REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 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 September 2026.

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

Council absent: Brian Anderson

Assistant Mayor: Karen Ruechel presided over the meeting.

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

Approval of Minutes:
Motion made by Michael Cherney, seconded by Nick Andersopn, to approve August 25th meeting minutes as presented. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, 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 August timecards. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Old Business:
City Attorney Marty Helle reviewed the land lease agreement drafted by Vertical Bridge. He considered it unnecessarily complex for a straightforward transaction and raised concerns about provisions that could allow Vertical Bridge to build on City-owned land used as an easement and require the City to pay Vertical Bridge's attorney fees in a dispute. Mr. Helle recommended selling the entire 0.34-acre parcel to Vertical Bridge because the company already sought to purchase one-third of it. The council decided to counteroffer by proposing to sell the entire parcel to Vertical Bridge for $80,000.00 instead of the original $70,000.00 offer.

Motion made by Christopher Quale, seconded by Michael Cherney, to approve a counteroffer of $80,000.00 to sell the entire 0.34-acre parcel AA4 to Vertical Bridge. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Police Report:
No Report Given

Maintenance Department Report:
The maintenance department reported replacing a pump in the wastewater treatment plant's dry well; the old pump will be rebuilt. Staff also completed three sewer inspections for the City of Rose Creek to support its efforts to adopt a sewer inspection ordinance. Central Tank Coatings performed the water tower's annual inspection and maintenance. Lead and copper samples were submitted to the state, and all results were satisfactory. On September 3, strong winds damaged trees and brought large branches down onto streets and sidewalks. The department also reported difficulty keeping up with mowing in August.

Prairie Visions Report:
Nothing new to report.

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

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

Financial Report:
The city clerk presented the July 31st, 2026 financial statements.

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

2027 Proposed Budget:
The clerk and the council members went over the 2027 proposed budget. Some corrections needed to be made and it will be discussed at the next meeting.

Mower County Law Enforcement Contract:
The clerk and council reviewed the Mower County Sheriff's Department's proposed contract. The agreement would run from 2027 through 2029, with an annual 8% increase and a 2027 cost of $101,228.00. The council scheduled a public hearing for September 22 at the Adams Community Center to gather residents' input on renewing the contract.

Motion made by Nick Anderson, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve a public hearing be set and advertised to be held at the Adams Community Center on September 22nd at 6:00 PM in order to gather input from residents for the renewal of the policing contract with the Mower County Sheriff's Department. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Central Tank Coatings Contract:
The council discussed a contract proposed by Central Tank Coatings for the cleaning and inspection of the city's water tower which would run from 2027 to 2030 for $2,650.00 per year.

Motion was made by Christopher Quale, seconded by Nick Anderson, to approve the contract issued by Central Tank Coatings to clean and inspect the city's water tower from 2027 to 2030 for $2,650.00 per year. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Water Tower Inspection Report:
The clerk went over the water tower inspection report with the council. He informed them that exterior structural conditions of the tower were good condition. The paint on the outside of the tank was in fair to poor condition and the paint on the inside of the tank was in good condition.

Building Permit:
Motion was made by Christopher Quale, seconded by Nick Anderson, to approve a building permit to David & Bonnie Kirtz to construct a fence in the back yard at 207 Water Street. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Pump House #5 Color Samples:
Motion was made by Nick Anderson, seconded by Christopher Quale, to approve the color Driftwood Gray for the siding and Traditional Black for the roof panels. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Go Carts on City Streets:
The clerk and council discussed a complaint that go-carts were being driven recklessly along Lions Street and damaging the gravel on the road. The clerk was directed to notify those involved to stop or be billed for future repairs.

No further business.

Motion made by Christopher Quale seconded by Nick Anderson, to adjourn at 7:31 PM. Votes in favor: Michael Cherney, Christopher Quale and Nick Anderson. Votes against: None Motion carried.

Jake Goodale

Clerk/ Treasurer