

City of Hayward Council Meeting Minutes

Monday April 14, 2025

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 April 14, 2025.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor: Anthony Cox; Councilors: Darwin Dolph, Gene Flaskerud; Derek Lerum; Mark Bangert;

STAFF PRESENT: City Clerk/Treasurer, Kathy Aase; Operations Director, Travis Reichl

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilor Dolph motioned to approve the 4-14-2025 Council Meeting Agenda. Councilor Flaskerud seconded. The motion carried.

Councilor Lerum motioned to approve the 3-10-2025, Hayward City Council Meeting Minutes. Councilor Bangert seconded. The motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE: In the absence of Fire Chief Eric Knutson, Operations Director, Travis Reichl reported that the department is forming a task force to research the purchase of a side-by-side vehicle. The department requires the ability to cross the bridge on the trail. They are inquiring about the appropriate contact regarding bike trail access. Operations Director Reichl stated that he will identify a contact and provide the information to the Fire Department.

Three fire department members are taking fire training and testing. Valves have been ordered for the old tanker truck.

COMMUNITY FORUM: Shari Sprague, the executive director of the Albert Lea-Freeborn County Chamber of Commerce, recently addressed the topic of aging in Freeborn County, highlighting existing and upcoming programs designed for residents aged 55 and older. A comprehensive survey revealed that most seniors prefer to age in place, prompting Freeborn County to embrace initiatives that foster an age-friendly community. Among the recurring and proposed activities are a Music Café, the Lake Song Chorus, an all-inclusive playground designed for all generations, including seniors, the Memory Café and more. The YMCA is currently evaluating the current location of the Senior Center.

OPERATIONS UPDATE: Operations Director Travis Reichl shared the following updates:

- Asbestrol is set to begin asbestos removal from the old school building.
- A power outage occurred last week, during which the generator was in operation.
- There was a break at the substation.
- Chip sealing will be applied sometime between May 15 and September 15.
- A public notice regarding gross alpha was posted, as required by the Minnesota Department of Health.

- The Council directed Reichl and Clerk Aase to schedule an appointment to discuss funding for the water project with Brian Hile at ISG.

Council reviewed the bids from potential contractors to demolish the old school, provide debris removal, tree removal, hauling away trees, and stump grinding. Freeborn Construction had the most comprehensive and lowest bid. Darwin Dolph presented **Resolution 2025-10**, a resolution approving Freeborn Construction's bid and approve that they demolish the old school, provide debris removal, tree removal, hauling away trees, and stump grinding as per their bid. Councilor Flaskerud seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Dolph introduced **Resolution 2025-11**, approving a donation from the Hayward Booster Club matching the Freeborn Construction bid for demolishing the old school. The project includes debris and tree removal, hauling away trees, and stump grinding. Additionally, the removal of tanks at the back will be covered at an estimated additional cost of \$5,000, based on time and materials. Despite this added expense, Freeborn Construction's bid remains the most competitive and comprehensive. Councilor Bangert seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Council directed Clerk Aase to send thank you letters to all bidders.
No new business was discussed.

Council directed Clerk Aase to send thank you letters to the other bidders.

COUNCIL REPORTS: Councilors Dolph and Bangert reported on dogs running at large. Councilor Flaskerud gave a copy of the city's no burning ordinance to one resident. Council directed Clerk Aase to send letters out to multiple residents for various reasons including yard clean up and water/sewer payment issues. Mayor Cox had nothing further to report.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: There were no bills over \$500 to submit to council for approval.

The Council decided to delay approval or denial of the expense consent and financial reports for March 2025 due to discrepancies in the Year-to-Date Balance Sheet. Clerk Aase required additional time to seek assistance from the QuickBooks helpdesk through Bookkeeping Cents. The Council will review and vote on the Deposit Detail, Check Detail, YTD Balance Sheet, and the YTD Budget vs. Actual Reports during the May meeting.

Councilor Dolph motioned to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Bangert seconded. The motion was approved. Having no further business, Mayor Cox adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathryn Aase, Hayward City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved May 12, 2025