

**City of Pillager
City Council Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2026**

Mayor Adam Sparrow called this 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 and Bethany Soderlund

Visitors present: Dean Birkeland, Jerry Kleinschmidt, Robert Sawyer, Sue VanHal, Cathy and Bob Tripp

Mayor Adam Sparrow opened the regular meeting and began by asking if there are any additions or deletions to the agenda. He requested to add under New Business # 4 – Approve to publish the official summary of Ordinance Amendment 2026-04. Motion by Council Smith, seconded by Council Klein to accept the agenda with these additions. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Mortenson seconded by Council Klein to accept the consent agenda with the following items:

1. Minutes of May 12, 2026 Regular Meeting
2. May 2026 Cash Control Statement
3. May 2026 Expenses
4. Financial Monthly Analysis

The motion carried unanimously.

Visitor Forum -None

2025 Audit Review – Dean Birkeland, Carlson SV

Dean Birkeland with Carlson SV was in attendance to review the 2025 Audit Report with the council. The city received an unmodified/clean opinion. Motion by Council Mortenson, seconded by Council Klein to approve the 2025 Audit Report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Motion by Council Smith, seconded by Council Mortenson to approve Ordinance Amendment 2026-03 – to amend the City Land Use & Subdivision Ordinance, Section 3: 3.1 Definitions and Section 5: 5.5 Commercial District, 5.6 Downtown Commercial (DC). The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Mortenson, seconded by Council Klein to publish the official summary of Ordinance Amendment 2026-03. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Klein, seconded by Council Smith to approve Ordinance Amendment 2026-04 for regulation of low potency hemp edibles within the City of Pillager. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Smith, seconded by Council Mortenson to publish the official summary of Ordinance Amendment 2026-04. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Smith, seconded by Council Freelove to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for Trunk Highway 210/37th Avenue SW/County Road 1 Roundabout Project. Voting in favor of: Council Rob Freelove, Wade Mortenson, Leroy Smith and Adam Sparrow. Voting against the same: Council Joe Klein. The motion carried.

Motion by Council Freelove, seconded by Council Klein to approve the following Police Department Policies as mandated by POST Board. #11 – Professional Conduct of Peace Officers, #17 – Allegations of Misconduct, #23 – Use of Force, #26 – Lighting Exemption for Law Enforcement Vehicles, #31 – Vehicle Pursuits, #37 – Domestic Abuse Response and Arrest, #40 – Criminal Conduct on School Buses, #41 – Response to Reports of Missing and Endangered Persons, #45 – Predatory Offender Registration and Community Notification, #46 – Administrative Forfeiture, #51 – Avoiding Racial Profiling, #52 – Sexual Assault Investigations, #53 – Eyewitness Identification Procedures, #54 – Confidential Informants, #55 – Public Assembly and First Amendment Activity. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Mortenson, seconded by Council Klein to approve the purchase agreement as presented by Whitecaps, LLC. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

Motion by Council Smith, seconded by Council Mortenson to fly the previous Minnesota State flag. After discussion regarding other options, Council Smith rescinded his motion. New motion by Council Smith, seconded by Council Klein to conduct a poll to gather feedback from city residents as to what they prefer: adopt a City of Pillager flag, new state flag, old state flag, or no state flag. Three options for a city flag have been designed. The poll will close on Friday, July 10th. Voting in favor of: Council Joe Klein, Wade Mortenson, Leroy Smith. Voting against the same: Council Rob Freelove. The motion carried.

Motion by Council Klein, seconded by Council Mortenson to approve the bid from Jason Rodman Construction LLC in the amount of \$29,100.00 to cover repair costs to Jerry Klenschmidt's basement. The motion carried unanimously.

Council Mortenson reviewed a preliminary lot diagram for potential ball fields between E. 2nd Street and Servo Trail.

Public Works Report

Guy Efraimson, Public Works Supervisor reviewed the Minnesota Water Agency Response Network (MnWARN) Agreement. Guy will get quotes for a generator at the water tower.

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

Motion by Council Klein, seconded by Council Mortenson to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.



Adam Sparrow - Mayor



Lori Blumke - City Clerk