

LAMBERTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES • CITY HALL
January 12, 2026 • 6:30 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ADOPT AGENDA/CEREMONIAL DUTIES

- Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM January 12, 2026.
 - Present: Mayor L. Sik, L. Bittner, D. Irlbeck, A. Cairns, L. Pfarr
 - Staff in Attendance: V. Halter, K. Mittelstadt, D. Determan, T. Neperman, C. Anderson, K. Vollmer
Others in Attendance: S. Kuhlman, Matt Novak, Lisa Wilhite, Kury Wilhite, Amy Krueger, Kathy Valentin, Beth Johnson, Thomas Anderson,
- A. Additions/Deletions to Agenda
1. Remove - Meeting 12-8-2025 CC Minutes
 2. Add Citizens Complaints and Concerns: Kathy Valentin
 3. Add Library Report Submitted
 4. Add Library RCA – Adopt Library Policy
 5. Add RCA – Wetenkamp Property
 6. Add RCA – Street Dept Truck Bids

Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Pfarr/unanimous 5/0) to approve the agenda as amended.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes (can all be done in one motion)
1. 12-19-2025 – CC Emergency Meeting Minutes
Motion/Second/Pass Cairns/Bittner/ unanimous 5/0) to approve the minutes as listed.

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

- A. Bollig Engineering – Scott Kuhlman –MN Public Intended Use plan has been approved and Lambertons projects scored high. The federal appropriations are moving along Lambertons ask is included. Grove Street – has been working at the assessment policy and has preliminary numbers. Construction cost increase is causing an increase in assessments because of cost of being higher. Novak advised council that they need to re-evaluate the assessment policy. Cairns question what the \$600,000 grant from DEED SCDP will be used for. Kuhlman replied the next street project after Grove.

B. Department Reports

1. Library – Report Submitted
Motion/Second/Pass (Bittner/Pfarr/unanimous 5/0) to approve the Library report as submitted.
2. Ambulance Department – Report Submitted
Motion/Second/Pass (Pfarr/Irlbeck/unanimous 5/0) to accept the ambulance report as submitted.
3. Fire Department – Chief Neper was present. The department is working on their annual fundraiser tonight that will be held February 6th. Generator is installed. Officer vote will happen this next month. Discussion held.
Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Bittner/unanimous 5/0) to approve the fire report as submitted.
4. Police Department – Chief Determan handed out his report and went over it. Cairns questioned if the council could know when the part-time officers work. Cairns stated she has been asked if the police calls for service numbers could be put in the paper. Chief Determan will send it to the paper. Discussion was held on squad car quotes. Chief Determan is also pursuing grants.
Motion/Second/Pass (Pfarr/Irlbeck/opposed Sik 4/1) to approve the purchase of a 2026 Chevy Tahoe for \$55,315.92 with the old squad being used for Determan to drive back and forth.
Motion/Second/Pass (Pfarr/Cairns/unanimous 5/0) to approve the police report as given/submitted.

5. Maintenance Department – C. Anderson was present. Anderson stated Beerman has been showing him

around, they have done some meter work and readings, community center and cleaning. Cairns question getting licenses and community center insurance audit. Halter stated she had not given it to him as she has not been here since he started. Anderson has also talked to Jason Schultz on community center projects.

Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Bittner/unanimous 5/0) to approve the Maintenance report as given.

6. Administration/EDA Department – Report Submitted –

Motion/Second/Pass (Pfarr/Bittner/unanimous 5/0) to approve the EDA/Administration report as submitted.

C. Petitions, Request, Communications

1. Citizen Complaints & Concerns

- a. Bedner – Request for Stop Sign – Bedner is requesting a stop sign at 5th and Fir. Cairns stated she contacted Bedner and ask which direction. Bedner stated she didn't care but she had been in an accident at that corner and had seen three others in the last year. Mayor Sik asked Chief Determan about the corner. Discussion held. Request tabled at this time.
- b. R Hanson – Plowing Complaint – Cairns asked the order of alley plowing. Discussion held.
- c. K. Valentin – A. Krueger was present with her mom, K. Valentin regarding the freight container on C. Stavnes property next to hers. Valentin was approached in September of 2024 telling her he was thinking about buying a freight container because he needed more storage. Stavnes asked Valentin if she knew what a freight container was and she did not. Stavnes told her the size. Valentin asked if it would devalue her property and Stavnes replied are you feeling ok? Are you feeling well? She replied she was feeling fine. Valentin came up to the city office and asked what she could do. She was told that he could do it and there wasn't really anything she could do. The container was delivered in October of 2024. Since the container was installed it has caused nothing but distress to Valentin. It has changed the way she uses her property. Stavnes had stated that when he sided the house, he could put left-over siding on the container, but that has not been done. Krieger stated that she just wanted her mom's voice heard because it does cause her so much distress. Mayor Sik stated he was sorry they were not at the Public Hearing last month. Halter stated she did send a letter to Valentin because she knew it concerned her, and that notice was in the paper. Sik said the container is grandfathered in and encouraged them to talk to Stavnes. Cairns asked if Valentin if she told Stavnes she did not want it on there. Valentin stated no because she didn't know what it looked like. Krieger sent her mom a picture, which Valentin then showed Stavnes and he said yes, that's what it would look like but like a white fence. Cairns stated the only reason why she asked for the language to be removed that would require Stavnes to move the container was because he was adamant he had talked to all neighbors. Cairns asked Novak for options. Discussion held. Krueger thanked the council for their time.

2. Building/Zoning Permit Requests - None

3. Request for Council Action

- a. RCA – 2026 Step Increases – Discussion held. Halter asked about the 2080 rule on part-time employees. Halter stated she struggles with it and ask Novak what the rules are on it. Novak stated the council can decide whatever they would like and thought it should be discussed at the work session.
Motion/Second/Pass (Bittner/Pfarr/unanimous 5/0) to approve the step increases as presented for 2026.
- RCA – Street Dept. Truck Bids – Anderson received bids from Redwood Falls and Sleepy Eye. Discussion held.
Motion/Second/Pass (Bittner/Pfarr/unanimous 5/0) to approve purchase of a 2026 Ford F-150 Crew Cab for \$46,850.00.
- b. RCA - Library Policy – Because the council has not had time to review the policy, the topic was tabled.
- c. RCA – Wetenkamp Property – Halter received notice that the Wetenkamp property sale is Wednesday, January 28, 2026. Halter is asking the council in what direction they would like to go on this. Discussion held.
Motion/Second/Pass (Bittner/Pfarr/unanimous 5/0) to approve Halter to bid and purchase the Wetenkamp property on behalf of the city. Halter may bid the minimum bid plus fees if no one else is bidding.
- d. RCA – Mayor Appointments – Halter read off the Mayoral Appointments from last year. Cairns asked to be

on the HR Committee, Mayor Sik denied the request. A council member needs to be appointed to the Library Board. Mayor Sik asked Cairns, Cairns asked to table it to the next meeting. Cairns asked questions on requirements of appointments.

Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Cairns/unanimous 5/0) to the approve the Mayor and Council Appointments for 2026.

D. Ordinances and Resolutions (can all be done in one motion)

1. 2026-02 – Resolution to Fix Transfer – Halter explained that during the audit, it was discovered that Halter transferred \$12,000 from the general account to the ambulance account that was not budgeted. Halter is not sure why. We have always done it in the past, but she didn't catch that it wasn't budgeted for this last year. The council now has to decide if 1 – they leave it as it and pass a resolution acknowledging the error or 2 – pass a resolution to make the needed journal entries to correct the error. Discussion was held.

Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Cairns/unanimous 5/0) to approve Resolution 2026-02 to Acknowledge the error and authorizing the journal entries needed to fix the error.

E. Financial Report & Approval of Claims

1. January 2026 Financial Report
2. Approval of Claims

Motion/Second/Pass (Bittner/Irlbeck/unanimous 5/0) to the January 2025 Financial Report and Approval of Claims as presented.

4. MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

A. Information for Council

1. Award of the CEDA EDA Grant – CEDA is a company that does EDA to communities. They received funds from the state to offer grants to smaller communities that cannot afford to have their own EDA or their EDA needs help. CEDA will come out for a set amount of hours and work with our EDA on whatever project they would like and then will give the EDA \$12,000 to put towards a project or start a project. Halter stated she would like some of the hours to be used to have the EDA learn how to be more effective. It will start in July. Mayor Sik asked about the childcare PODs at the nursing home. Halter stated she would like to see if anyone would be interested in taking on the project after she leaves ensuring it moves forward along with getting two houses built in the empty lots owed by the city through the Housing Institute project. The CEDA projects Halter would like to see CEDA help with attracting a business to the industrial park and town home development.
2. Novak Law Rates will increase with 2026.
3. Discussion on the old school site. Mayor Sik has talked to the school and the bus service people and they would like to close at the end of January, but would like to split parcels. The bus company will purchase the entire property and then turn around and sell off what he doesn't want. Novak advised to direct the questions of lot separation to him.

5. NEXT MEETING DATES

- A. Work Session January 13, 2026 at 6:00 PM
- B. Regular Council Meeting February 9, 2026 at 6:30 PM

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Bittner/unanimous 5/0) to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,


Valerie Halter
Clerk


Lyden Sik
Mayor

Regular

Lamberton City Council

Work Session Date: ~~11-25-2025~~

1-12-25

Official Record of Attendees

Name - Printed	
1	SCOTT KUHLMAN (BOLIG inc)
2	Lisa Willhite
3	Kurt Willhite
4	Amy Krueger
5	Kathy Valente
6	Beth Johnson
7	Thomas Anderson
8	Kim Mittelstadt
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