

City of Linneus
City Council Regular Session Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2026

The Linneus City Council met in regular session on the above date at 6:30pm in the City Office. Those present were: Mayor Madeline Oertwig, Mayor Pro-Tem Heather Phillips, Council Aldermen Gerald Murphy, Ed Street, and Richard Sisson, City Clerk, Lawain Cooley, and Utility Superintendent, Duane Davis. A quorum was called.

Call to Order: Gerald motioned to call the meeting to order at 6:20pm. Heather seconded, Richard and Ed approved.

Guest Speaker: Connie Turner of Turner Insurance Policy Renewal: Connie reviewed the building values for the property coverage and the general liability limits for the City's policies. She recommended lowering the value of the community building as the insurance company raises the value by 10% each year and it has raised beyond the true value to rebuild. Gerald motioned to approve Connie's recommendations and move forward with the renewal. Richard seconded. Ed and Heather approved.

Public Hearing: Annual setting of the Proposed City Property Tax Rate (see attached): The City Council reviewed the County documents. Ed motioned to approve the prior year's tax rate, .6%. Gerald seconded. Richard and Heather approved.

Minutes: Gerald motioned to approve the July minutes. Heather seconded. Ed and Richard approved.

Monthly Bills: Heather motioned to approve the bills. Ed seconded. Gerald and Richard approved.

Monthly Financial Statement: Heather motioned to approve the monthly financial statement. Ed seconded. Gerald and Richard approved.

July Time Sheets: Gerald motioned to approve the July Time sheets. Heather seconded. Richard and Ed approved.

Old Business:

Street Grant Update: CDBG approved the construction document for Linneus. The request for bids will be published in two back-to-back newspaper publications during the month of August. The Bid selection will take place at the regularly scheduled September City Council meeting, Wednesday, Sept. 9th at 6:30pm.

Water Tower Maintenance Project: Maguire is advising we sign a contract for a water tower maintenance schedule of work with locked in pricing and block payments over the next 6 years. See the proposal. Shorty explained the water tower's benefits to the town noting the lower insurance fire rating, emergency water during outages from the water district, pressure it provides, etc. Richard motioned to approve Maguire's 6-year locked in price maintenance schedule proposal. Ed seconded. Gerald and Heather approved.

New Business:

City Budget Review: The year to date totals have been updated on the budget. Any adjustments? Related side note, 2nd quarter books review from Amy Hoerrmann of H&R Block went quickly and without issue. Also, The Semi-Annual Operating Budget was sent to the State Auditor, posted in the Linn County Leader and in this office in accordance with State Auditor requirements. Heather motioned to approve the budget without changes. Gerald seconded. Ed and Richard approved.

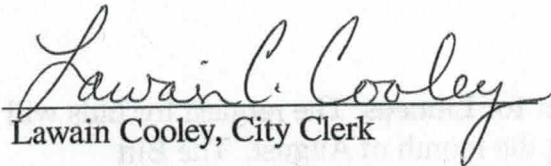
Discussion: Ordinance violations, Miller Transportation tall weeds along Hwy 5, Penrod property, Habitual speeding/noise offender, Andrew, who has been asked to slow down and be quieter but does not. The Council did not go forward with enforcement.

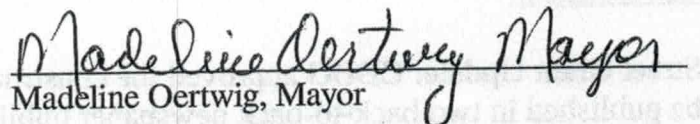
Chicken Ordinance: The Mayor and council reviewed the ordinance verbiage. Ed motioned to approve. Gerald seconded. Heather and Richard approved and unanimously adopted the ordinance.

FYI: The trial lawyers are renting the community building all month. They required internet. We rushed an order for an installation through GRM Networks. This cost \$185 to install and will be \$105/month. That WiFi network will be password protected.

FYI: Lawain attended the Brownfield grant conference which funds environmental reviews needed to for remediation of a dilapidated commercial property. Lawain will send a letter to the owners of the Wagon Wheel and green Rail Roder's restaurant on State St. asking if they would like to join in applying for the grant. Please contact Lawain if anyone would like to join. The next application deadline is January 2027.

Adjournment: Gerald motioned to end the meeting at 7:15pm. Heather seconded, Richard and Ed approved.


Lawain Cooley, City Clerk


Madeline Oertwig, Mayor

9-9-26

Date approved: