

Minutes for Holdingford City Council Meeting Monday, June 8th, 2026.

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

Others in attendance: Nicky Lahr, Herman Lansing, Steve Horvath, Dave Blommel, Deb and David Kostreba, Candace Warga, Shane Carrender, Randy Warga

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

Eric made a motion to add a write-in ordinance to the agenda. Tim seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Eric made a motion to approve the consent agenda including April minutes and financial documents. Nicky stated that the financials did not include two payroll batches due to import issues with the software. Jayme seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Jayme made a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-6-8 for write in ballots. Tim seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

Guests: Candace Warga explained that her home at 640 4th Street has had sewer backup issues. During repairs by Nelson's excavating, they found a sewer line with a Y in it, and assumed that this was sewer coming in from the homes south of her. Candace was seeking more information about the situation and if others could be liable to help pay the repair costs. Steve Horvath and Dave Blommel stated that they were able to go on site to view the issue. They are quite certain that the Y in the line is actually coming from her property, and that the neighboring homes have a separate sewer line. Candace requested the maps and any other information that the city has to show this. Nicky will email the information to her. Candace said she would have Nelson's scope the line to see where it is going.

Dave Kostreba from 130 2nd Street is inquiring about repairs to his driveway and curb. These were not completed from the water main breaks that had occurred in the previous year. The Council reassured him that the repairs would be done in combination with the next city project to keep costs down.

Department reports:

Maintenance Report: Steve shared that many wastewater samples went out this month. He has been spraying public grass areas for weeds, scheduled dust control on the road by the shop, and put flags up on Main Street. He seeded the areas around South side of the pavement at the City park and thinks that will manage the runoff water issues. Travis stated that he would still like to see quotes to have a drain put in this area, and Eric mentioned that there is a stormwater drain going directly out to the river from that location. Steve had a quote from Rocks to Roses to bring fill in on the North side of the pavement. Steve had to have chlorine injectors rebuilt, and installed parking curbs at City Hall. Larson's submitted a bid for digging up and repairing the water lines near the ballpark restrooms. The council declined the repair and will keep the restrooms closed. Eric made a motion to approve the quote from Rocks to Roses. Seth seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

City Engineer's Report: Dave Blommel shared with the Council that legislation appropriated \$1 million for the lift station project and is now working on funding for the remaining \$1.6 million needed. City representatives will be meeting with Senator Fishbach's office to discuss funding that is needed for city projects. Dave stated that there is a drain hole on Eric Berscheid's property that needs to be addressed. Steve will get a quote from Larson's for this project, and try to combine it with the repairs at 130 2nd Street, and potentially the park drain.

Land Use Committee: Eric made a motion to approve Land Use Permit 26-6-3 for a fence at 740 Riverside Road. Seth seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The Council discussed approval for a memorial bench to be placed at the Trail Head park, or the Triangle Garden. It was recommended that the family interested in doing this should fill out a City Project Request form and work with Steve on location. Final approval is tabled for the July meeting.

Emergency Manager Report: Amber turned in her 2-week resignation for the position. Jayme made a motion to accept the resignation. Tim seconded the motion and requested a letter of thanks to be sent to Amber. Motion passed unanimously. Tim will check with the Fire Department to see if there's anyone interested in the position. Steve will be in the role in the interim.

Clerk's report: She said that MN Dept of Health fees have gone up, and the utility bills will reflect this. They will go from .81 to \$1.27 per month. Received letter and violation drafts from the City Attorney to start issuing administrative fines for ordinance violations. Submitted a request to the IRS to change the name of the EIN to City of Holdingford. It is currently listed as City of Holdingford Municipal Liquor Store, and this is causing issues with payroll processing and setting up bank accounts.

Unfinished/Old Business: Jayme made a motion to approve final plat resolution 26-6-1 for the Konsor property. Seth seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Eric made a motion to approve resolution 26-6-2 designating authorized signers and depositories. Tim seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Travis signed the TIF agreement for Stainless Kings LLC that was approved at the May meeting.

New Business:

Tim made a motion to approve liquor license renewals for Redneck Roost, Art in Motion/Boho Café, and American Legion. Jayme seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Additional Agenda Items:

The property at 130 River Street West was sold, but there are still items that need to be corrected to be in compliance with the floodplain ordinance. The "fish house" and tree house stairs need to be removed, as well as the cement driveway slabs. And any other items left from the letter that was issued to the former owner. Eric Berscheid also stated that the water is not draining the lot correctly anymore. There used to be a ditch alongside Jim's Snowmobile lot that helped pull the water away. Seth inquired about golf cart use in city limits. He mentioned that some students drive them to school. Nicky explained that it is not legal for someone without a driver's license to drive the carts on city streets. The council asked Nicky to do a safety campaign on social media for golf carts, electric bikes and electric scooters.

made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m. seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

Notices for Past Due Water Bills: Joe Lashinski, Joseph and Lana Doll, Covered Bridge LLC, Roger Jensen, Braeden Paavola, Nick Barbato, Taxton Edens, Dale Lundberg, and Hometown Roots.

Looking forward: Next council meeting is July 13th, 2026. City Hall will be closed June 19th, July 3rd, and July 9-10. Hazardous Waste cleanup is on June 17th at the high school parking lot. County Ditch Redetermination meeting is at City Hall on June 25th at 3:30.

Jayme made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21. Seth seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Signed:

Nicky Lahr 
City Clerk-Treasurer, Holdingford