

August 11, 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 August 11, 2025, at 5:15 p.m.

Mayor Darin Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

The following council members were present: Mayor Darin Johnson, Brandon Mickelson, Gaylord Christianson, and Peter Jacobson. Absent: Donna Scholl. Others in attendance: Pamela Hawn, Alex Olson with Allstar Construction, Lucas Spaeth, Utilities Superintendent, and City Clerk/Treasurer Alli Tice.

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

Approval of July 7, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes - Motion to approve minutes as presented by Brandon Mickelson, seconded by Peter Jacobson, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Public Forum and Correspondence- No comments or correspondence.

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 July 2025
- B. General checking bank reconciliation for July 2025
- C. Temporary Liquor Permit for 11/21/2025 at LRC

Wimmer and Sunrise Report- Both Wimmer and Sunrise are doing well financially. Roof estimates from storm damage need to be approved. The Sunrise Apartments roof started leaking so employees had to secure plastic to roof. The council would like to see a steel bid for the Sunrise roof. A mini-split bid was received for units for the nightly rentals. A CERTs grant will be available in 2026. Mark Klevgaard has inquired if the city council is still interested in selling the Sunrise Apartments. The council is not interested at this time.

Utilities Report – Water pressure concerns were brought to attention after the recent elevator fire in Shelly. Hawkins has a grant for the National Rural Water Association apprenticeship program for water operators for Amanda and Josh. AE2S is going door to door to complete the service line inventory for those that have not responded to the survey. The Landmark 1905 roof will be covered by insurance from storm damage. Lucas Spaeth will be meeting with CERTs and the University of MN to discuss the solar on public buildings grant. The grant with NWRDC is pending for an energy audit grant for \$20,000 for the Landmark. The football scoreboard fell down in the storm. There is someone that has shown interest in buying the scoreboard.

Unfinished Business:

Blighted and Dangerous Properties- Clerk Tice will continue to work with city attorney Stephen Larson to get the former railroad property cleaned up.

Landmark- (Halstad School and Property) – The building was cleaned up by volunteers before the All-School reunion. Summer Rec ended last Thursday. Summer Rec received a grant from Essentia Health.

RFP for Redevelopment – The deadline was extended.

Dog Bite Incident – A letter will be sent out to the owner of the dog that bite another dog in April to deem the dog as a potentially dangerous dog, which requires the dog to be microchipped. Another letter will be sent out to a resident in Halstad about their dog demonstrating unprovoked aggression to neighbors and other passersby. This dog will also be deemed as a potentially dangerous dog and will have to be microchipped.

Website ADA Accessibility - New federal regulations are requiring local governments to meet updated ADA Title II accessibility standards for websites and mobile applications. Halstad has to be compliant by April 26, 2027. Halstad's web host, OpGo, suggested a platform to meet the accessibility requirements. Brandon Mickelson will look at other options and compare the pricing.

New Business:

Payloader Repair-estimates – The ACS attachment arm broke on the payloader. Spaeth received a bid for repairing and also found a used payloader for \$28,000. Motion was made by Gaylord Christianson to repair the payloader for the estimated cost of \$11,222.64 with an additional \$8,000 for the ACS, seconded by Peter Jacobson, unanimous vote, motion carried. Spaeth will continue to look for other used payloaders or lease programs as well.

Storm Damage-roof estimates – The Landmark, Sunrise Apartments and Wimmer Homes all need repair work done on the roofs. Spaeth received two bids on all the roofs. The repair work will be covered by insurance. Alex Olson with Allstar Construction was at the meeting to answer any questions. The council discussed the removal of the chimney and antennas on the Landmark. The possibility of additional repair work was discussed if any of the roof decking needs replacement once the shingles are torn off. The council reviewed the bids received by Allstar Construction and A & B Roofing. They would like the League of Minnesota Cities to weigh in on the bids to make sure the bids are comparable. No action was taken at this time.

Regional Water Project-financing – With Riverview Dairy potentially building roughly 3 miles from Halstad and needing a large water line to serve them, the opportunity came for Halstad to tie into the water service line through Minnesota Rural Water Association loan financing. Discussion with David Drown Associates has been had and project financing numbers are being worked out. A better financing cost will be known when the project bids come in tentatively in November. The next steps would be to approve preliminary environmental and permitting work and to request water service from ECRWD. Motion was made by Brandon Mickelson to approve the preliminary environmental and permitting work with Advanced Engineering and Environmental Services, LLC for \$25,000 and to send the request for rural water service letter to ECRWD, seconded by Gaylord Christianson, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Artekta/Anderson Engineering Invoice-FEMA Safe Room Grant – Motion was made by Brandon Mickelson, seconded by Peter Jacobson, to approve paying the invoice to Anderson Engineering for \$2,780 for the FEMA Safe Room grant submittal work completed through Artekta, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Resolution 2025-08-11 Naming Dog Park – A request was received from the class of 1990 to name the dog park on the Landmark property after their classmate, Marci Lavold Anderson, who passed. Marci loved bringing her dogs to the dog park daily. Peter Jacobson moved, seconded by Gaylord Christianson, to approve resolution 2025-08-11 for naming the dog park at 201 2nd Avenue East the “Marci Lavold Anderson Dog Park”, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Zoning Permit-David DeLong – Zoning Permit-Pamela Essig – Two zoning permits were received for reroofing from David DeLong and Pamela Essig. Motion was made by Gaylord Christianson, Peter Jacobson seconded, to approve the zoning permits, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Fence Permit-Shaina Weltikol – The City council reviewed the property survey completed by Widseth that was done for Shaina Weltikol. Peter Jacobson moved to approve the fence permit with a three foot setback from the side and back lots, seconded by Gaylord Christianson, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Other -

Upcoming events- Make Halstad Home Plate 08.14.2025

Gaylord Christianson moved and seconded by Peter Jacobson to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 pm, vote unanimous, motion carried.

The next Regular meeting of the City Council will be on Monday, September 8, 2025, at 5:15 pm.