

October 13, 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 October 13, 2025, at 5:15 p.m.

Mayor Darin Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 5:17 p.m.

The following council members were present: Mayor Darin Johnson, Brandon Mickelson, Donna Scholl, Peter Jacobson, and Gaylord Christianson. Absent: None. Others in attendance: Jay DeLong, Wayne Tenneson, 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 September 8, 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- Wayne Tenneson asked the council how the city was going to pay for the \$750,000 for the regional water project. He also asked if we were guaranteed to have water because the dairy farm will be using a lot of water. Tenneson also asked about getting natural gas to Halstad as talked about in previous years. Mayor Johnson explained that we have applied for Congressionally Directed Spending and have not been successful in getting any funding for natural gas.

Consent Agenda

Brandon Mickelson 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 September 2025
- B. General checking bank reconciliation for September 2025
- C. Temporary Liquor Permit for 10/18/2025 at Harvest Plaza
- D. Temporary Liquor Permit for 12/31/2025 at LRC

Wimmer and Sunrise Report- Both the Wimmer Homes and Sunrise Apartments are profitable in 2025. The Sunrise has 3 units available. The Wimmer Homes are full. The Sunrise has been dealing with a pest control issue and treatment has been completed and will be ongoing. The shingling and roof repairs have been completed at both the Sunrise and Wimmer Homes.

Utilities Report – League of Minnesota Cities visited to conduct appraisals on all city buildings and we have not received a report yet. Workers Compensation and Property Insurance policies are up for renewal. We have had two workers' compensation claims this year. Staff are working on electrical upgrades with Red River Valley Coop Power in the alley behind the LRC. We need to run the generators for this month. There was a special West Central Regional Water District meeting to review a report for the district to be filed with Clay County court. Franklin Energy completed an audit for the Landmark with recommendations for updating lighting and heating. We are hoping to hear back about the Solar on Public Buildings Grant this week. KLM couldn't seal the clean out on the water tower due to cross threading, so they had to come back and epoxy the opening and put in a new cap. The payloader is still being worked on. Spaeth suggested budgeting for a payloader lease option for 2027. The government lease would be \$218,000, which would be \$30,000 per year for a new payloader.

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) – A workshop will take place after the council meeting to discuss future planning for the Landmark.

RFP for Redevelopment – The deadline was extended.

Regional Water Project-financing update – We are still waiting for bids. We have the Small Cities Development Program grant dollars for the project. The permitting has been completed by AE2S, but archeologists are wanting soil samples. We are still looking into the possibility of East Central Regional Water District helping to get the water pipe to Halstad.

Storm Damage-roof estimates-update – The Landmark chimney is roughly 55-60 feet tall. A & B Roofing, Burley's Tree Service, and Mootz Construction have all looked at removing the chimney. Mootz Construction will be submitting an estimate for the removal of the chimney and dormers and also an asphalt and steel roofing bid. We have not received any other steel bids. Spaeth had pictures of the attic in the 1905 building at the Landmark for the council to review. The roof needs new decking due to large gaps in the current decking.

2026 Preliminary Budget Review – The council will review the 2026 preliminary budget for future meetings before final approval in December.

New Business:

2nd Street West Concerns – Spaeth met with Jay DeLong to look over the concerns with 2nd Street West. There is a 4 inch surface difference on the driveway side of the curb. The sub-base is old and shifting would still occur even if the road was patched or milled and tarred. Mayor Johnson completed a comparison from 2008 to 2024 on LIDAR and there were no differences in heights as seen in the presentation video from Johnson. No action was taken.

Resolution 2025-10-13 Accepting Donations – Donna Scholl made a motion to accept the donations listed in Resolution 2025-10-13, seconded by Peter Jacobson, unanimous vote, motion carried.

KRJB Advertising Contract – The city received the annual advertising contract with KRJB. The contract price for 2025-2026 is \$1,904.32 which is the same as last year. Motion was made by Gaylord Christianson, Donna Scholl seconded, to approve the KRJB advertising contract, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Zoning Permit – Josh Burger – Motion by Brandon Mickelson, seconded by Peter Jacobson, to approve the zoning permit as presented, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Paid Leave Premium Split – Clerk Tice notified the council that they will have to pay a portion of the premium for MN Paid Leave. Tice gave the council members the required notice to employees with information on how the premium would be split, what and who is covered under MN Paid Leave, what job protections are included and how to apply for MN Paid Leave. Council members will need to review the information in the notice and acknowledge that they were given notice.

Purchase of parcel #28-3412000 from Ty Heinecke – Ty Heinecke had previously purchased parcel #28-3412000 from the city for \$3,000. Heinecke has since moved and asked the city if they would be interested in purchasing the parcel back. Motion was made to purchase the parcel for \$3,000 plus closing costs by Peter Jacobson, seconded by Gaylord Christianson, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Other –

Upcoming events-

Brandon Mickelson moved and seconded by Peter Jacobson to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 pm, vote unanimous, motion carried.

The next Regular meeting of the City Council will be on Monday, November 10, 2025, at 5:15 pm.

October 13, 2025
Workshop Meeting

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a workshop 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 October 13, 2025, following the regular city council meeting.

The workshop meeting was called to order at 6:47 p.m.

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

The group reviewed the Landmark Shelter Project 1.0 power point put together by Lucas Spaeth. The group brainstormed ideas on how to make the south side of the Landmark more efficient and user friendly. It was mentioned that it would be nice to have the community room on the south side be set up to serve food for bigger events that would need to use the Landmark gymnasium. The stainless steel serving and prep equipment in the former cafeteria could be moved to the community room to make it easier to serve food. The group will continue to plan for future needs.

The workshop meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm