



CITY OF NEW GERMANY- CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES MAY 5, 2026 – 7:00 PM

1. Opening Items

- Call meeting to Order – Mayor Jaeger 7 pm.
- Roll Call – ***Thomas Mielke, Lorn Herrmann, Paul Ropeke and Kevin Grove.***
- Others present: Dan Perrel First Street Construction, Ryan Goede Fire Chief, Chris Barlau Public Works and FD, Twyla Menth City Clerk.

2. Approval of Agenda

- Consider Approval of Agenda – **Grove moved and Mielke second approving the agenda. The motion carried. 4/0 (Paul was not present at this time).**

3. Public Comment Period

Open Public Comment Period – Comments are limited to 5 minutes.

4. Business items or New Business – (Agenda was discussed out of order, First Street Construction was after FD Report #5).

- Dan Perrel with First Street Construction reported this would be the rinse and repeat the expansion of the window project, seven windows on the east side would still include the far window (1) on the west side, over by the stairwell. Taking out the old windows was an adventure as the windows that were open style, every other window had been taken out, they enclosed them with stucco, why they did not take them all out we will never know. We are anticipating quite the same scenario on the east side, there was no internal framing those original windows were custom made from metal and so all that came out and left a big void, we ended up figuring out how to frame the interior down so it would fit the window. This project now includes the expansion to the FD conference room upstairs and that includes one window in the front and two windows that are on the West side. Way back we replaced the windows on the basement level, it was never given thought on replacement of upper windows, and so those are white vinyl windows, an option would be to wrap the trim around those windows and the front windows. The upper FD conference room windows would be bronze. Discussion continued pertaining to the stucco where there are no windows and the type of siding that would replace the stucco; Council would like the stucco gone. The windows take 8 weeks to get from the time they are measured; that is not even out of the ordinary right now any Anderson window Marvin window 6 to 8 weeks is minimum. First Street will accommodate rentals when replacing the windows. After reviewing the rental schedule mid-September/October looks to be a good starting date. Halloween Party could be in the basement too; it does not have to be upstairs. Dan explained LP smart siding and a composite product that came out just for primarily for decking they really booted the decking industry forward and now they've gone into finished products which are composite products and they're weather resistant weatherproof and they're paintable they now have introduced them just like LP smart siding with colors so you can actually get custom made colors to match. LP smart side it's pre finished that's going to be maintenance for a long time and what you're seeing is the first vinyl (office) window is trimmed in a white product, which is what they call brilliant white it's a standard really white, it is paintable it's better for it to be wrapped in metal and they will do that if that is what council prefers. Council and Dan continued discussing options; Council would like the trim wrapped in the bronze to try and tie everything in.
- **#6** - Grove's Automotive building expansion plans – Kevin explained his engineered drawings to Council on the expansion of Grove's Automotive. The addition to the shop would consist of three more doors, the building would go around the back and all tie together. Building plans meet all the setbacks, there is no ordinance that Kevin missed. Kevin has started the process for combining his two lots, has all the paperwork from the attorney, just needs to record at Carver County. If all goes as planned Kevin Horstman will be the contractor for the addition, the building will all be the same colors as current building. The building now has 13-foot side walls, and this addition will be 16-foot side walls, it will set back and then the roof line will line up to make it look like one building, reported Kevin Grove.
- Miscellaneous – nothing.

Officers'/Department/Staff Reports (this was discussed as item #4)

- Fire Department Report – Chief Goede reported the pump on Grass Rig is non workable, needs to be replumbed, need to find a pump. New skid is \$20-25,000. Council had discussion about equipment; if skid unit could transfer onto new truck, discussion continued. Chief Goede questioned Council which way he should pursue, Chief Goede does not want to go down the avenue on getting everything one way and then having to go back the other way, shopping for vehicles is bad enough much less you change your minds halfway through the process.



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Officers’/Department/Staff Reports (this was discussed as item #4) cont’d.

- Chris Barlau seems a little interested in the truck committee, Chief Goede stated. The truck committee comes with experience, Chief Goede noted he has 31 years of experience, there is some stuff like this you just do not learn overnight, some is trial by error. Chief Goede will discuss with Dan Ruschmeier and figure out where they should go for pricing if the new truck is the preferred choice; Jerry’s Transmission or there are other vendors too. Jerry’s is local and has worked well with ordering other trucks. Chief Goede will also investigate used and see what or if there are any used options, you could be buying troubles too noted Chief Goede.
 - Emergency Apparatus has been provided with the list of repairs, and the foam units need attention.
 - Applied for an EV Blanket grant from CenterPoint.
 - Relief Association will be donating \$10,000 to the Truck & Building Capital fund.
- Parks – Council had a discussion on benches, picnic tables for Kilbane Park; car shows people like to sit in this area. Paul suggested we should have a picnic table on that slab, give it a purpose, people can have a beverage or eat there during the car show. The city should start thinking about fixing the picnic tables that need repairs at Lindstrom; Chris and Jim can put that on their schedule to repair. Paulette Pelitier from the Mayer New Germany Lions has offered to do a grant for benches and bicycle rack for the Parks reported the City Clerk; Council agreed this would be great grant idea and to move forward.
- Water/Sewer – Nothing additional.
- Public Works – Chris found a couple more grass areas that they will be replanting. Eric had Chris place trash cans at Lindstrom; if you think we need less let Chris know.
Two sprinklers need replacing.
Street sweeping debris; dump in frost boils. Level out dirt area by Fire Garage, plant seed.
Handicap areas need to be painted, and no parking areas.
Will be placing mulch around flagpole and Lindstrom sign.
- Sheriff Report – went through prosecution contact numbers for 2027, increasing.
- Misc. – nothing additional.
- Clerk Report – I applied for the Met Council 2050 comp plan grant, and we did receive the grant.
 - Discussion on if Council would consider changing the Ordinance pertaining to shipping containers in the Industrial zoning; Council declined.
- Building Permit – no permits.

6. Consent Agenda

- Consider Approval of April 21, 2026, Council Minutes
- Consider Approval of Claims for Payment
- Consider Approval of Financial Reports
- Resolution 2026-05 Election Judges

Grove moved and Mielke second approving the consent agenda. The motion carried. 5/0

7. Old Business

- Miscellaneous – Ryan Miles with Ehlers Investment was present at April 21 meeting; invest \$250,000.
Grove moved and Herrmann second approving to invest an additional \$250,000.00 with Ehlers Investment Team. The motion carried. 5/0.
- Spring Clean – up May 9, 7 – 11 AM.

8. Mayor City Council Reports

- Council member Kevin Grove - Nothing additional.
- Council member Thomas Mielke - Nothing additional.
- Council member Paul Roepke – Nothing additional.
- Council member Lorn Hermann - Nothing additional.
- Mayor Shirley Jaeger – Nothing additional.

9. Adjourn City Council Meeting – Mielke moved and Grove second adjourning the meeting at 7:45 PM. The motion carried. 5/0.

Respectfully submitted by City Clerk Twyla Menth