

Holdingsford City Council Minutes Monday, August 11, 2025.

Council Members in attendance: Travis Harlander, Tim Winter, Jayme Opatz, Eric Berscheid, Seth Young.

Others in attendance: Nicky Lahr, Dave Blommel

Travis called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Jayme made a motion to approve the consent agenda, including July 14th Council minutes, July 28th Council minutes with a correction to the adjournment time changing 6:58 to 7:58, and July financial documents. Tim seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

Department reports:

Dave Blommel presented the engineer's report. He gave an update on North High Court, stating that the project was going very smoothly. He asked the Council how the assessments should be split for the project (by frontage or split equally). The Council members agreed that it should be split equally. Dave will prepare the assessments and work with Nicky to post the public hearing necessary for this. Dave said that the City Hall parking lot paving will begin as soon as Scepaniaks complete their retaining wall. He also shared the results of well testing that took place this spring. He said that the results indicated that the most promising new well location would be up by the High School, and would recommend a test drill on the water tower property. His main concern is having enough water available at that site.

Nicky gave the Clerk's report. She is working on the 2026 budget, and working out some issues with the online reservation system. She also mentioned that we received a call from a resident that lives on North High Court with concerns about the construction project. The concerns consisted of Trash left by the concrete contractor, voids in the concrete curbing, and scheduling issues that may affect someone that was having their home reroofed.

The Council reviewed four properties that were issued letters for ordinance violations. Eric made a motion to have citations issued to the property owners of 321 River Street West, 220 Cedar Street, 841 4th Street and 231 Gertrude Street. Jayme seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor. The Council also reviewed a letter submitted by Eric Kohorst, property owner of 130 River Street West in regards to floodplain ordinance violations. The letter stated that the City would need to drop the issues, accept responsibility and pay the bills if they want (the dirt/items) removed, or start court proceedings. Jayme made a motion to issue a citation. Seth seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

The Holdingsford Dance team requested a gambling permit for a raffle to be held in December. Tim made a motion to approve resolution 25-8-11-1 approving the permit. Seth seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

A request was made by the Holdingsford Chamber of Commerce to donate fall decorations to the City. Magnifi Financial volunteered to install and remove the decorations along Main Street annually. Jayme made a motion to approve the donation of Main Street decorations, and Tim seconded it. The motion passed with all in favor.

The City has two CDs at VersaBank that will mature on August 18th. Jayme made a motion to roll the Parks reserves account into another CD, and to pull out the general reserves CD to pay for the paving project. Tim seconded that motion and it passed with all in favor.

Jayme mentioned that several residents along North High Court were asking about utility forgiveness for watering their lawns due to seeding for the paving project. Tim mentioned that a fire hose with a reducer could be hooked up to the hydrants. It was determined that this may be too much for maintenance to manage. Instead, it was decided that

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residents who would like water/sewer forgiveness should contact City Hall to let them know. Staff would then adjust the charges exceeding their average bills for the months of August and September.

Seth made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Tim seconded the motion, and it passed with all in favor.

Looking forward: Next Council meeting is September 8th. City Hall is closed August 13-15, Closing at noon on 8/21, Closing August 29th and September 1st.

Notices were sent for past due water bills: Tawner Cleland, Covered Bridge LLC, Joseph and Lana Doll, Kevin Feia, Roger Jensen, Josh Krueger, Dale Lundberg, and Jared Voudry.

Signed:

Nicky Lahr  _____
City Clerk-Treasurer, Holdingford