

June 9, 2025
Regular Meeting

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Halstad was duly called and held at the Halstad Telephone Company community room in said city on June 9, 2025, at 5:15 p.m.

Mayor Darin Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 5:16 p.m.

The following council members were present: Mayor Darin Johnson, Brandon Mickelson, Gaylord Christianson, Donna Scholl and Peter Jacobson. Absent: None. Others in attendance: Jay DeLong, Wayne Tenneson, Kristi Melting, Lucas Spaeth, Utilities Superintendent, and City Clerk/Treasurer Alli Tice.

Additions to Agenda – Resolution 2025-06-09D Accepting Donations will be added under new business. Motion to approve agenda by Peter Jacobson, seconded by Donna Scholl, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Approval of May 12, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes - Motion to approve minutes as presented by Donna Scholl, seconded by Peter Jacobson, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Public Forum and Correspondence- Jay DeLong asked to discuss with the council the nuisance that he reported of a generator running for three days in his neighborhood. He wanted to know what the council plans to do to stop this from happening. The council explained that they informed the resident of the nuisance violation for noise.

Consent Agenda

Peter Jacobson moved to approve the consent agenda, Brandon Mickelson seconded, unanimous vote, motion carried. The following items were on the consent agenda:

- A. Monthly claims for May 2025
- B. General checking bank reconciliation for May 2025

Wimmer and Sunrise Report- The Sunrise Apartments has 3 openings. There are no openings at the Wimmer Homes.

Utilities Report – Congressionally Direct Spend request for regional water was submitted and it has made it to the next round. The request was for about \$500,000 for the connection to the water pipe line. Clay and Polk Counties have submitted requests for the water project as well. Clay County is in the second round and but not sure of the status of Polk County's request. We did not hear about our natural gas request. URGE test was completed on the generators. This test is needed to determine our leaseback amount from Minnkota Power. The regional water project is waiting for funding. We have not asked for any reimbursement from the Small Cities Development Program grant of \$600,000 for metering as no expenses have been incurred yet. Halstad will be hosting a regional meeting for Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association on June 17th at the LRC. Darin and Lucas will be meeting with NDSU to discuss geothermal for the Landmark heating and cooling and a housing addition by the Landmark. Arteкта will be asked to assist with the FEMA Safe Room grant.

Unfinished Business:

Blighted and Dangerous Properties- Clerk Tice will talk with the city attorney, Stephen Larson, about assisting with a notice to the railroad about the brown building on highway 75.

Landmark- (Halstad School and Property) – Volunteers have been cleaning the north side of the building on Wednesday nights. An air conditioning unit will be used for the all-school reunion. Landmark Summer Rec started today with 18 kids signed up. There are items in the old gym that could be sold.

RFP for Redevelopment – The deadline was extended.

Chicken ordinance – No action taken.

East Side/Blue Park Equipment Concern – update – Any equipment that is already being used is grandfathered into any new requirements. The company is still using the same spacing as the equipment in question. No action taken.

Dog Bite Incident – More information is needed than what was in the police report. We are sending out pet registration reminders to all households known to have pets.

New Business:

Zoning Permit – Faye DeLong – Motion was made by Peter Jacobson to approve the zoning permit, seconded by Gaylord Christianson, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Free Will Sale – Landmark items – After cleaning at the Landmark, items have been placed in the old gym. There are tables, desks, shelves and other miscellaneous items. Motion was made by Gaylord Christianson to have a free will sale of these items on a first come, first serve basis, second by Donna Scholl, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Land Purchase Offer – Wayne Tenneson – Wayne Tenneson submitted an offer of \$1,000 to purchase parcel number 28-3338000, which is adjacent to his property. Motion was made by Donna Scholl to approve the purchase offer for parcel number 28-3338000 for \$1,000 plus closing costs, seconded by Peter Jacobson, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Resolution 2025-06-09A – Housing Infrastructure Grant – There is funding available through the Greater Minnesota Housing Infrastructure Grant to be used for water, sewer, utilities and streets for a housing development. The maximum request is \$500,000 with a 50% match. This would be used for developing housing on the Landmark greenspace and also to complete the water line on the southeast edge of Halstad for future housing. Motion was made by Peter Jacobson to approve resolution 2025-06-09A authorizing and supporting the application for the housing infrastructure grant, Donna Scholl seconded, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Resolution 2025-06-09B – CERTs Grant – The Clean Energy Resource Teams offers seed grants for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. The grant has no match and is for labor expenses. The maximum grant is \$10,000. The grant would be used for energy efficiency at the Landmark or Sunrise Apartments. Brandon Mickelson motioned to approve resolution 2025-06-09B authorizing and supporting an application for a CERTs grant, seconded by Donna Scholl, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Resolution 2025-06-09C – NWRDC EECBG Grant – Northwest Regional Development Commission will administer sub-grants through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG), which provides funding to local units of government for energy related planning such as energy efficiency practices, the incorporation of renewable energy technology, and other climate resilience measures. No match is required, and the maximum grant is \$20,000. The grant would be used for an energy audit for the south side of the Landmark to help with a master plan and the FEMA Safe Room grant. Motion was made by Gaylord Christianson to approve resolution 2025-06-09C authorizing and supporting an application for a NWRDC EECBG grant, Peter Jacobson seconded, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Landmark Fundraising – Gary Cares as fiscal sponsor – Gary Cares would be willing to be the fiscal sponsor for fundraising for the Landmark. They would help with marketing and also the accounting and donation receipts over \$250. Motion by Darin Johnson to approve having Gary Cares act as the fiscal sponsor for the Landmark fundraising, Donna Scholl seconded, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Resolution 2025-06-09D – Accepting Donations – A resolution was presented to approve donations of items to the City of Halstad. Donna Scholl moved to approve resolution 2025-06-09D, seconded by Gaylord Christianson, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Other -

Upcoming events- Clean-up 06.10.2025, All-School Reunion 07.25.2025-07.27.2025

Gaylord Christianson moved and seconded by Peter Jacobson to adjourn the meeting at 6:14 pm, vote unanimous, motion carried.

The next Regular meeting of the City Council will be on Monday, July 7, 2025, at 5:15 pm.