

Public Works / Utilities

May 19, 2026 – 4:00 pm

Minutes prepared by: Peter Schaffner

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 pm by Peter Schaffner. Roll call: Peter Schaffner. Chris Williamson, Stephen Qualy. Others present: Mayor Ben Adank, Jim Kafer, Linda Stennes Jeff Puterbaugh, Lori Hutter, Judith Ganger, Michele Klein. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Citizens' comments: No public comments received.

Motion Chris, second Stephen to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2026, meeting. Motion carried.

Motion Stephen second Peter to forward a recommendation to the council (after review and support by the finance committee) to approve lawn mowing with Henderson Lawn & Landscape. Motion carried.

Items Discussed:

- **Public Works Supervisor Position:**
The committee discussed the Public Works Supervisor position. It is the committee's recommendation to begin the hiring process soon, with the goal of filling the position within the next three months.
- **Contracted Services (Lawn Care & Snow Removal):**
A discussion was held regarding the possibility of outsourcing services such as lawn mowing and snow removal. The committee discussed where these services could be most effectively utilized. Additional information is needed before deciding. A lawn care contract is currently being considered.
- **Spring Water Discharge into Sewer System:**
The committee discussed properties with natural springs that are discharging into the sewer system. A list of these properties is being developed, and a plan will be implemented to eliminate spring water from entering the city sewer. A partial list has already been compiled.
- **Curb Stops – Justin Hill Street:**
The need to locate and repair curb stops on Justin Hill Street was discussed.
- **Truman Street / Hill Street Drainage and Wall Repairs:**
Discussion was held regarding water drainage issues and necessary wall repairs in the Truman Street and Hill Street area. The city is currently awaiting a response from the county for assistance and recommendations.
- **Storm Sirens:**
The committee discussed storm sirens, a topic that has been revisited multiple times, most recently in March 2022. A site map and plan have previously been developed; however, cost remains the primary obstacle.

- **John Deere Tractor:**

The possible sale of the new John Deere tractor was discussed. The city crew is opposed to selling the tractor at this time and would prefer to complete a full summer season before any decision is made.

- **Main Street Stormwater Repair:**

The committee discussed repairs to stormwater infrastructure on Main Street. The city is currently waiting on a quote to repair one storm drains and install an additional drain.

- **Sewer Plant Replacement Feasibility Study:**

A feasibility study has been initiated to evaluate the potential replacement of the sewer plant.

Motion Stephen, second Chris to adjourn at 5:28 pm. Motion carried