

City of Hayward Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 8, 2026

7:00 p.m. Hayward Community Hall

Mayor Anthony Cox called the regular meeting of the Hayward City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 8, 2026, at the Hayward Community Hall.

Council Members Present: Mayor Anthony Cox; Councilors Darwin Dolph, Gene Flaskerud, Derek Lerum, and Mark Bangert

Staff Present: City Clerk/Treasurer Kathy Aase and Operations Director Travis Reichl

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilor Dolph moved to approve the June 8, 2026 agenda; seconded by Councilor Bangert. Motion carried.

Councilor Lerum moved to approve the May 11, 2026 meeting minutes; seconded by Councilor Bangert. Motion carried.

Fire Department Update: The fire department will be applying for grants to purchase battery-powered extrication equipment. Mayor Cox presented a check for \$5,000 from the Hayward Fire Relief Association.

Following discussion, Councilor Dolph introduced **Resolution 2026-15**, accepting a donation of \$5,000 from the Hayward Fire Relief Association. The Council designated \$4,500 for the Hayward Fire Department Pension Fund and **\$500** for the fire department equipment fund. Councilor Bangert seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Annual Financial Audit – City Auditor: Lance Skov, C.P.A., of Hill, Benda, Skov & Bernau, P.A., presented the City’s audited financial statements for 2025, providing a comprehensive overview and accompanying reports. The city received “a clean bill of health.” Councilor Dolph moved to accept and approve the 2025 audit; seconded by Councilor Lerum. Motion carried unanimously.

Community Forum: Brian and Nancy Berhow addressed the Council regarding a potential purchase of property in Hayward. They asked whether the City would consider allowing renovation of the building into a part-time investment property with potential living quarters. Councilor Bangert stated the Council would certainly consider such a request. Councilor Dolph seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Unfinished Business: Kyle Renneke of ISG updated the Council, noting they are still awaiting the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority funding percentage. Possible funding scenarios were discussed.

The City continues to seek resident volunteers for a playground equipment oversight committee. Resident Bonnie Felt volunteered and will reach out to others who may be interested. Funding for the project will come from the park/beautification fund.

Operations Update: Operations Director Reichl reported:

- He requested \$3,200 for removal of six additional diseased ash trees and stump grinding. Tony O'Connell will perform the work. The Council unanimously approved the removal.
- Treatment of 8–9 previously treated trees was discussed at a cost of \$1,600. Council vote: Bangert – Yes; Dolph – Yes; Lerum – Yes; Flaskerud – No.
- Funding for the projects will come from the park/beautification fund.
- Reichl will attend water training on June 16 and 18 in Freeborn and St. Charles.

Council Reports:

- Councilor Flaskerud asked how the City handles situations where residents have diseased trees requiring removal but cannot afford the cost. It was suggested that if trees are near power lines, Freeborn/Mower Electric may be able to assist; residents would need to contact the utility directly.
- Councilor Lerum reported unlicensed vehicles next to the garage at 211 West 2nd Street and a camper van not parked on a required pad per city code.
- Councilor Dolph reported a dog running at large, believed to be from 202 Main Street.
- Mayor Cox noted complaints received regarding the condition of the property at 104 2nd Street.
- Councilor Bangert had nothing further to report.

Financial Reports: The Council reviewed the following bills over \$500:

- \$74,500 to ISG for engineering services
- \$9,700 to the Hill, Benda, Skov, Berneau, for Annual Audit
- \$3568.59 to Clarey's Safety Equipment for two thermal imagers (\$2,500 covered by grant funding; \$1,068.59 not covered)
- \$1360 to Metco for oil leak cleanup at the old school property

Councilor Lerum moved to approve the bills; seconded by Councilor Dolph. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Flaskerud moved to approve the May 2026 financial reports, including the Deposit Detail, Check Detail, Year-to-Date Balance Sheet, and Budget vs. Actual Report; seconded by Councilor Dolph. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Dolph moved to adjourn; seconded by Councilor Bangert. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Mayor Cox adjourned the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathryn Aase, City Clerk/Treasurer

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS: Cityclerk@cityofhaywardmn.gov