

July 7, 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 July 7, 2025, at 5:15 p.m.

Vice Mayor Brandon Mickelson called the regular meeting to order at 5:21 p.m.

The following council members were present: Vice Mayor Brandon Mickelson, Gaylord Christianson, Donna Scholl and Peter Jacobson. Absent: Mayor Darin Johnson. Others in attendance: City Clerk/Treasurer Alli Tice.

Additions to Agenda – None. Motion to approve agenda by Gaylord Christianson, seconded by Peter Jacobson, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Approval of June 9, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes and June 13, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes - Motion to approve minutes as presented by Peter Jacobson, seconded by Donna Scholl, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Public Forum and Correspondence- No comments or correspondence.

Consent Agenda

Donna Scholl moved to approve the consent agenda, Gaylord Christianson seconded, unanimous vote, motion carried. The following items were on the consent agenda:

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

Wimmer and Sunrise Report- The mini split was installed in Wimmer #15 with an agreed rent increase with the tenant. We will be looking at getting quotes for mini splits in the nightly rentals at the Sunrise Apartments.

Utilities Report – The generators ran for 16.5 hours during the storm on 06.21.2025. We had fuel delivered for the generators, which cost \$11,649.28, since we didn't know how long we were going to be running on the generators. We are working on getting pricing for the new water meters, which will be paid for through the SCDP grant. AE2S continues to work on the PER for wastewater. Lucas Spaeth met with East Central Regional Water and AE2S to discuss connecting to the rural waterline that will be put in for Riverview Dairy. Halstad would have to finance their portion of the connection and installation of pipes, which is approximately \$750,000. Conversations have started with Jason Murry with David Drown Associates to look at financing through the Minnesota Rural Water Association loan program. Another option would be a USDA Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant (REDLG) through the Red River Valley Coop Power. Clerk Tice explained the proposed route for the rural water to cross the Red River and come into Halstad. Tice also gave a summary of the funding needed for the project, which will have to be explained in greater detail at next month's meeting when more information is available.

Unfinished Business:

Blighted and Dangerous Properties- Clerk Tice talked with the city attorney, Stephen Larson, about the blight on the old railroad property. Larson would like pictures of the vehicles and license plate information to see if the vehicles have current registration. Larson will help with a letter to the taxpayers and property owner to move the vehicles or the city will have them towed. Tice explained the process of a building inspection. The council discussed the main goal for the property is to get the outside cleaned up around the building and then revisit the status of the building.

Landmark- (Halstad School and Property) – The Dekko Foundation visited the Landmark on July 2nd. They offered assistance with any building questions for the FEMA Safe Room project and other projects that come up. The All-School Reunion will be using the Landmark for their activities on July 25-26th. Landmark Summer Rec will resume on July 14th for another 4 weeks.

RFP for Redevelopment – The deadline was extended.

Chicken ordinance – The utilities office received a complaint about a dog getting into a chicken coop. Having chickens is currently against city ordinance. The chickens were also seen out of their coop. With egg prices continuing to decline, the city will revisit this at a later date.

Dog Bite Incident – Tice talked with Attorney Larson about the dog bite incident and how the police report did not name the owner of the biting dog. Staff were told who's dog it was. Larson confirmed that this was sufficient to send a letter to the biting dog owner about deeming the dog a potentially dangerous animal. Tice will have a draft letter for the next meeting for the council to review for deeming the dog potentially dangerous. Tice also talked with Larson about dogs running at large and how to enforce the ordinance for this matter. Larson suggested completing the paperwork to add the dog running at large ordinance to the Minnesota ticketing system so that fines can be given to the dog owners. There have been numerous calls about dogs running at large. Tice got information from the county attorney, which the city contracts with for criminal prosecution, that she would prosecute ordinance violations sent to her office.

New Business:

06.21.2025 Storm – An adjuster with the League of MN Cities took an inventory of the damage from the storm. The Sunrise Apartments need to shingle the entire roof. 11 Wimmer Homes need repairs of shingles, ridge caps, and fascia. The Wimmer Homes also needs to replace 5 trees. The south shed needs a new overhead door on the west side. The wastewater treatment plant needs repairs on the aeration plastic roof. The Landmark needs shingles on the entire roof of the 1905 building. The city has been asked by residents if there can be a clean up for some of the storm damage items. The council discussed getting a roll off dumpster and allowing storm damage items to be disposed of in the dumpster. Motion was made by Gaylord Christianson to get a roll off dumpster for storm damage items, seconded by Peter Jacobson, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Other -

Upcoming events- All-School Reunion 07.25.2025-07.27.2025, Make Halstad Home Plate 08.14.2025

Peter Jacobson moved and seconded by Donna Scholl to adjourn the meeting at 6:26 pm, vote unanimous, motion carried.

The next Regular meeting of the City Council will be on Monday, August 11, 2025, at 5:15 pm.

Alli Tice / City Clerk-Treasurer