the maintenance records were over here.

Rush: yes, I'm not going to look through a stack of books, that's why I made a motion to table it.

Mayor Swanson: Well, that's why we recessed the meeting to the 10th.

Rush: Yes, but I'm just saying the communication process

Case: Another week.

Rush: The communication process needs to be better, gentleman, I'm just saying.

Mayor Swanson: and I am not saying it doesn't but

Rush: I am not saying anybody did anything wrong, I'm just saying, we need to work on a better process. Of this coming, of being presented, communication is key. There is 3 city council members that didn't get any notification the truck is here, I mean, I know I'm a

Case: The intention was not to bring it back that day. The owner said take it. It's a nice day, show it to the city council. So that's what we did. And I called the Mayor before we left there to check with him.

Mayor Swanson: and before I did that, I talked with Joan to make sure we check with the League of Minnesota Cities for insurance to make sure we have a rider to cover us to be able to do that, otherwise no. And also to make sure to tell the seller that on no uncertain terms, the council doesn't approve it, for whatever reason, its coming back. He's going to have four and a half hours, four hours, five hours, of mileage and time on the machine once he gets it back. And he was apparently ok with it.

Case: He's been great.

Mayor Swanson: And so, being that it was here and you saw it and weren't made aware of it by email or any chains like that, I can understand that but I thought that that's what the extra week was for. I thought that we recessed that meeting for a week that you guys could get over there and take a look at it so whatever. So from my standpoint, you guys were given time, you know what I mean, we discussed it that night. Is that enough time for you? We recessed this for a week. Mr. Ruppe was there at the meeting as well. Do we recess this for one week or do we need more time and anyway, it was said that both of you had thought that it would be possible. And what also made it available hopefully for another meeting for Mr. Holm then. You know, to be available to make this vote. Again, like I said earlier here, I will take the onus of all of that because what we should have done didn't have a full council, so would have had to table it at that point in time until we had a full council to vote. Once we had a vote, it would have been with the full council. And again, I am just going to say this for my own stand point here, whatever, I think it is a phenomenal deal for the town. Phenomenal deal for the city. Phenomenal deal for the Fire Department. And I also want to take a minute here and discuss or describe why I put it on the agenda as I did. I had hoped that 2 million dollars for 10,000 dollars would fill this room. So that a whole lot of us, whatever, could have had this discussion here and done that. That being said, we know for a fact, hang on, we know for a fact that we have purchased, we have signed the purchase agreement for the new pump truck. And that is going to be a little over 1 million dollars and a 4 year delivery. Alright, so now, what we have in this truck, as Mr. Holm eluded to, we have a quint, this is also a pump truck, so it's not like unless we need the ladder it's not going to leave the barn. This is actually a replacement. And we had another issue come up actually, it was a fire scene, where pump 1, sorry if I got the numbers

wrong, but at any rate, pump 1 was down. Right, so here they are squirting water at a fire and that pump went down. Well, and so now what they had to do, was do some scrambling to get the other pump hooked up, water going again, here it is. Does this truck have anything to do with that? No not at all. Zero, zip, nada. But the other part of that is, now we were down to 1 pump truck. Right, and something were to happen at some point in time, we were down to 1 pump truck. I don't know if we got this one fixed yet or its back in service or whatever, there it is. So the other part is with this truck now, we can use that actually for another pump. Right, this is everything we bought for a million dollars, plus a ladder on top of it. And so, doing some investigation, we got from a resident who was in the know, that said the new truck was 2 million dollars. I was also talking to somebody from the city of Otsego who just started their new fire department over there and they had just purchased 2 trucks. One is a ladder truck, one is a pump truck and for those 2 pieces of equipment is over 4 million dollars. And it didn't go all to the pump truck, a good part was the ladder truck. So are we discussing the deal that we have in front of us today for 10,000 dollars? Yes we are. Will this ever happen again? Who knows, we don't know. I don't know. Maybe. Yes. Maybe. Never. Who knows, I don't know.

Rush: I don't have a problem if that happens again. I just want to know the process.

Mayor Swanson: No, I know. But I'm just telling you, that this is what I want to do and the seller wants 10,000 dollars. And so, as some kind of thing, I thought it was worth a discussion. And I will take it on me as well again to say I put it on the agenda, Mr. Holm had an idea and he had not been heard yet. Right, so if we get a full council involved in an actual vote, I think more represents the township, oh now I'm doing it, the city, right, and so here we are.

Holm: Mr. Chair. Mayor.

Mayor Swanson: Yes

Holm: Prior to the February 10th, the reconvening, the recess, so prior to that I had a lot of questions and concerns about certifications and maintenance and Council Member Walker took the books home and read through them and they were pretty straight forward is the report I got back from him and there was nothing, no major anything that jumped out at him or whatever. Um, I have heard confirmed the certification the cost of that is not insignificant. As of right now, is there any known repair, that you...

Case: As in any apparatus like that, I think there is probably going to be, as I reiterated in prior meetings, it was about, you know, I was thinking up to 10 grand, just, we had the people working on a rig and they took a quick glance at this rig and probably 3,000 dollars just to get it up and running. It runs now, but it needs some new dials and little lights

Mr. Holm: For the pump?

Case: For the pump, yeah.

Holm: OK, and then it looks funny when you say 2 million on here Mayor Swanson

Mayor Swanson: That's a new one.

Holm: For a new one.

Rush: yeah, that's brand new.

Holm: but I did look around the used market. And I didn't find any for 10,000 or 15,000, or 20,000. They were 150 to 200,000 for 15 years old and older. And they weren't all exceptional looking either in the photos. Some of them were kind of used up, some of them were maybe not the perfect fit either too. I think this one is kind of the sweet spot, um, that it would work in a lot of different ways. I don't know if you could talk about maybe, you mentioned the squirter..

Case: It's got a squirt on it, it's a 66 boom ladder, its undersized for most municipalities, but it works for here. It is slightly longer than our current pumpers. It's a single axel. It's a quint, which a quint is basically a pumper truck with a ladder attached and just short term, a synopsis of it. But it's a multi-functional rig. We can use it at accident scenes as a blocker, it carries more equipment. We had a fire last Sunday, a pole barn. It was 10 below, it was icy. The one the Mayor referred to. We were trying to put a 24-foot ladder up against the side, to have a steel pole barn on slippery icy stuff, where with this ladder we can just extend the ladder, put the nozzle right in the holder. Cause I had firefighters up there trying to cut and lock it in and stuff, we couldn't go back up that ladder later on later in the night because it was just too icy. We couldn't do it. And we would have lost the building, fortunately we were able to access from the inside of the building. This would have been nice just to douse that attic space with it. I think it's an opportunity for the city to have a tool that we will not have an opportunity to have. We can do extensive training. It has abilities that we don't have right now. Do we have a lot of large structures? No, we have a few. And a master stream, an elevated master stream we don't have right now, we have to call in from our neighboring municipalities where currently with this one, if we had it up and running, that would be functional. We would have it on scene within a few minutes.

Holm: And when we replaced engine 2 with engine 3 back in 08ish, 07, 08 whatever, there was desire to keep that truck with the squirt or at least just take the squirt off of it and maybe mount it on a different truck in the future. And we did, we sold it, and we have been regretting it for a number of years.

Rush: Mr. Mayor, I just have 3 questions for the chief. So, the 7500 dollars that were stated at the February 3rd meeting, for ladder training. Who do we pay that to? The City of Princeton? There was in the meeting minutes that 7500 dollars, 7 thousand 5 hundred training

Case: That's approximately what I spend a year on training overall. Through the state, through our stuff. If you look at my budget, you will see the training budget. We do that. We get reimbursed from the state. Um, Captain Miller, we got about 8,000 dollars back from the state, reimbursement for training. So, in that aspect, it's a wash. But it's a continuing training aspect that we use. It's not, it's nothing that is new coming out of the budget. Just be part of the training on the same nights we do it. It's not like I am pulling somebody in to train us on it. I have 30 years of experience on a major fire department, I know how ladder trucks operate.

Rush: I was just asking for justification of the cost there, that's all I was asking.

Case: It's a cost we have had forever.

Rush: Well, I wasn't aware of it. So that's why I was asking.

Joan/Clerk: It is stated in there that it is a 7500 dollar savings if we were to purchase that truck, that he wouldn't have to pay for training. The truck would utilize that, at that cost. That's what it stated.

Rush: Ok, then my second question. When was the last time the pumper and ladder had been certified?

Case: The last time they were certified?

Rush: Yeah.

Case: So, in the documentation we have, they had those, you saw the 2017 stuff.

Walker: Yeah.

Case: That's the documentation we have, but that's from the current owner. He doesn't have the documentation from the former fire department. That department had it in service last summer. So, I am assuming, just an assumption that they were up to certifications at that point when they sold it. We will get it recertified. To do the basic ladder certification is 1,000 dollars which we have to do that yearly, we have to do that for our other ladders also. To get the 5-year certification is about 3,000 dollars. We will do that, as soon as we can get that done, and then it is good for 5 years. The pump certification is about 1,000 dollars, it's the same as our other pump. It's probably less than that, I don't know the exact number.

Rush: Ok, I just think. I'll just add a few more cents here, I think we have mutual aid, we have, just so you know we have 3 ladder trucks in a 10-mile radius here. I think we have mutual aid. The parts are going to be very hard to find on this in my opinion. I think this is more of a want than a need. Um, Now we have to, a, expedite doing additions to the current facilities, you know cause its tight as a sardine can in there. And I just don't know, we don't have any tall structures here. The church is one dimension, I go to

church, I see it on the thing. I just don't think we have any structures. Zimmerman has got the apartments off 169, Princeton's got apartments, I see the need for the tall structures. So that's just my 2 cents on it.

Holm: What's the side wall for your building?

Mayor Swanson: 24 feet

Holm: 24 feet. What's the reach of your current ladders?

Case: Not 24 feet. Cause you know it can go 20, If you extend above the building, we cannot reach that. The other thing is not tall structures, it's large structures for elevated master stream, that's why I am saying that. We don't have the apartment buildings, nor do I want apartment buildings but when we have large pole barns, we have no way to do an elevated master stream on those except if we called in for mutual aid. The problem is we are not assured that we are going to get that mutual aid cause their ladder could either be down or out, or on something else. The other problem is as soon as rigs are set up, you need to leave room for a ladder and once we are set up, we are not going to be able to get that mutual aid ladder in there. But with this, we will know where to set the ladder up immediately because we have it available.

Holm: I have a question. What is the size of Princeton or Zimmerman ladder as far as the vehicle itself getting into rural property.

Case: The Princeton ladder I believe is 110 foot bucket aerial and it's a dual axle, if I remember. Zimmerman, I believe, is approximately the same and there's is a much larger vehicle than this one.

Rush: Mr. Mayor, I thank you for letting me say my peace. And I just think going forward, whatever decision is rendered tonight, we have to have a better process in place.

Holm: I don't disagree with you, but we aren't perfect and I had some issues with it at first and I was on the board when Boyer truck brought a sterling 550, or whatever, I couldn't remember the sterling like 550 with a box and a plow on it. And they had an invoice all ready to go and dropped it off and said we are going to leave it here for a couple days for you guys to go ahead and buy it. Terry Carlisle just went to inquire about a truck and wanted to get some prices and an over excited salesman was more than happy to, well why don't you just bring the truck up here. And the truck was up here. Supervisor Volkemer about blew a gasket over it and went to the sheriff's department and had an investigation and I had to sit and be questioned about 3 times over by Scott Files and that was intense. And Volkemer was trying to string up Terry Carlisle, I mean its personnel at the time and at the end of it there was no wrong doing. Nothing illegal happened. It was just a miscommunication or whatever. But yeah, I don't disagree with you Tom. You know, but at the same time, It has been here for how many weeks.

Rush: January 20th

Holm: And have you gone over there to look at it?

Rush: Huh

Holm: Other than driving by, have you driven in here and looked at it or just saw it in the corner of your eye

Rush: No, I looked at the maintenance records, the certifications and that was enough. I heard it looks immaculate but I..

Holm: Well, how about just what the truck is, I mean, cause you could have a picture in your head of one thing and

Rush: I'm surprised were getting a 91 because when we voted for a new tender, I asked the question is there any used equipment out there and I was told no, there's nothing out there. And now we are getting a 1991.

Holm: Well, I was looking at that too. I saw, I saw um, pierce fire engines that were anywhere from 4 years old to 15 years old, you know a 15-year-old truck with maybe 10 years of life left in it, I seen for somewhere in the 2 to 300 thousand dollar range. But just because I saw the listing doesn't tell me what the specs were on it and whether or not that would actually work for our needs. Cause when we bought Engine Number 3, we bought a demo. That was Paul Volkemers last act on the board was I am going to try and get some votes here for re-election and buy this engine and when the salesman came in here he was like, well the mission is next year on the engine. And there was some seatbelt system and now there's a computer deal that's going to cost another 8,000 dollars for the compliant feat. And a so, Paul pushed and pushed for this, I was the chair at the time, and I actually voted against that fire engine and I signed the check and I wrote on it in protest in the memo, Just for grins. But we went over to Rosenbauer to pick it up and what did we have to do before we got that truck? A whole bunch of retrofit work. How much did that cost additional?

Case: 110,000 dollars

Holm: So here we got this demo we are saving money on but then we had to spend another 110,000 dollars on it right out of the whole to make it work for the township. So, when you see used trucks on the market, yeah, there may be one out there, but it could be a needle in the haystack

Rush: But this is my other question, if this truck is worth 100,000, or 500,000 whatever it is, I don't know the appraisal. Why is this guy selling it for 10,000 dollars if he knows it's worth that much. Why is he selling it so dirt cheap? That's my only other concern and I just think you are peeling on onion which you don't know so I'll be quiet.

Case: Well, can I answer that, so he's associated with the fire service over there with the fire trucks. He was going to make it a vehicle hauler but was too nice to do it, didn't want to do it. We were one of the first to inquire about it. He is happier than heck to be giving it back to a fire department and get it back in service. That is the reasons he's doing it. Um a Nothing malicious, he bought it on an auction, I think he got it, the initial department was selling it for over 50,000 dollars but they didn't get a bite. They put it on a state auction in Wisconsin and he bought it for a vehicle hauler.

Holm: I got a question for Al. What would the core on that blocker be worth?

Walker: The core? Probably 20,000. Just for the block. If you had to put a rebuilt in there, you are probably looking at 50,000

Holm: No, but I am saying, what's the value of the engine block?

Walker: The engine block, well.

Holm: Do you think it's worth 4 or 5 thousand? Just block alone.

Walker: Oh yeah, if you pulled it out and sold it.

Holm: So, we are buying it for 10,000 and the engine block struck down to nothing

Walker: Transmission is probably about 2, used.

Holm: OK so what is the ladder probably?

Case: The ladder is, to replace the aluminum ladder, it's not the original, its replaced aluminum ladder. It works like a charm.

Rush: Since you got, there is already a motion on the floor, you guys beat me to it, but I was going to make a motion to buy it and then turn around and sell it and the proceeds go to the renovations over there. Beat me to it so I'm not going to motion.

Case: I think that would be a disservice to the seller.

Holm: No that's not, I am only just telling you that there is value. If you are scared of spending 10 grand on it and this thing turns into being that onion you're talking about, I'm telling you that there is more value than what we are paying. I am not saying that this is about flipping it or stripping it or anything like that. It was just to give you an idea that there is tangible value in that truck

Mayor Swanson: Alright gentleman, anymore discussion?

Mayor Swanson: Hearing that, I am going to do a roll call vote here. So, we will go around. The motion is to purchase that truck for 10,000 dollars. And there is a second.

The motion has been seconded. Mr. Walker, how do you stand?

Walker: No

Mayor Swanson: No. Mr. Rush?

Rush: No.

Mayor Swanson: No. Mr. Case?

Case: Yes

Mayor Swanson: Mr. Holm?

Holm: Yes

Mayor Swanson: Mr. Swanson, the Mayor. Yes. So, motion carries. We will purchase that fire truck. What I would also like to do is say where we will get the dollars from and my motion originally that I had done, we have about 80,000 dollars in the cell tower fund. And that is monthly rent that we get a a from Verizon and SBA I think is the holding company that actually owns the tower. So, what I would suggest is that we take the 10,000 dollars for the purchase price out of that, and up to 5,000 dollars out of that for the certifications so that it's not money that will have to do into the fire fund, the fire budget or anything else for it. So that we determine that. I am willing to make that motion, is there a second?

Holm: Ill second it.

Mayor Swanson: Motion is seconded. Any further discussion?

Rush: I just think it should come out of the fire equipment.

Mayor Swanson: Well, when we, when the the, when the cell tower was first put there, it was put there as something to generate dollars for the fire department. It was used for the 800 megahertz, anyway I'm not sure, but anyway with the county and it has not done that. Remember when we got on the board almost 16 years ago, it was like 660 dollars a month, is what we got and Couri and Ruppe turned that into 1600 dollars a month cause that's what it was. So, and all of that time it's been doing that. Same reason, as far as I'm concerned, safety money, we used our safety dollars at the county for our ms, address signs and things like that. This has a fit here for this equipment for safety as far as I'm concerned.

Rush: So, Mr. Mayor so if you want it to come out of cell tower money that the 10,000, 5,000 certification is, What if there is more? Say, just throwing it out, something happens 20,000 dollars' worth. Where does that money come from?

Mayor Swanson: That will come back to the council and then we will make a decision.

Rush: OK. Thank you

Mayor Swanson: You know as we move forward, that would be with anything. If a plow truck has troubles or whatever happens as well. What we want to do about it? Is it insurable? What happened to it? So, there is a motion and a second to take those dollars out of the cell tower fund. Any further discussion? Hearing no other, all those signify by saying I.

Case, Holm, Walker: I

Mayor Swanson: Opposed same sign

Rush: I

Mayor Swanson: Motion carried.

Swanson stated that we currently have about \$80,000.00 in Baldwin's cell tower rent revenue account. Swanson would like the purchase price of \$10,000.00 and certification of the truck for \$5,000.00 to come out of the cell tower revenue. Swanson stated that the cell tower was put at the Township to get revenue for the Fire Department. Rush questioned where future repair expenses would be paid from. Swanson stated if there were future repairs on the truck, that this would come back to the City Council to decide. **Swanson/Holm approved, Rush disapproved for \$15,000.00 to come from cell tower revenue, motion carried.**

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove Clerk Attending Municipal Clerks & Finance Officers Association Conference March 18th to March 21, 2025 – Rush/Case unanimous to approve Clerk attending MCFOA Conference March 18th to March 21st, 2025.

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove Attorney's Revisions to Ordinance 2025-03 – Walker/Case unanimous to approve Ordinance 2025-03.

Schedule Board of Canvass for April 8th, 2025 Special Election. Must be Held Before April 18th 2025 – Rush/Walker unanimous to approve April 14th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. Case will be absent.

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove Election Judge Supper for April 8th, 2025 Special Election – Rush/Case unanimous to approve election supper up to \$20.00 per person.

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove Revised 2024 Ending Cash Balance – The Clerk reported that there was incomplete information received from the City Auditor. Baldwin is currently working on re-coding and developing a new city chart of accounts. The ending balance in closing 2024 was reported at the January 3rd, 2025 City Council

meeting of \$1,025,774.31. Due to the incomplete information, the ending balance for closing 2024 should be \$975,411.07. **Case/Walker unanimous to approve** 2024 ending balance.

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove Ordinance 2025-06; Ordinance Repealing Ordinance No. 2024-10 – Swanson gave an overview of charitable gambling. The City of Baldwin will never take over gambling licenses, the state already regulates charitable gambling stated Swanson. City Attorney, Ruppe, stated you can regulate charitable gambling, but it's not mandatory. Current Ordinance 2024-10 has an \$100.00 administrative fees and escrow fees of \$100.00 for county or sheriff's office expenses. Case said that we should have a blanket ordinance in place. **Rush/Walker unanimous to approve** amending ordinance 2024-10. The amended ordinance will be presented by City Attorney, Ruppe, at the March 3rd, 2025 City Council meeting.

Discuss/Approve/Disapprove Resolution 25-03 Appointing Election Judges – Holm/Case unanimous to approve resolution 25-03.

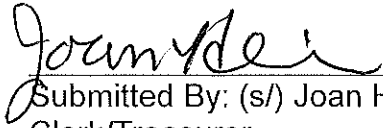
Announcements:

- a. Planning Commission Meeting, Wednesday, February 26th, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
- b. Rum River Construction Consultants 2025 Building Blocks Continuing Education February 28th, 2025 at Baldwin Fire Station from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- c. Next City Council Meeting, Monday, March 3rd, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
- d. City of Baldwin Special Election for Sunday Liquor Licenses Tuesday, April 8th, 2025. Polls Open from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- e. City of Baldwin Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting, Thursday, April 17th, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

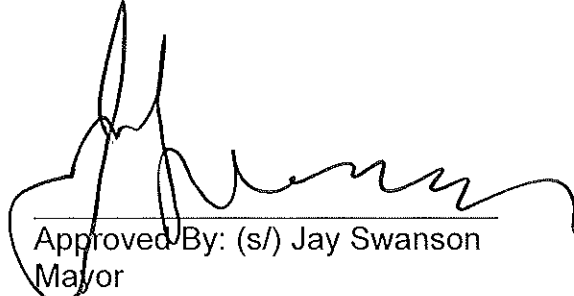
Any Other Business:

- Case stated that \$20,000 was raised for Mike Brinwell's benefit.
- Rush seen Public Works Supervisor hand up during agenda item on mailboxes. Public Works Supervisor, Good, requested clarification on replacement of mailboxes hit by Baldwin's snowplow. For the first offense, a non-compliant mailbox will be replaced.
- Holm went through his portion of the Board of Audit for 2025 and is satisfied with what he reviewed.
- Holm discussed LGA funding and the distribution of the funding.
- Holm discussed Greenbush/Mille Lacs Kunkle property
- Use TextMyGov to communicate to residents about the upcoming special election April 8th, 2025, Sunday Liquor License. This is to be sent via TextMyGov for two weeks prior to the election.

Adjourn – Rush/Holm unanimous to adjourn at 10:07 p.m.



Submitted By: (s/) Joan Heinen
Clerk/Treasurer
City of Baldwin



Approved By: (s/) Jay Swanson
Mayor
City of Baldwin

4-21-2025

Date

Attendees: Rosemarie Walker, Baldwin Public Works Supervisor Zac Good, Connor Loscheider, Chad Miller, Anita Schneider, Mike Anderson, Delmas Hines, Mike Rademacher, Larry Doose, Todd Tarvestad, Cartrell Cooper, Lance Soderholm, Brian Torborg, Justin Suckut