STRATFORD CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
June 8, 2026

The Stratford City Council met in regular session on Monday, May 8, 2026, 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, Clark Conklin Mark Scott and Doug Timmons. Also present were Randi Baker and Nancy Baker representing Stratford Community Development Corporation (SCDC), Amy Goodpaster, Julie Johnson, Toni Larson, Cayden Heck, Brad Larson, Molly Vaughn, and Kim Leeds.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Doug Timmons to approve the tentative agenda. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Clark Conklin, seconded by Mark Scott to approve previous meeting minutes from regular meeting on May 11, 2026 and special meeting on May 27, 2026. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Doug Timmons, seconded by Carol Bergman approve the tentative agenda with the following modifications: under the Consent Agenda change item C to add invoice #7198 from United Leak Detection for $3,200.00, for leak detection for the Stratford Swimming Pool using LOSST funds designated for pool: Financial Report for May 2026, Current Claims since Previous Council Approval for $32,418.66, United Leak Detection invoice #7198 for $3,200, Stratford County Store Retail Cigarette/Tobacco Permit Application Renewal, and Delinquent Utility Account Report. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Randi Baker was present to go over the activities for "Stratford on the Loose". The Lion's Club will still be handling the parade, which begins at 10:00 A.M on Saturday, July 11th, 2026. There will be activities at the park, and starting at 4:30 P.M. there will be craft events at the Community Center for kids. In the evening on main street there will be live music from Hawk McIntyre and Blacktop. For more information check SCDC's Facebook page. Nancy Baker was also in attendance to present the annual donation invoice to the council for $3,000. City manager Leeds explained that it will be on the next regular meeting agenda on July 13th, 2026.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Doug Timmons to approve SCDC donation request for season family pool pass for 2026 season for July 11, 2026 "Stratford on the Loose" raffle. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Amy Goodpaster was present to speak with council regarding the pool and some equipment that she would like to see purchased. After a discussion with council the city will look into grants to purchase some of the equipment for the pool including some new shade structures for lifeguard chairs, baby pool and sun deck, and a basketball hoop for pool. City is currently looking into getting the sound system fixed or updated.

Moved by Clark Conklin, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve request from Julie Johnson at 725 Highway 175 to have horses on the property she is buying. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Doug Timmons, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve of building permit request with side yard variance from Mandy Hughes at 1006 Teneyck Ave to place shed on cement slab. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Clark Conklin, second by Doug Timmons to approve of building permit request with side yard variance from Travis Sonksen at 813 Hwy 175 to place shed on cement slab. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Doug Timmons to approve invoice from Harvest Electric LLC for $1,070.00 for Stratford Municipal Pool lights using LOSST funds designated for Pool. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded Mark Scott to table invoice from Hill Backhoe & Tiling for $8,937.97 for Stratford Municipal Pool leak using LOSST funds designated for Pool. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Mark Scott, seconded by Doug Timmons to approve noise permit application from Copperhead Saloon for July 4th celebration. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Clark Conklin, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve of IAMU Mutual Aid Program Agreement. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Doug Timmons to approve of invoice for $200 plus mileage for Lifeguarding class for Molly Vaughn. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Doug Timmons to approve Pool Lifeguard End of Year Bonus Policy. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Mark Scott, seconded by Doug Timmons to approve Attorney's Request for Proposal (RFP) Brian L. Yung to be the next city attorney. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Doug Timmons to table Audit Services Request for Proposal (RFP) to find another auditing firm. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Doug Timmons, seconded by Mark Scott to approve the City moving forward with radio meter reads for electric meters by switching the town in quadrants and using electric surplus funds and LOSST funds. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Council and City Manager had a discussion on Early Learning Center funding request that was on the May 11, 2026 agenda. City Manager Leeds explained that the program is not ending. Leeds went on to explain the county is reducing its funding for the next fiscal year. The program has continued to be funded, it just will not run through the county.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Carol Bergman to vote for Midland Power Official Ballot for Michael Coleman incumbent Board of Directors, and Michael Erpelding, Greg Kirby, Allen Mains for 2026 nominating Committee. Midland Power District 3 Ballot (2027). Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Doug Timmons, seconded by Mark Scott to approve and finalize HSIP-SWAP-C040(113)—FL-40 Teneyck/Stagecoach Road Project paying $60,000 for fiscal year 2026, and paying $26,079.84 for the next five years interest free. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

A lengthy discussion was held with council concerning the Stratford Swimming Pool. The council and City Manager discussed prorating the season pass prices, looking into extending the season with opening on weekends after school starts, and offering one free swim night. The city will also consider adult swimming time once the pool is open. The city hopes to open the pool sometime before the end of June once the leak is fixed and it is confirmed that the pool is running properly.

Moved by Doug Timmons, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve to prorate pass pricing and approve holding adult swim time either before the pool opens or after the pool closes. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Doug Timmons, seconded by Clark Conklin to approve of quote for $9,927 from Griner Fencing of Webster City for lagoon fencing. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Doug Timmons, seconded by Mark Scott to approve Resolution 2026-19 – A resolution setting wages and salaries for employees of the City of Stratford. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve Resolution 2026-20 - A resolution to simplify and solve fund balances authorizing transfers and fund adjustments. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Mark Scott, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve Resolution 2026-21 – A resolution to transfer funds from the electric fund to the general fund as a payment in lieu of taxes

Moved by Mark Scott, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve Resolution 2026-21 – A resolution to transfer funds from the electric fund to the general fund as a payment in lieu of taxes using surplus funds per Iowa code §384.89. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Doug Timmons, seconded by Clark Conklin to approve Resolution 2026-22 – A resolution appointing the City Manager to serve for fiscal years 2027-2028 and 2028-2029 and to set compensation terms. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Doug Timmons, seconded by Catherine Bergman to adjourn at 8:50 P.M. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Brian Ouverson, Mayor

Attest:

Molly Vaughn, Deputy City Clerk