

**STRATFORD CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
September 15, 2025**

The Stratford City Council met in regular session on Monday, September 15, 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, Nancy Baker representing Stratford Community Development Corporation (SCDC), Mari Buie, Katie Kinfella Stratford Community School Early Learning Center Director, Toni Larson, Clark Priebe, Cayden Heck, Brad Larson, and Kim Leeds.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Catherine Bergman 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 Terry Bryan, seconded by Chase Haman to approve previous meeting minutes from regular meeting on August 11, 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 Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve the consent agenda as follows: Financial Report for August 2025, Current Claims since Previous Council approval for \$14,929.99, 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.

Nancy Baker was present from SCDC to discuss a few different topics, the first being Trunk or Treat with Katie Kinfella Director of Stratford Community Early Learning Center Program. Trunk or Treat will be October 24, 2025 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Stratford Municipal Pool parking lot. Business and resident that want to participate will decorate their vehicle truck and the kids will trick or treat from trunk to trunk. They will also have extra games for kids to enjoy. More details to come. Nancy Baker also explained to council that SCDC is looking at a few grant options for repairs to their buildings. They are still working on the details but would need the city to participation for the grants. One grant would include a 40% match. She also explained that the fitness Center still needs a new roof and is in the process of getting quotes for that. SCDC will also be having an event on October 12, 2025 they will be having community church in the park followed by a pumpkin decorating from 10:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Moved by Chase Haman and seconded by Catherin Bergman to approve Trunk or Treat on October 24, 2025 from 5:30 -7:00 p.m. in the Stratford Pool parking lot. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman and seconded by Carol Bergman to approve community church in the park on October 12, 2025 followed by pumpkin decorating from 10:00 – 2:00 p.m. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Clark Priebe was present to address council concerning city ordinance regarding fencing. Clark explained the house to the north of him at 930 Teneyck Avenue fence is sitting on his property. He also said that he will be getting his property surveyed to prove his property lines. He would like council to look at fence laws.

Moved by Catherine Bergman seconded by Clark Conklin to examine current fence ordinance. 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 request from Jamie Fister at 818 Avon Street to widen driveway. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve setting Friday, October 31st from 5:00 - 7:00 pm for Halloween Trick or Treat night. 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 public notice for sealed bids for Lagoon Farm lease for three years. 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 Vendor Agreement for electric for Fiscal Year 2025 -2026 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program with Upper Des Moines Opportunity. 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 Catherine Bergman to approve request from Team Iowa Snowmobilers for 2025-2026 Winter Season Snowmobile Route in incorporated limits of Stratford. 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 Chase Haman to acknowledge the Street Finance Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman seconded by Terry Bryan to accept Deputy City Clerk resignation effective September 8, 2025. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman- aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Terry Bryan to authorize posting of the Deputy City Clerk position with deadline for applications of September 30, 2025. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman- aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan seconded by Catherine Bergman to acknowledge and review Water Sanitary Survey Inspection done by Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). Roll call

vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman- aye. Motion carried.

City Manager reviewed the Stratford Municipal Pool 2025 season report with council. It was noted that attendance was up from the previous year. There was a total of 67 days this season. The pool was closed 5 full days and 4 partial days for weather and staffing and were closed most nights at 7:00 P.M. Payroll expenses were up this year due to increase in wages. Lesson revenues were down from the previous year due to a lack in lifeguards. There was a week of group lesson and a few sets of private and buddy lessons. Management thoughts were that this pool season was difficult with only six lifeguards.

City Manager updated council on pool leak. Iowa Rural Water Associate and Bolton & Menk Engineer were both on site and were unable to find the leak. They came up with nothing conclusive to determine the actual location of the leak. The line has several ninety-degree angles and it was suggested to do an exploratory dig. City Manager will be contacting engineer and a company with a sewer camera to investigate location of leak.

Moved by Chase Haman seconded by Terry Bryan to approve doing an exploratory dig on the deck to find the pool leak. 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 Catherine Bergman to approve City buying back property currently owned by Swedish Historical Foundation on Bellville Road in as is condition. 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 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 - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, 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. 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 approve Ordinance 2025-09 – A ordinance amending the code of ordinance of the City of Stratford, Iowa, by amending chapter 140 driveway regulations. 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 Chase Haman to approve Ordinance 2025-10 – A ordinance amending the code of ordinances of the City of Stratford, Iowa, by amending Chapter 50 Nuisance Abatement Procedures. 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 adjourn at 8:45 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:



Kim Leeds, City Manager/Clerk