Minutes for
Holdingford City Council Meeting
Monday, August 10, 2026

Council members in attendance: Travis Harlander, Tim Winter, Seth Young, Eric Berscheid
Others in attendance: Nicky Lahr, Herman Lansing, Karla Kalla, Julie Jones, Steve Horvath, Matt Spies

Travis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Eric made a motion to approve the consent agenda including minutes, journal entries and financials documents. Seth seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Department reports:
City Engineer Report: Dave submitted a response to a concern about damaged pavement on North High Court. It stated that the failures were not due to errors from the paving company. He believes that it was a combination of new pavement, high temperatures and heavy equipment.
Fire Department update: Keith submitted quotes for 2 options to replace a cracked water heater at City Hall. Travis will seek out two more quotes as well.
Maintenance report: Steve inquired about the removal of trees near the shop. He reminded the Council that they could not do fireworks from that location if that is not completed. The council agreed that he should proceed with quotes for removal. Steve also reported that dirt and gravel were washing down from the unfinished portion of the retaining wall between the City Hall parking lot, and Scepaniak's. Eric will bring this forward to Scepaniak's and see if a solution can be found. Steve is working on getting quotes to repair and/or remove the wall by the Fire Department entrance that was damaged by a snowplow. Insurance will cover some of the cost. He will try to tie in some repair quotes for the front of the building as well. Landscaping was completed at the park, and the Legion will be donating $3300 to the city to cover the cost.
Emergency Management report: Eric made a motion to approve the EM consulting agreement with Stearns County with Steve Horvath being appointed as the Emergency Manager. Seth seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
Municipal Liquor Store report: Amy submitted a report stating that the Muni is up $6443 from last year at this time.
Clerk's report: Nicky had the front door latches repaired as the doors were not locked well. She also received a quote from Hommerding for replacing the leaking water heater at City Hall. Travis will seek out 2 more quotes. Nicky is working with Paycom to fix incorrect State wage reporting needed for the annual work comp audit. She is also seeking out a quote for ABDO to do payroll services. She is prepping for primary elections. Nicky reported LGA payments and tax levy payments were received, and the 2026 audit is scheduled.

Unfinished/Old Business: Nicky reported that insurance will cover repairs to the fire department's wing wall that was hit by a snowplow a few years ago. Steve will gather estimates from at least two places to both repair and fix the wall.
Eric made a motion to approve reimbursement of up to $10,000 to owners of 521 Main Street (he will send the indicated receipts to Nicky for payment and exact cost) upon completion of renovations to the commercial space. Tim seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

New Business:
Joyce Brenny, of Brenny Transportation worked with Nicky to get the repairs needed to reopen the restrooms by the ballfields. The repairs have been completed, and Nicky will send her a copy of the bill once it has been received.
The Council discussed the 2027 Sheriff contract. They discussed not renewing the contract. No motion was made.
The 2027-2028 Criminal prosecution contract was discussed. Nicky was asked to check to see if this service is necessary and it was tabled until next meeting.
Eric made a motion to approve a donation of $525 to the Initiative Foundation for 2027. Tim seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor. Eric requested that we look into services that they may be able to provide for the city.
Eric made a motion to approve Nicky's annual review and step increase. Seth seconded the motion and it passed with all in favor.

Additional Agenda Items: Matt Spies indicated that at Holdingford Hillside Trailer Park put tin sheets over a few of the trailers making them look worse than before. He stated that there were several trailers that were supposed to be removed within 60 days. Seth has been working with the County Commissioner to help come up with solutions for the park.
Nicky was asked to send an ordinance violation letter to Holdingford Hillside Trailer Park, and also to 321 River Street West.

Eric made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tim seconded and the motion passed with all in favor.

Notices for Past Due Water Bills: Joe Lashinski, Joeseph and Lana Doll, Roger Jensen, Nathaniel Posch, Nick Barbato, Dale Lundberg.

Looking forward: Next Council meeting is September 14th. City Hall will be closed on August 31, September 1, 7, 21, 22.

Signed:

Nicky Lahr Nicky Lahr

City Clerk-Treasurer, Holdingford