

Hamburg City Council Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2026

A regular meeting of the Hamburg City Council was held on June 1, 2026. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Harry Adams at 6:00 PM.

Roll Call: City Clerk Colleen Pelser conducted the Roll Call, and those present were Kent Benefiel, Rod Wilson, and Mike Stenzel. Bill was not yet present.

Kent moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Mike. There was a discussion of including the Pool board on the Agenda, and it was agreed to include them under public works. Bill Barrett arrived at 6:32. Kent moved to include the Pool Board under the Public Works agenda item, seconded by Mike, and all approved.

Mike moved to approve minutes from 5/4/2026 and 5/20/2026, with corrections added by Rod, seconded by Bill, and all approved.

Citizen Presentations: There was a question of whether the sink hole on Moody Drive was the City's responsibility. Jarod answered that the Public Works department is working on it and plans to complete it by the end of the week. Rod clarified that when citizens present or ask questions during the meeting, the City Council can provide answers that they already have, but that new issues which require decisions will need to be addressed at a future meeting.

Library Update: John Hall gave the Librarian Report, reporting that new acquisitions for May were 26 books (19 purchased and 7 donated). There were 195 visitors to the library. The Library received several book donations with seven books being added to our collection and the rest designated for the book sale. The Enrich Iowa Agreement for FY2027 has been submitted to the State Library of Iowa (due date is June 20 th . Lisa Countryman has started as an assistant librarian, so the library is now fully staffed. The carpet is schedule to be replaced June 29 th – July 1 st , with the basement taking one day and the upstairs taking two days. The library will be closed starting Friday June 26 th through Wednesday July 1 st to prepare for the carpet, with the Public Works department assisting. Andrew Tuckpointing will finish up their job in Maryville in the next couple of weeks and will start on the library tuckpointing next. For the paperback section, wood for the shelves has been purchased and John Hall will stain and finish the shelves to match the current shelves. The Library will need to purchase brackets for the adjustable shelves. Katrina will be out of town from May 31 st thought June 20 th . The library will maintain regular hours with Nancy, Mariesa and Lisa during this time.

Iowa Primary Care: Miranda Walker presented information about Iowa Primary Care, a free public health resource providing patient navigation and other services for behavioral health. She reported that she is the liaison to the state and regional directors and has the responsibility to assess needs for the district that includes Hamburg. Services include help with finding behavioral health care and help with open enrollment and telehealth. Flyers with more information will be available at City Hall, and citizens with needs can contact them at 515-505-8988, and the website is <https://www.iowapca.org/>.

Mid American Engery: The franchise manager for Mid American Engery, Tyler Gartenburg, addressed the Council about the upcoming ending of the current electric utility franchise agreement, which allows the company to utilize right-of-way to provide services to citizens. The agreement is expiring in December, and Tyler discussed options for renewal. The renewal process usually takes a few months and will require a public hearing.

Housing Development Update and Dirt: Harry reported that the water and sewer work is underway with Lamp Rynearson and Valley Corp, and that the housing construction is out for bid. Jarod reported that he had a pre-construction meeting with Valley Corp with the engineers wanted to start moving dirt. The contractors need some of the dirt, but there was a question of whether to keep or sell the excess dirt. Jarod reported that there would always be a use for dirt by the City. The Council did not vote to sell the dirt.

Fire Siren Maintenance Contract: Kent moved to approve renewal of the new Fire Siren maintenance contract for \$1,896, seconded by Rod, and a roll call vote was held with the following votes: Kent – yes; Rod – yes; Mike – yes; Bill – yes. The motion was approved.

1007 Willow Right of Redemption Notice: the City received a notice that a property which has a tax lien from 2023 is reaching the end of the period where the City has the right to pay the back taxes to end the lien. If the City chooses not to pay, the lien holder may proceed with obtaining full deed to the property. Bill moves to allow the property to go for taxes, seconded by Kent, and a roll call vote was held with the following votes: Kent – yes; Rod – yes; Mike – yes; Bill – yes.

Public Complaints: the Council reviewed recent public nuisance complaints, including barking dogs and feral cats. It was noted that all dog owners are required to have a dog license, which is renewed yearly. It was noted in the Animal Control ordinance (55.08) that “it is unlawful for the owner of a dog to allow or permit such dog to cause serious annoyance or disturbance to any person or persons by frequent and habitual howling, yelping, barking, or otherwise; or, by running after or chasing persons, bicycles, automobiles or other vehicles.” There were also complaints about feral cats and people feeding them and trash. The Council agreed to have the attorney send a letter to the dog owners and the person with the trash.

Public Works Update: the pool board wanted to confirm the Pool Manager's hiring of an assistant manager. The Council determined that the Manager's hiring was approved, and that the Manager had the authority to hire the assistant managers. Kent reported that someone had volunteered to make 6-foot wide pathway across the city lot leading to Dollar General at no cost to the city, a route that many people have already used. Creating the pathway will increase public safety to allow people to walk on the pathway instead of near the highway. The Council agreed. The City received one bid to tear down the house 1709 Park St. The services include tearing down the house, hauling in dirt to fill the crawl space, remove trees and grind the stumps for \$9,250, and can start immediately. Bill moved to approve the bid, seconded by Rod and a roll call vote was held with the following votes: Kent – yes; Bill -yes; Rod – yes; Mike – yes. The motion was approved. The Council reviewed bids to remove the trees at 2003 and 2005 Argyle Street. RC Tree Service bid \$4,00- to remove both trees and grind stumps, and Lumberjack Company bid \$4,400 to remove the trees, or \$5,000 to remove the trees and grind the stumps. Bill moved to approve the RC Tree Service Bid, seconded by Rod, and a roll call vote was held with the following votes: Bill – yes; Rod – yes; Kent – yes; Mike – yes. The motion was approved. The Council discussed an agreement to split the fuel costs for discharge pumping of the lagoon. The longstanding agreement was that the City would pay 5/8 of the cost, Leroy Bowman would pay 1/8 and Rod Finnell would pay 1/4. Jarod reported that the HESCO barriers are shipping, but that we don't yet have approval from the Army Corp of engineers for the concrete pad for the containers. Jarod got pricing for containers that we'll have to use without a pad in the meantime. The best price was Heartland containers at \$4,150 (\$12,450 for all three). Mike moved to approve the purchase, seconded by Bill and a roll call vote was held with the following votes: Bill – yes; Rod -yes; Kent – yes; Mike – yes. The motion was approved. Jarod requested purchase of a new cemetery mower which was approved in the FY27 budget. He requested to buy the ALTOZ stand-on mower for \$12,089.95, which was within \$400 of the price of a John Deere riding mower, and had preferred functionality. Mike moved to approve the purchase, Rod seconded and a roll call vote was held with the following votes: Mike -yes; Bill -yes; Kent – abstain; Rod – yes. The motion was approved. Jarod reported on ongoing problems with dealing with the sinkhole near NAPA as it continues to be a problem.

Clerk Update: Colleen gave an update on progress re-balancing the bank accounts and journal entries. Colleen requested to purchase a subscription to a web-based mapping application to allow for mapping of city properties and future surveying projects, at a cost of \$30 per month. Kent moved to approve the motion, seconded by Mike, and a roll call vote was held with the following votes: Mike – yes; Bill – yes; Rod – yes; Kent – yes.

Claims: Mike moved to approve claims, seconded by Bill, and a roll call vote was held with the following votes: Mike – yes; Kent – yes; Rod – yes; Bill – yes. The following claims were approved:

VENDOR	REFERENCE	AMOUNT
ACCESS LEASING	COPIER	252.89
BOKF, NA	GO BOND PMT	99,668.76
CHEM-SULT,LLC	Water Tx Chemicals	3,264.09
COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC	Meeting Minutes	371.46
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	3,399.53
FINE SERVICES	PEST CONTRL	64.00
IOWA ONE CALL	LOCATES	150.00
IPERS	IPERS - REGULAR	18.90
IPERS	IPERS - REGULAR	4,245.81
LIBERTY NATIONAL	LIBERTY PRE-TAX	4,245.81
LUMBERJACK CO.	Tree removal - library	175.58
MID AMERICAN ENERGY	ELECTRIC	4,600.00
POST OFFICE	UTILITY POSTAGE	28.10
TREASURER, ST OF IA	STATE TAX	310.00
Accounts Payable Total		691.36
Invoices: Paid		117,240.48
Invoices: Scheduled		117,090.48
Payroll Checks		150.00
REPORT TOTAL		10,124.29
GENERAL		127,364.77
LIBRARY		6,609.34
ROAD USE TAX		6,019.03
DEBT SERVICE		99,668.76
WATER		7,211.21
SEWER		4,073.76
TOTAL FUNDS		127,364.77

Bill moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Rod, and all approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.

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