

**City of Pillager
City Council Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2026**

Mayor Adam Sparrow called this regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance being said.

Members present: Mayor Adam Sparrow, Council Members Rob Freelove, Wade Mortenson and Leroy Smith

Members absent: Joe Klein

Staff present: Lori Blumke, Guy Efraimson and Mark Klema, City Engineer

Visitors present: Griff Eisel and Bob Harmsen

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 #2 – Approve Bingo permit for Cass Co. Agricultural Society to be held at the Pillager Community Center on November 21, 2026. Motion by Council Mortenson, seconded by Council Smith to accept the agenda with this addition. The motion carried unanimously.

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

1. Minutes of August 12, 2026 Regular Meeting
2. August 2026 Cash Control Statement
3. August 2026 Expenses
4. Financial Monthly Analysis
5. Resolution #090826-1 – Authorizing Grant Funding Application – City Hall
6. Resolution #090826-2 – Authorizing Grant Funding Application – Police Department
7. Donations – Pillager Fest
8. Approve Application for Exempt Permit for the Pillager Husky Booster Club raffle on February 27, 2027 at the Pillager Community Center

The motion carried unanimously.

Visitor Forum

Griff Eisel and Bob Harmson from the First Lutheran Church addressed the Council regarding the alley/road between the church and the neighbors to the south. He is asking for clarification, as both parties use it to get to and from their property. He stated that the church would vacate that strip if the city would assume it as an alley/road and provide maintenance. City staff will research and locate utility easements for the next Planning and Zoning meeting.

Paul Frisch wanted to inquire about the utility marking along Ironwood and to the back alleyway. Guy Efraimson responded that the markings were to locate GPS pins at a different parcel.

Public Works Report

Mark Klema of Bollig Engineering presented a request for council action – Task Order No. 4. This would allow Bollig Engineering to conduct a study of sewer lift station #1 to identify future flows, recommend force main pipe size and pump capacity as the service demands increase from the Crossing area. This will also include review of a bypass gravity sewer addition from the Crossing to the sewer ponds. He also discussed the final Cooperative Construction Agreement between MnDOT, Cass County, Sylvan Township and the City of Pillager as well as financing options to cover utility relocation costs. After discussion, motion by Council Smith, seconded by Council Mortenson to approve Task Order No. 4 amending #5 – Payments to Engineer, to state: Hourly up to a lump sum of \$15,000.00 with feedback and review at that time. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business - None

New Business

Motion by Council Freelove, seconded by Council Mortenson to approve the 2027 Budget as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Smith, seconded by Council Freelove to certify the Proposed Levy for 2027 in the amount of \$404,406.92 which is a 5% increase from the previous year. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Smith, seconded by Council Mortenson to approve a Bingo permit application for Cass Co. Agricultural Society to be held at the Pillager Community Center on November 21, 2026. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Motion by Council Mortenson, seconded by Council Freelove to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.



Adam Sparrow - Mayor



Lori Blumke - City Clerk