

Minutes for Holdingford City Council Meeting Monday, July 13th, 2026.

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

Others in attendance: Nicky Lahr, Herman Lansing, Steve Horvath, Karla Kalla, Steve Andersen, Gregory Konsor, Keith Hommerding, Jessica Wells, Rosie Fedor, Russ Zellmer (Langer Construction), Mike Gerber (Design Tree Engineering)

Travis called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Nicky stated that the financials were all present but were out of balance due to issues with the Stearns Bank buyout and software discrepancies.

Jayme made a motion to approve the consent agenda including June minutes and financial documents. Seth seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Guests: Jessica Wells, Rosie Fedor, Russ Zellmer (Langer Construction), Mike Gerber (Design Tree Engineering), and Greg Konsor were present to give an update on the progress of the new church build. They shared a blueprint of the property and inquired about a permit for the initial dirt work, which may take place this fall. They were informed that no permit is required for this stage, and the process for the land use permit for the building was explained. The Council inquired about the existing buildings and stated that there may be a stipulation for removal associated with the land use permit.

Steve Andersen, owner of the Holdingford Hillside Trailer Park, shared with the Council that he is actively working with the Stearns County Commissioner and the County Health inspector. They will follow up again at the end of August to check on progress.

The Council discussed a bill that was submitted for the cost of moving a power pole out of the way for Holdingford Mill building project. Half of the amount of \$6137.21 will be reimbursed to the Mill by the City and they will make a recommendation to the Holdingford Chamber to cover the second half. If they do not approve it, the City will discuss it further at the August meeting.

Department reports:

Maintenance Report: Steve reported that the fireworks location had to be moved this year due to tree growth. They will need to be trimmed before next year's Holdingford Daze or consider relocating the fireworks. The council approved the tree trimming/removal. Steve also reported that the American Legion will donate the cost of dirt and seeding at the Park alongside the new pavement. A request was made by residents on the corner of Main Street and Washington to park their camper on the street for short periods of time before and after camping. After discussing, they were reminded that No Parking signs had not been installed yet, and will be. They suggested an alternate location to park the camper so that it does not block the sightline at the stop sign. A letter from a concerned parent also requested a solution regarding the restrooms at the ballpark. The council stated that a port-a-potty could be brought in for the remainder of T-ball.

Fire Department Report: Keith reported that the department has responded to 132 calls so far this year. They received their new gear and will make a donation to cover the amount that was not paid for with the grant received. Eric made a motion to apply for a grant for a washer extractor. Tim seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Keith also explained that they are receiving this grant and will need to make roof repairs on the equipment room that the new unit will go in. He will have McDowel come in and do the repairs for \$3970. Keith also wanted to thank the school for use of a bus for a training event.

Clerk's report: Nicky reported that the City received the first ½ of the taxes from Stearns County. She discussed the reduction of rug/mop service to save on cost. The Council recommended utilizing the least expensive option for providers. The candidacy filing period is open July 14-28. City Hall will be open until 5:00 p.m. on the 28th to accommodate. 6 more meters were purchased as inventory was getting low. Work Comp annual audit is in the works. This process revealed some incorrect reporting to the State of MN from Paychex and they will correct it. The final annual audit is completed, and per recommendation, the monthly consent agenda will now include all Journal entries that are made. The spring cleanup will be

May 22nd, 2027. Eric also asked Nicky to obtain pricing from Albany Telephone to determine whether the City should enter into contracts with Midco.

Unfinished/Old Business: The Council asked Nicky to put receipts from owners of 521 Main Street into a spreadsheet for review. They stated that they will offer some compensation but want to review all receipts before determining the amount. This will be addressed again at the next meeting.

The County offered to oversee the City's Emergency Management Services. They will submit a contract with full details for the August meeting.

New Business: Seth made a motion to approve resolution 26-7-13-1 approving a gambling permit for All Saints Church. Eric seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Eric made a motion to hire Audrey Lange, Linda Zapzalka, Karen Larsen, Lynne Nienaber, Diane Konsor, and Kathy O'Hara as election judges. Tim seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

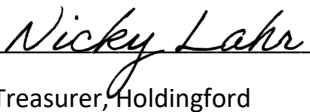
Additional Agenda Items:

Notices for Past Due Water Bills: Joe Lashinski, Joseph and Lana Doll, Covered Bridge LLC, Roger Jensen, Nick Barbato, Taxton Edens, Dale Lundberg, and Hometown Roots, Nathaniel Posch, Amber and Tom Adelman, Terry Runge.

Looking forward: Next council meeting is August 10th, The primary election is August 11th. Candidacy filing is July 14-28th. City Hall will be closed at 1:00 pm on July 15th and at 12:00 on July 22nd

Tim made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Seth seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Signed:

Nicky Lahr  _____
City Clerk-Treasurer, Holdingford