

**STRATFORD CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
August 11, 2025**

The Stratford City Council met in regular session on Monday, August 11, 2025, with Mayor Brian Ouverson calling the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. at City Hall and leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council members answering roll call were: Carol Bergman, Catherine Bergman, Terry Bryan, Clark Conklin and Chase Haman. Also present were, Dalton Higgins, Toni Larson, Cayden Heck, Brad Larson, Gina Swanson and Kim Leeds.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Chase Haman to approve the tentative agenda. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Clark Conklin to approve previous meeting minutes from regular meeting on July 14, 2025. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, and Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve the consent agenda as follows: Financial Report for July 2025, Current Claims since Previous Council approval for \$52,450.83, Stratford Country Store for renewal of Class E Retail Alcohol License LE#003829 and Delinquent Utility Account Report. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman and seconded by Terry Bryan to approve chickens for Dalton Higgins at the property located at 1001 Milton St. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – nay, Catherine Bergman – nay, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – nay and Chase Haman – aye. Motion denied

Council member Haman held a short discussion regarding the denial of Dalton Higgins chicken request. Several council members stated the request for written signatures from neighbors was not available and encouraged property clean up. Council encouraged Higgins to come back with request for chicken once property was cleaned up.

Moved by Carol Bergman and seconded by Chase Haman to approve Central Iowa televising (CIT) invoice for \$2,500.00 for pool leak investigation using LOSST Funds. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Chase Haman to approve a three-year lease at \$225.00 per acre for lagoon farm property. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, second by Chase Haman to approve the purchase of a big lift station flygt pump at the cost of \$43,188.00. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve a quote from Double A Roofing for a roof membrane coating system, and to replace any worn or damaged areas on the roof for the City Hall building. Roll call vote; Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

City Manager Leeds updated council on the pool leak. CIT and ACCO attempted to locate the pool leak with no success. Bolton & Menk engineer Jim Leiding met with maintenance and City Manager Leeds to review findings. The next step will be to schedule Iowa Rural Water Association (IRWA) , Zeb Mcfarland to come after pool is closed with leak detection transducer along with Jim Leiding engineer from Bolton & Menk with pin like camera. Hopes are between the two they will be able to locate the exact location of the leak and come up with a plan to fix.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Clark Conklin to approve a quote from Dryer Painting for \$23,542.00 for painting pool basin using LOSST Fund after the pool leak is fixed. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman - aye. Motion carried.

Council held a discussion regarding sidewalk repairs or incentives at the property of 1025 Shakespeare Ave. Council had no incentives at this time.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to acknowledge outstanding obligation disclosure statement for Fiscal Year 2025. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Chase Haman to review and accept Fiscal Year 2023 audit report from Cornwell, Frideres, Maher & Associates. Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve payroll merit increase of \$1.00 hour for Maintenance Assistant Cayden Heck. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to consider approval to change date of September Council meeting from September 8, 2025 to September 15, 2025. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve second reading and waive third reading of Ordinance 2025-06 A Ordinance amending the code of Ordinances of the City of Stratford, Iowa by amending provisions pertaining to fireworks. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, second by Terry Bryan to approve second reading of Ordinance 2025-07-A Ordinance amending the code of Ordinances of the City of Stratford, Iowa by amending provisions pertaining to trees. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman -aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman. Motion carried.

Moved by Clark Conlin, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve Ordinance 2025-08- A Ordinance adding Chapter 55 to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Stratford, Iowa, regarding urban chickens, with the following modification: The coop/confinement where the animals are housed must be at least 25 feet from neighboring properties. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

City Manager Leeds reported that keeping the Pool open the last week has been a struggle due to all the kids going back to college. The Stratford Pool is scheduled to close August 17, 2025, pending staffing.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Catherine Bergman to adjourn at 8:09 P.M. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin - aye and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.



Brian Ouverson, Mayor

Attest:



Gina Swanson, Deputy City Clerk