

HERON LAKE CITY COUNCIL

August 6, 2025 – Canceled – lack of quorum.

August 13, 2025

7:00 PM

SPECIAL MEETING

Attended by: Lee Bornhoft, Steve Bornhoft, Glenn Kuhnau, Zach Schumacher, Andrew Rache, Wayne Rasche, Carmen Rasche, Lance Baumann, Tereasa Lesch, Jason Freking, John Haberman, Mark Haberman, Delores Pelzel, Jeremy Janssen, Joe Liepold, Shelley Pohlman, John Hay, Chad Diemer

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mayor Rasche.

APPROVE AGENDA

- **Any additions**

No additions. **Motion made by Council Member Lance Baumann to approve the agenda.**

Seconded by Council Member Kuhnau. Vote on the motion: Aye - all, Nay - none. Motion passes.

- **Approve meeting minutes from July 9, 2025**

Motion made by Council Member Haberman to approve the meeting minutes from July 9, 2025.

Seconded by Council Member Kuhnau. Vote on the motion: Aye – all, Nay – none. Motion passes.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Beacon Update**
 - **Lee Sinclair**

Lee Sinclair was here to help us understand what is needed to get a new reader for meter reading. Our current meter reader is not working properly. Lee presented some options, but, would first like to get a cellular read on this town. He will set that up as soon as possible. After that reading comes, he will come back to the council meeting and give a report on what we can do for a meter reader.

- **gWorks Update –**

With frustration, office staff is requesting to drop gWorks and try Banyon Software as soon as possible. Having issues daily with no help from the gWorks staff.

- **Banyon**

Presented a quote from Banyon with Nuvei. Discussion on whether to go with Nuvei as a source of payment for the residents and/or keep AllPaid.

Motion made by Council Member Schumacher to accept the bid from Banyon and Nuvei for the new utility billing software and discontinue with gWorks. Seconded by Council Member Haberman. Vote on the motion: Aye – all, Nay – none. Motion passes.

- **Website Update**

Presented the Council with a traffic report with the new website.

- **BioEnergy – Industrial Well**

Nothing to report

- **Senior Room Parking Lot Door – Cement Sinking**

Report is the contractors have been here but have made no quotes.

- **Update on the Police Chief**

Had one more applicant for Police Chief – does not have enough experience.

- **Luke Ewald DVHHS & Brandi Ostgaard MNRAAA**

- **Age Friendly Community Projects**

- **Next Meeting August 4, 2025 @ 2:00 pm – Senior Room**

Had meeting on August 4th to go over the questionnaire that is to be sent out to all residents of Heron Lake for comments, needs, etc. Questionnaire needs to be back by August 29th and will be reviewed and tabulated. Next meeting will be September 9 to go over the results.

- **Roof Quote for the HL Library**

Presented a 3D picture of what the roof would look like with the raised roof. Received a quote from Brewster Lumber for all the material at \$21,000. No contractor quote from Biornes, yet. Will hold until we get the labor quote.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Public Works Applicants**

Three applicants were interviewed. Discussion on what the applicants would offer and expertise.

Motion made by Council Member Schumacher to offer the street department job to Joe Mortenson for \$20/hour, 32-hour work week to qualify for full-time benefits. Seconded by Council Member Kuhnau. Vote on the motion: Aye – all, Nay – none. Motion passes.

- **Increase of Postage and Utility Billing**

- **Encourage Email Billing?**

Discussion on postage and doing more ACH/EFT with the bank. Postage stamp is for first class mail is \$0.78, Postage for postcards are now \$0.61. Discussion tabled.

- ~~**Zoning Permit – Tereasa Lesch – 712 2nd Ave**~~

- **Zoning Permit – Landy Chepa – 511 11th St**

Motion made by Council Member Schumacher to approve the zoning permit for 511 11th St. Seconded by Council Member Kuhnau. Vote on the motion: Aye - all, Nay - none. Motion passes.

- **Resolution 2025-11 Fire Relief Statewide Fire Fighter Plan**

Motion made by Council Member Schumacher for Heron Lake Fire Relief to join the Minnesota Statewide Plan for retirement benefits. Seconded by Council Member Kuhnau. Vote on the motion: Aye - all, Nay - none. Motion passes.

- **Purchase Agreement – 1132 2nd Ave Resolution 2025-12**

Discussion and questions about the building permit. Discussion on the resolution. **Motion made by Council Member Schumacher to authorize the sale to Wayne Rasche. Seconded by Council member Baumann. Vote on the motion: Aye – Schumacher, Baumann, Nay – Kuhnau, Haberman, Abstained – Rasche. Motion did not pass.**

- **Petition to table purchase**

Discussion with the community members present on how the building permit and zoning permit came about and what was done to correctly get this lot sold. Members agreed that it was done right.

- **City Newspaper Resolution 2025-13**

Motion made by Council Member Baumann to have Lakefield Standard as the Heron Lake city paper. Seconded by Council Member Kuhnau. Vote on the motion: Aye - all, Nay - none. Motion passes.

- **Resolution 2025-14 Fire Department Donation**

Motion made by Council Member Schumacher to accept the donation of \$200 to the fire department by Lynn Olson for Harold Sauder. Seconded by Council Member Baumann. Vote on the motion: Aye - all, Nay - none. Motion passes.

- **Resolution 2025-15 Ambulance Donation**

Motion made by Council Member Baumann to accept the donation of \$50 from Anne Hansen for the Heron Lake Ambulance. Seconded by Council Member Kuhnau. Vote on the motion: Aye - all, Nay - none. Motion passes.

- **Resolution 2025-16 Summer Rec Donation**

Motion made by Council Member Schumacher to accept the donation of \$400 by Christine Schmitz and \$1000 by Young Men's Club for the Heron Lake Okabena Summer Recreation. Seconded by Council Member Kuhnau. Vote on the motion: Aye - all, Nay - none. Motion passes.

- **RFL Resignation Request**

Motion made by Council Member Baumann to accept the resignation of RFL Committee Member Kevin Leopold. Seconded by Council Member Schumacher. Vote on the motion: Aye - all, Nay - none. Motion passes.

- **Tree Trimming**

Discussion on tree trimming letters that have been sent out. Tree Trimming will be after September 30, 2025.

- **Mosquito Control (last sprayed 7/25)** Discussion on how many times they have been here.
- **Public Works Computer use with Water/Wastewater Operator**

Discussion on what we need for the new Water Works guy. John from Public Works has talked with the new employee and the new employee is going to buy his own laptop to use.

- **Apartment 522 – Refrigerator – compressor**

Discussion on age of the refrigerator. Did get prices from Karl's of three different types. **Motion made by Council Member Schumacher to purchase a GE Refrigerator for \$599 with delivery charge of \$75.50 for Falcon Apt 522. Seconded by Council Member Kuhnau. Vote on the motion: Aye - all, Nay - none. Motion passes.**

LIQUOR STORE – MONTHLY UPDATE – BRIDGIT PRESTON, MANAGER

- **Locksmith – Parking Lot Door** - discussion
- **Ice Machine** – discussion

Liquor Store Manager not here. Security system is going smooth.

AMBULANCE – MONTHLY REPORT – JOE LIEPOLD, DIRECTOR

Quiet until last 5 days. Were having a problem with online documentation – problem has been fixed.

FIRE DEPARTMENT – MONTHLY REPORT – CHAD DIEMER, FIRE CHIEF

Quiet. Batteries have been changed. Will have a tabletop disaster night with MSNP in September. SW Fire School starts the end of September in Luverne. There was a short in the two-way radio taking it to DSE in Willmar. May be out for a month.

PEOPLESERVICE – MONTHLY REPORT - JOE LIEPOLD, OPERATOR

Have no chemical for the ponds. Questioned if to order some - still have money available from the contract with People's. Will order after he verifies that there is still money available.

- **Deiter Well**

NE of the City of Worthington there is a well that we have come owners of when MNSP wanted water from us. Farm equipment has struck the well. We own a acre of land around the well so there should not be any crops nearby. Presented quote for a 12" well. Discussion on selling that land. Dave Deiter is the contact.

- **Hydrant Quotes**

Operated the hydrant 5 times and it worked correctly each time. Discussion about holding off with working on that hydrant.

PUBLIC WORKS – MONTHLY REPORT – JOHN HABERMAN, PUBLIC WORKS

- **Quote for F-150 from Higley's**

Discussion on quote and has not received a quote from Midway yet. Tabled until a second employee is hired and to get more bids.

Falcon Heights Apartment 526 – discussion on a conversion kit for the furnace/air conditioner at \$800 to \$1000. Kaufman would not recommend.

Seal coating will begin next week Wednesday, Thursday or Friday depending on the weather.

Pearson Bros. will be doing 28,287 square yards.

Library Roof – still waiting on a bid from Barden.

POLICE DEPARTMENT – MONTHLY REPORT

- **Jackson County Report**
 - **Sheriff Shawn Haken**

Reviewed report of the speed trailer that was in Heron Lake.

CLAIMS

- **Review Claims**

Motion made by Council Member Schumacher to approve paying of the claims. Seconded by Council Member Haberman. Vote on the motion: Aye - all, Nay - none. Motion passes.

OTHER BUSINESS

- **Next Council Meeting – September 3, 2025 @ 7:00 pm**
- **2026 LGA Amount for Heron Lake is \$252,989 down \$5,980.00.**
- **Monthly Reports**

Submitted by: _____

Approved: _____

Rasche, Kuhnau, Schumacher, Haberman, Baumann