

Regular Council Meeting October 14, 2025

Mayor Stan Townsend called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. In attendance were Darwin Sietsema, Brian Baartman, and Stu Peterson. Absent was Chris McCurdy. Also in attendance were Darrin Haroldson and Rochelle VanderWoude.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Minutes of the September meeting were approved by M/Peterson 2/Baartman/cd unanimously.

Wastewater Supervisor, Darrin Haroldson gave the council his report for the month of September and answered the council's questions.

A new concession stand is going to be built at the ball field. Three (3) material quotes for the new concession stand with restrooms at the ballfield were received from Pipestone Building Materials for \$24,091.52; from Tinklenberg Lumber for \$30,507.50; and from Tyler Lumber for \$34,672.51. One (1) material quote for the new concession stand without restrooms was received from Pipestone Building Materials for \$18,869.17. After much discussion it was decided to table until the council could meet with members of the RTR Baseball Association to get their input.

The September bills were presented and approved by M/Baartman 2/Sietsema/cd unanimously.
Receipts = \$36,383.76 Disbursements = \$34,159.10

The council discussed the renewal application for the city's insurance. A waiver limit form from LMCIT (League of MN Cities Insurance Trust) for liability coverage was discussed and needs to be signed yearly. It was decided to DO NOT WAIVE by M/Baartman 2/Peterson/cd unanimously. The renewal application was approved by M/Peterson 2/Sietsema/cd unanimously.

The 2026 Police Contract was discussed. The contract is the same as the 2025 contract. The total cost shall not exceed \$14,560. After discussion it was approved to sign the 2026 Police contract with Pipestone County by M/Peterson 2/Sietsema/cd unanimously.

There have been questions asked about Direct Pay for utility billing. A bid was received by Banyon for the add-on module for \$495.00 with annual support of \$195.00/year. Total cost being \$690.00. The council asked for a survey to be sent out in the newsletter with those that are interested to please contact the city office.

The 2026 utility rates were reviewed and discussed. \$0.50 on water, \$0.50 on sewer, \$2.47 (including tax) on the garbage, \$0.26 state mandate for a total increase of \$3.73 was approved by M/Baartman 2/Sietsema/cd unanimously. A \$1.00 increase to garbage tags was approved M/Baartman 2/Sietsema/cd unanimously.

The 2026 budget was approved by M/Sietsema 2/Baartman/cd unanimously.

The meeting went into closed session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss issues requested by City Clerk/Treasurer Rochelle VanderWoude.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. by M/Peterson.

Rochelle VanderWoude
Ruthton City Clerk/Treasurer