REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
June 9th, 2026

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting was duly held at City Hall at 6:00 PM on the 9th day of June 2026.

Council present: Michael Cherney via phone, Karen Ruechel, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson.

Council absent: None

Mayor: Brian Anderson presided over the meeting.

Agenda:
Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve the City Council meeting agenda. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:
Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Nick Anderson, to approve May 26th meeting minutes with a correction to a spelling error. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Approval of Timecards:
Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve the May timecards. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Old Business:
The clerk informed the council that signs are posted in the new park shower house stating, "Showers for campers use only. Thank you, City of Adams." Following prior discussion about non-campers using the showers and leaving the rooms in poor condition, the council agreed the posted signs are sufficient and that no exterior sign is needed.

Tricia Smith, who sells flowers at the City Park, asked whether the City would consider renting or selling her a plot of land behind the Adams Health Care Center, as discussed last year. The council asked how large of a plot she would need and indicated it was open to either option, depending on her preference.

The City received a quote from JB Custom Vinyl in the amount of $725.00 to provide and install a custom cut letter sign to replace the deteriorating letters on the front of City Hall.

Motion made by Nick Anderson, seconded by Karen Ruechel, to approve JB Custom Vinyl's quote to create and install new lettering on the front of City Hall. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Police Report:
No new business to report.

Fire Department Report:
No news to report for the month of May. The newly purchased radios will be inspected and put into service soon.

Maintenance Department Report:
The maintenance department submitted mercury samples in May, and the results were satisfactory. Chloride was applied to the City's gravel roads. Southland Construction inspected the Community Center roof and identified several areas where leaks may be occurring; those areas were caulked. Quarterly water samples were also submitted, with satisfactory results. Maintenance staff have also been preparing for Dairy Days and mowing.

Prairie Visions Report:
Nothing to report.

Approval of Bills:
The bills payable for May were reviewed by the City Council.

Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Nick Anderson, to approve the payment of May bills. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Financial Report:
The city clerk presented the April 30th, 2026 financial statements.

Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve the financial report as presented. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Adams Liquor Store Liquor License:
Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Nick Anderson, to approve the liquor license application from the Adams Liquor Store. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Building Permit:
Motion made by Christopher Quale, seconded by Nick Anderson, to approve a building permit to Joshua Gavin for new home construction at 407 3rd St. NW Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Nick Anderson and Christopher Qule. Karen Ruechel abstains from vote. Votes against: None Motion carried

Water Rate Study / Well House #5 Project:
The clerk discussed with the council that water rates will need to be adjusted again in order to repay the new loans the City will be receiving from the PFA to complete the Well House #5 and Watermain Projects. He stated that the PFA requires a rate study from a municipal financial advisor. The City used the help of Northland Trust Services in 2023 when the Well #5 Project was starting.

Motion made by Karen Ruechel, seconded by Nick Anderson, to approve the city using Northland Trust Services to conduct a water rate study in order to proceed with the PFA loan. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Nick Anderson and Christopher Qule. Karen Ruechel abstains from vote. Votes against: None Motion carried

Patricial Mueller:
Representative Patricia Mueller attended the council meeting to provide an update on activity at the State Legislature. She reported that a $1.24 billion bonding bill passed, including $420 million for water infrastructure, $250 million for motor vehicle registration tab fee reductions, and $125 million for property tax relief. Mueller also noted upgrades to school safety measures and the passage of a new housing bill.

Vertical Bridge Easement Purchase Options:
Vertical Bridge, which leases the property where the cell tower is located, presented the City of Adams with options to purchase an easement across the land. Option 1 provides a lump-sum payment of $75,000. Option 2 provides $100,000 paid over five years, and Option 3 provides $125,000 paid over ten years. The council expressed interest in selling the property but would like a Vertical Bridge representative to attend an upcoming council meeting to explain the proposal in person.

2025 Audit Review:
Craig Popenhagen of Clifton Larson Allen was present to review the 2025 annual city audit report. Craig stated that the 2025 expenditures were over the corresponding years budget due to the purchase of the Community Center, building repairs on the History Center at 322 Main Street and constructing the Freedom Veterans Memorial. Craig also reported that no significant adjustments were required to the 2025 financial statement and that the audit results were altogether good.

No further business.

Motion made by Karen Ruechel seconded by Christopher Quale, to adjourn at 7:38 PM. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Karen Ruechel, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Jake Goodale

Clerk/ Treasurer