

Holdingsford City Council Minutes Monday, April 14, 2025.

Council Members in attendance: Travis Harlander, Tim Winter participated remotely via teams, Seth Young.

Others in attendance: Nicky Lahr, Karla and Tom Kalla, Jenny Gunderson, Eric Kohorst, Sharon Berscheid, Diane Konsor, Tim Berscheid, Eric Berscheid, Herman Lensing, Gordy Sjaaheim, Robb Berscheid, Bryon Kester, Brent Gerads,

Travis called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and the pledge of allegiance was recited.

Travis stated that there are 3 people present that are interested in filling the open Council seat, including Karla Kalla, Brent Gerads, and Eric Berscheid. Seth made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-4-14-1 appointing Eric Berscheid into the open Council Member seat. He stated that he is recommending Eric due to his knowledge and history with the Council. Tim seconded the motion, and it passed with all three members in favor. Eric read the oath of office and joined the meeting.

Janelle Kendall, Stearns County Attorney, gave the annual prosecution contract update. She spoke about the adult and juvenile diversion programs for Stearns County. She also asked for any community service projects that might be available for individuals from other communities to get credit for.

Seth made a motion to approve the consent agenda, including March Council minutes and financials. Eric seconded the motion, and it passed with all in favor. Tim logged off of the meeting due to a poor connection.

Robb gave the Land use report. He reviewed a permit request for a new house build at 355 Ridge Way. The land use committee saw no issues with the request. Seth made a motion to approve permit 6-2-4-3. Eric seconded it and it passed with all in favor. Robb reviewed a permit request for 130 River Street West. He explained that the property is in a floodplain and due to this, different zoning ordinances apply. Before any permits for the property can be approved, the owner would need to have a modeling done by an accredited engineer. An estimate was provided from the city's engineering firm; however, it is not necessary that they are the ones to do this. Eric Berscheid made a motion to give homeowner, Eric Kohorst, until the next council meeting on May 12th, to either hire an engineer and begin the modeling, or to begin removing the land fill that was brought in as well as the unpermitted sheds that were brought in. Seth seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

Nicky gave the Clerk's report. She said that the 2024 financial audit was wrapping up and we would have results by next meeting. She is registered for the 2nd year Clerks academy for the week of May 5th-9th as well as the MMBA conference in April. She also has vacation time planned. All city Hall closures will be posted on Facebook, the City Website and at City Hall. Nicky shared that the Wellhead protection plan meetings are almost completed and the first draft will be submitted for approval with the state and for public comment soon. The City received the Small City assistance which is intended for transportation use, and recommends that it is applied to the North High Court project. Amy has registered for her Notary designation and as soon as she receives that, Notary services will again be available at the City for \$5. The new Stearns County sales tax took effect April first and will affect Muni sales and facility rentals. The increase is 3.75%. All township payments for Fire Department services have been received.

In old business; The ordinance pertaining to keeping chickens in city limits, was discussed again. It was mentioned that in order to overturn the current ordinance, it would take a vote of at least 3 Council members to approve, and since only 3 members were present, the issue was tabled for one more month, so that a fairer vote would take place. Eric Kohorst mentioned that he has started a petition in favor of overturning the current ordinance.

Minutes are not official until approved by the City Council and signed by the Clerk.

Looking forward: Next Council meeting will be May 12th. City Wide Cleanup May 17th 8-11am at the High School parking lot. City Hall will be closed April 28th-29th, May 5th-9th, May 29th-June 6th.

Notices were sent for past-due water bills to Covered Bridge, Kevin Feia, Roger Jensen, Nathaniel Posch, Greg & Kyna Reiter

Eric made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m. Seth seconded the motion, and it passed with all in favor.

Signed:

Nicky Lahr _____

City Clerk-Treasurer, Holdingford

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