

## LAKE BRONSON CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, October 20, 2025

The regular meeting of the Lake Bronson City Council was held in Council Chambers on Monday, October 20, 2025.

Mayor Schmiedeberg called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Members present: Tatum Carlson, Brian Undeberg, Clarence Strom, Pattijo Shablow. City Clerk was present. Public present: Krista Pietruszewski (North Star News), Mindy Kjelland, Patty Krininger, Jerry Vanderlinde, and Angie Stromgren.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

The minutes of the September 15, 2025 meeting were approved as written on a motion by Shablow and seconded by Undeberg with all members in favor.

The mayor asked for citizen concerns. Mindy Kjelland stated to the council that she had been in to the meeting a couple months ago, informing the council about a grant that was available for 10,000.00. She stated that she had asked for the councils' approval to go ahead with grant, and that she had asked for a council member to help. Kjelland stated she asked for council members' help but nobody would help. Council Member Carlson stated that she had not been asked and questioned why. Kjelland stated that she contacted Undeberg and he said he would not be the one helping. Undeberg stated that this was untrue, and what he said was that the council had approved the go ahead, but he would not be the one directly involved. The council informed Kjelland that moving forward with the grant had been approved, and Council members agreed to help at the meeting she had attended. Council members were waiting to hear from her. Kjelland thought council would reach out to her. Patti Krininger added that the Clerk should be the one addressing these grants and should be looking for grants for the city to obtain. Kjelland and Krininger stated that the Clerk should be required to apply for a minimum of one grant per year, and that it should be a part of her job description. As for now, the time has passed to apply for said grant.

At this time, the City Clerk removed herself from the meeting. Shablow took over taking the minutes of the meeting.

Jerry Vanderlinde expressed his concern as to how the city purchased a new loader when we don't have money to hire a city maintenance person. The Mayor informed him that through not paying wages, insurance, or excess job related expenses, to a maintenance man, the city was able to save enough money to purchase a loader without a loan. Vanderlinde stated that he felt that the city should at least consider getting a part time

employee to mow and clean snow. Vanderlinde questioned how the roads will be getting graded. The Mayor explained that there will be an attachment that will be used on the loader to accomplish grading the roads.

Citizens questioned the council about them donating or volunteering their time to do city maintenance. All members stated that they were okay with doing this, it was saving the city money. They questioned if the council was getting paid. Council stated that they are not getting paid to do any of the maintenance, it is all volunteer. Vanderlinde stated that he did not feel it was right for people to use their own equipment to help out the city and not be reimbursed for their time and usage of equipment.

Krininger stated that she feels that the minutes are very vague and they leave people questioning what the city is doing. The Mayor stated that he had made a note of this and would talk with the Clerk about writing more detailed minutes in the future. She stated that she feels that the council is not taking proper steps in accomplishing certain things. Council member Undeberg asked her if she thought the Council was doing things illegally. Vanderlinde stated no, that they would just like more informative minutes.

Angie Stromgren was present to follow up on school gym progress. She was wondering if the city had gotten any bids on the work that needs to be done. The Mayor stated that he is still waiting on the bids. He stated he has contacted three plumbers, and a couple electricians, but nobody has given him a bid yet. Mayor stated that he feels they are extremely busy, and are really not interested in doing this job. When the council get some bids, it will be brought up for discussion. Angie will be notified of the outcome.

No further citizen concerns, the council moved on to the new business.

The interim Financial report was tabled until more information from the clerk was available.

A donation to the Kittson County Museum was discussed. It was approved on a motion by Strom to make the same donation as we have in past years. This was seconded by Carlson with all members in favor.

Council Member Carlson informed the council on the information she obtained on the Cities CD's. Carlson reported the pros and cons of a CD and of a money market Savings. Undeberg stated that he felt the city should stay with the CD option and renew the CD's. By doing this, the CD interest rate will be locked in for the term. Reinstatement of the 2 maturing CDs, at the highest interest rate, under a 36 mos term, was approved on a motion by Undeberg and seconded by Strom. Approved with all members in favor. The Clerk is to keep track of CD maturity dates. The bank does send out a letter prior to maturity to inform the city.

The Minnesota Paid Leave Act was discussed. The Clerk added a flyer into all council members packets. This becomes effective January 1, 2026. There was discussion on who could use this leave; Any employee that is paid a minimum of 3900.00 in a year is eligible. Council agreed to table this until next months meeting when more information can be obtained regarding cost.

Liquor licenses were reviewed and approved on a motion by Undeberg and seconded by Strom with all members in favor. Licenses are as follows:

Lake Bronson Legion - \$300.00

Maverick Bar - \$100.00 off sale; \$900.00 On sale

Bronson Market - \$100.00

Cenex - \$100.00

The council was presented an application for the Fire Department. The Applicant is Ashton Keenan. This was approved on a motion by Strom and seconded by Carlson with all members in favor.

The maintenance report was given by the Mayor. He stated that the RV antifreeze should be here tomorrow so they can start winterizing the fire hydrants. The vents on the Community Center have been put back on for the winter. The tennis court net was taken down and brought in. The Village square has had the lines blown out by Brad Glad, and is fully winterized. Mayor stated that there was one water hook up and two that were unhooked for the winter.

There was discussion on a worknight this week. Garbage cans need to be picked up and put away, and odds and end stuff, as well as winterizing hydrants. Also stated, that the city should be mowed one more time before winter. It was agreed to work on Wednesday evening. Undeberg, Schmiedeberg, and Strom.

The tractor/loader/snowblower need to be loaded and hauled down to St. Hilaire to be put on the auction. There will be a reserve put on the tractor to ensure that it sells at an acceptable price. If items do not sell, we will try again in the spring. The snowblower will be sold separately.

Tree cleanup was mentioned. There are still trees overhanging streets. Cenex did get their trees but back and cleaned up. Schmiedeberg talked to the county about a residents tree that is overhanging on country road. They will not get involved, but the city can clean it up and put it on residents taxes. The clerk will be asked to send out another clean up letter to

the individual. If not taken care of, the city will trim it back and send a bill in to the county to apply to their taxes.

Shablow brought up the Veterans Memorial. She stated that she had contacted the Eagles in Hallock. She was instructed to have the city send them a donation letter with the description of what the city will be doing. (Example: New outdoor bathrooms being built with possible electricity being hooked up.) They will need this letter by their next months meeting. The council stated that there should be letters also sent to Karlstad, Lancaster, Lake Bronson, and Kennedy. The intent is to change the name of the wayside rest, and merge it with the memorial. Schmiedeberg has contacted the Lancaster School to build a new outhouse building. Schmiedeberg said that he would write up a material list with pricing. Then we would have an estimated cost to put in the donation letters.

The city claims were read and approved with one addition, Sandahl Signs for \$587.81 for the new sign on the city limits north of town, on a motion by Shablow and seconded by Strom with all members in favor.

The fire department claims were read and approved on a motion by Carlson and seconded by Undeberg with all members in favor.

Undeberg asked if there was a report given to the city when they came and inspected the sewer lines. Schmiedeberg stated everything was good, they only had one concern. The concern was that there is a rock under a sewer pipe, located under a residents garage. Other than that, everything looked good.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on a motion by Strom and seconded by Carlson with all members in favor.

Pattijo Shablow

Acting Clerk