

November 10, 2025

The Larchwood City Council met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, November 10, 2025. Council members present were: Shane Reinke, Candie Medema, Tanner Tracy, Lauren Steers and Ned Hodgson. Mayor Snyders was absent. Others in attendance were: Sandi DeSmet, Matt Bouwman, Zach Majeres, Traci Wibeto, Jen Smit, Steve Simons, Tristan Taylor, Jen Schemmel, Jen Moser, Austin DeSmet, Tony DeSmet, Lowell and Betty Knobloch, Carla Manning, Terry Viereck, Ted & Cher Underberg, Kyle Kramer, Kris Kramer and Darla Grotewold.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the meeting was called to order at 5:32 by Mayor Pro-Tem Tracy.

Jaden Lorenzen with the Larchwood Baseball Club let the Council know that they did not get the grant that they applied for from the Lyon County Riverboat Foundation for the Infield Restructure Project. The Board felt like this project was more of a maintenance project. Jaden asked the Council for help in funding the project to be started in the Fall of 2026. They will have sign sales to put towards the project. They will put it into their budget request.

The Consent Agenda was approved on motion by Hodgson, second by Medema. Items on the Consent Agenda were: Minutes-October 6 & 13, 2025; Building Permits: 914 Rulland Street-office, 1404 Willard Lane-house, 820 Blaine Street-shed, 1745 130<sup>th</sup> Street-house; Façade Grant-914 Rulland Street; Rebate-915 Fell Street-water heater.

Matt Bouwman gave the Maintenance Report: finished winterizing, discharged at lagoon, fixed fence and put up sign at lagoon. Did sewer and water reports, got the snow removal equipment ready. Changed oil in both pickups. Street light down by City Hall. Started picking up leaves in the park, trimmed trees and many other items.

Old Business: Feral or stray cats-talk to local veterinarian to see if there are any programs available for spay/neutering services.

Motorized vehicles, e-bikes and e-scooters: While State law does not expressly ban motorized vehicles from sidewalks, State Law gives Local Authority the ability to do so. The City of Larchwood will draft an Ordinance and put up signs around the walking paths, they will also check what other cities charge for fines and add to the Ordinance.

The City has received two quotes for new computers, motion by Reinke, second by Hodgson to accept the quote from Green Eggs and RAM for laptops with monitors and docking stations in the office and to revamp the website. These changes will make everything faster, since the equipment we currently have is out of date.

New Business: Iowa Department of Labor-Notice of Wage Claim for Anthony DeSmet. Tony filed a Claim for vacation time not received on his final paycheck. There was discussion at a previous meeting about time that Tony wanted to be paid for banked hours. Since he was in a salaried position, banked hours cannot be accrued. There was a discrepancy in calculating vacation hours at that time and he is still owed for 17 hours vacation. He will be paid for the 17 hours owed to him.

Tony is also asking for \$500.00 for two fuel barrels that he left at the City shop. Motion by Hodgson, second by Steers to pay him for the barrels. Roll call vote: Hodgson-aye, Steers-aye, Medema-nay,

Reinke-abstain/nay (does not have enough information to vote), Mayor Pro-Tem Tracy broke the tie with an aye to pay the \$500.00.

It was brought up to Sandi that since the Community Center Project has been delayed, perhaps the City should look into putting the money that has been saved to earn some interest in a CD. The Council agreed that we should shop around for the best rate.

Sandi said that it is time to upgrade the City employee phones and get iPads for the new Council members. Jen Schemmel informed the Council that she just got new phones for the Lyon County Conservation Employees and got free phones and a government discount. The City already has a government account, Sandi will check into this.

Discussion was held on the letter from Sheriff Brian Hilt that was sent to the Mayors of Lyon County about Law Enforcement Contracts for all cities. If costs were allocated evenly per capita, the rate would be \$120.34 per person. Right now cities are paying \$27.00 per person, so this would be a 4.5% increase for every town. He would like the Councils to discuss this matter and get back to him with the best path forward for all involved.

Traci Wibeto wanted to make sure that the Council knows about Christmas Lane on Main on December 6, she wanted to make sure that everything was In order for generators and barricades from the city.

The meeting was then adjourned at 7:03 pm on motion by Reinke, second by Medema. Next Regular Meeting will be Monday, December 8, 2025 at 5:30 pm in the Larchwood Community Center.