Regular Council Meeting
September 14, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Tom Kloss.

Roll Call: Jason Ekern-Present, Elaine Conrad-Present, Wayne Palkowski-Absent, Cleo Skroch-Present, Pat "Shorty" Kotlarz-Present, and Randy "Bushy" Symicek- Present. 5 Present and 1 absent.

Others Present: Mayor Tom Kloss, Kayla Mathson, Street Superintendent Eric Theisen, Chief Jim Waniorek, and City Clerk Dawn Smieja.

Proof of Public Notice: Mayor Kloss verified proof that public notice was given.

Approval of Agenda: Symicek motioned to approve agenda, seconded by Ekern. Motion carried unanimously by vote of acclamation to approve.

Minutes –August 3rd, 2026 and August 25th, 2026
Motion to approve minutes from August 3rd, 2026 meeting by Conrad, seconded by Kotlarz. Motion carried unanimously by vote of acclamation to approve.

Motion to approve minutes from August 25th, 2026 meeting by Conrad, seconded by Kotlarz. Motion carried unanimously by vote of acclamation to approve.

Public Comments/Correspondence: Deb and Mark Marsolek raised questions on Emerald Ash, and some ordinance concerns along with questions on minutes.

Licenses and Permits:
Operator License:
K. Knopps (Bushy's)- Motioned by Ekern to approve, seconded by Skroch. Motion carried unanimously by vote of acclamation to approve.

D. Lahren (Independence Market)- Motioned by Symicek to approve, seconded by Ekern. Motion carried unanimously by vote of acclamation to approve.

Street Superintendent Report: Nothing really pressing. Leaves are starting to fall.
Island Park Curbing- Curbing was received. Lions will pay half and Rainbow Community Club will pay half. Kevin and Eric will work when time allows hopefully before fall.

Tires for 1 ton-Eric provided an estimate. Motioned by Conrad to go with Wrangler Adventure AT for $181.65 per tire, seconded by Kotlarz. Roll Call Vote: Ekern-Yes, Conrad-Yes, Skroch-Yes, Kotlarz-Yes, Symicek-Yes. 5-0 Yes, 1absent, motion carried.

New Holland Mower Replacement- Received a price quote from John Deere earlier, going to get a quote from Johnson. The guys would like to sell and get something different possibly a zero turn.

Police Department Report:
Started fundraising for the drug dog. Lexipol will possibly be done by October. Would like to get an ordinance for E-bikes. Calls have been busy with thefts of Catalytic converters.

New Business

WisDOT Work on Hwy 121 between Independence and Whitehall- Mayor Kloss provided an update.

WisDOT Standalone Curb Ramp Project- Mayor Kloss provided an update that the DOT is replacing the curb ramps to be ADA compliance and it is state funded. Motion to approve by Kotlarz, seconded by Skroch. Motion carried unanimously by vote of acclamation to approve.

Election Training-Close Office- Motioned by Symicek for Abby to go in the morning, seconded by Conrad. Motion carried unanimously by vote of acclamation to approve.

Music Permits- Mayor Kloss provided an update. Numerous calls to dispatch for noise complaints. When looked into parties have had music permits allowing to have music until 10pm. The bass of the music is the cause. We have an ordinance for decibels for load music. The decibels meter doesn't pick up the bass.

Flower Hanging Baskets- Table it until next month

Four Seasons Park Wi-Fi- Tabled it until next month.

Mailbox Options- Mayor provided an update. Tabled it until next month.

Old Business

Library Update-Kayla provided an update.

Refuse Disposal Contract with Tri-City Sanitation- Ekern provided an update on if city should continue with the billing on the water bills or if Tri-City Sanitation should take it over. Motioned by Symicek to have Tri-City Sanitation do the billing for the five year contract, seconded by Skroch. Motion carried unanimously by vote of acclamation to approve.

New Library Tenant- Mayor Kloss advised this is just a reminder to keep thinking.

City Hanging Banners- Table it until next month.

C**ommittee Reports:**

Ambulance- Skroch advised ambulance budget was increased significantly. We will vote on it next month. New chassis will be done by the end of the month.

Ordinance-Swimming pool ordinance will be on for next month.

Water/Sewer- Ekern provided an update.

Fire Dept- Skroch provided update that the High School and fire department are applying for a grant.

Street- Symicek provided an update.

Approval of Invoices and Payments:

Motioned by Skroch to approve; seconded by Kotlarz. Roll Call vote: Conrad-Yes, Skroch-Yes, Kotlarz-Yes, Symicek-Yes, Ekern-Yes. 5-0 yes and 1 absent. motion Carried.

Future Agenda:

- City Hanging Banners
- Library Community Center
- New Tenant in Library Space
- Mailbox Options
- Flower Hanging Baskets
- 4 Seasons Park Wi-Fi/Library Wi-Fi

Future Meeting Dates:
Council Meeting October 5th, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

After having completed all matters before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:58pm.

Dawn Smieja, City Clerk