

City of Pillager
City Council Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2025

Mayor Adam Sparrow called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance being said. Members present by roll call: Mayor Adam Sparrow, Council Members Rob Freelove, Joe Klein, Wade Mortenson and Leroy Smith.

Staff present: Lori Blumke, Guy Efraimson, Tom Youngblom and Bethany Soderlund

Visitors present: Dean Birkeland

Mayor Sparrow opened the regular council meeting and began by asking if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. He requested to add under the consent agenda #6 – donation from Schwendeman Real Estate Co. - \$250.00 for Pillager Fest and under New Business #1 - Approve to transfer the balance in the Unity Bank CD to a 13-month SC at 4.22 APY. Motion by Council Mortenson, seconded by Council Smith to accept the agenda with this addition. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Freelove, second by Council Klein to accept the consent agenda with the following items:

1. Minutes of April 8, 2025 Regular Meeting
2. April 2025 Cash Control Statement
3. April 2025 Expenses
4. Financial Monthly Analysis
5. Accept sales tax reimbursement from the State of MN for \$5,282.21
6. Accept donations from Manion Lumber & Truss, Inc. - \$250.00 for Pillager Fest and Schwendeman Real Estate Co. - \$250.00 also for Pillager Fest

The motion carried unanimously.

Visitor Forum - None

Dean Birkeland with Carlson SV was in attendance to review the 2024 Audit Report with the council. The city received an unmodified opinion. Motion by Council Mortenson, seconded by Council Smith to approve the 2024 Audit Report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

Motion by Council Freelove, seconded by Council Klein to approve Ordinance 2025-05 Amending the Zoning Ordinance and Revising the Zoning Map. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Smith, seconded by Council Mortenson to publish the official summary of Ordinance Amendment 2025-05 as approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Smith, seconded by Council Mortenson to approve Resolution No 2025-51325 – To Revoke Conditional Use Permit for Parcel #93-352-0325 – Sullivan Properties Group LLC. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Freelove, seconded by Council Mortenson to approve the proposal for Comprehensive Planning with Region Five Development Commission beginning January 2026. The motion carried unanimously.

Community Development Administrator, Bethany Soderlund and Chief of Police, Tom Youngblom facilitated a discussion with council regarding city clean-up and nuisance property compliance. Next steps need to be defined after a property owner has received 2 letters from the city regarding property clean-up. Council will further review.

Motion by Council Smith, seconded by Council Freelove to pay the overpayment of special assessments in the amount of \$5,909.20 for parcel #93-352-0605 to the landowner. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Motion by Council Mortenson, seconded by Council Klein to transfer the balance of the Unity Bank CD to a 13-month CD at 4.22 APY. Signers on the account are City Clerk Lori Blumke, Mayor Adam Sparrow and Acting Mayor Howard Freelove. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Works Report

Supervisor Guy Efraimson reported that he has received quotes from Brainerd General Rental and Midwest Machinery to replace the two lawnmowers and a quote from Preferred Controls Inc. for a lift station monitoring system.

He also reviewed inspection reports for all 5 lift stations prepared by WW Goetsch, the well inspection report prepared by Thein Well, cemetery cleanup and zoom meeting schedule for next week with MNDot regarding the roundabout.

Motion by Council Klein, seconded by Council Freelove to accept the bid from Brainerd General Rental for two Toro lawnmowers contingent upon a bid from Triple A to compare prices and availability. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Mortenson, seconded by Council Freelove to approve monthly bills as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Klein, seconded by Council Mortenson to adjourn this meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.



Adam Sparrow - Mayor



Lori Blumke - City Clerk