

OPENING OF COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Yaeger opened the remote/in person council meeting at 7:00 p.m. The council members present were Eric Ottmar, Jessica Quinn, Mike Schrag (remote), Brooke Scheel, Jen Verhey, Dennis Chamberlain, and Ky Beck-Gmeiner. Staff members in attendance were Clerk-Treasurer Julie Flyckt, Deputy Clerk Treasurer II Michelle Asmussen (remote), Public Works Director Dave Breazeale, and Community Development Director Tom Reese. City Fire Chief Joel Bell, Police Chief Mike Suniga, and City Attorney John Kragt were excused. Also present were Brian Bothun, Rick Haverinen from the Cheney Free Press, and Rod Larse.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Yaeger asked if there were any corrections or additions to the consent agenda. Council Member Jen Verhey moved to accept the consent agenda for August 18th, 2026, with payables in the amount of \$103,780.24. Council Member Dennis Chamberlain seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

PUBLIC REQUESTS AND COMMENTS

Mayor Yaeger asked if there was anyone from the public who would like to comment. With no comments, he moved on.

ACTION AGENDA

- A. **Snaky Sewer Project Amendment - Varela Construction** – Mayor Yaeger reported the amendment is for the Snaky Sewer Project's construction engineering and inspection that is currently out to bid. The amendment assumes a nine-week construction period plus two weeks for contingency. The current construction estimate is about \$450,000 which will increase to about \$660,000, with the grant funding at \$750,000. Council Member Brooke Scheel moved to approve the Snaky Sewer Project amendment in the amount of \$117,960. Council Member Jessica Quinn seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

DISCUSSION AGENDA-No items.

CORRESPONDENCE – No correspondence.

REPORTS

A. **Mayor Updates** – Mayor Yaeger is working on a waiver with City Attorney John Kragt and working on the 2027 budget and ER&R plan.

B. **Council Committee Updates:**

- **License, Rules, and Permits** – The committee is working on the Keeping Animals' code amendment for chickens.
- **Finance and Employee Benefits** – Discussed items on the council agenda and a follow-up from the workshop to review potential online platforms to increase communication with the community and council. Council Members Brooke Scheel and Jessica Quinn volunteered to be on a special committee to review the potential online platforms along with Clerk-Treasurer Julie Flyckt, Police Chief Mike Suniga, community member Brian Bothun, and Mayor Scott Yaeger.
- **Health and Wellness** – The committee is preparing for the next City Beautification Days by working on the newspaper advertisement and flyers for September 9th and 12th. The events will follow a similar format to previous beautification events but will not include home pickup services. Some council members looked at the dog kennel to see how to make it better with minor upgrades.
- **Public Safety** – No report.
- **Public Works** – There is an updated traffic study that addresses prior comments.
- **Parks and Recreation** – No report.

- C. **Personnel Committee** – Associated Industries provided an update that there is a delay in drafting the personnel handbook, but the City can request specific policy review during the delay.
- D. **City Attorney** – John Kragt was excused.
- E. **Public Works** – Director Dave Breazeale reported the new cemetery niche, and kiosk lights have been installed. The plaza lights were also installed. A water violation letter was included in the last utility mailing because the water sampling schedule was changed without notification to the City.
- F. **Police** – Police Chief Mike Suniga was excused.
- G. **Fire** – Chief Joel Bell was excused.
- H. **Clerk-Treasurer** – Clerk-Treasurer Julie Flyckt reported that she researched listening devices with Council Member Jessica Quinn and received information on the equipment used by the County. The 2026 financial audit has begun, and she is working on the 2027 draft budget.
- I. **Community Development** – Director Tom Reese reported working on planning commission agenda items and following up on items that were presented at the last meeting. The Health Clinic is moving forward with its remodel project. Reese is working with Flyckt to wrap up SS4A reporting. He is following up on the council workshop downtown housing feasibility discussion and reaching out to consultants for an estimate to include in the 2027 budget. Reese is wrapping up the community forestry scope of work and will send it back to everyone to review.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further comments or business to come before the council, Mayor Yaeger adjourned the remote and in-person meeting at 7:28 p.m.



Julie Flyckt, Clerk-Treasurer