



**CITY OF NEW GERMANY- CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 19, 2026 – 7:00 PM**

1. Opening Items

- Call meeting to Order – **Mayor Shirley Jaeger called the meeting to order at 7 PM.**
- Roll Call – **Mayor Shirley Jaeger, Council members: Thomas Mielke, Lorn Herrmann, Paul Roepke, and Kevin Grove.**
- Others present included Darrel Hugget, Mark Altman, Fire Chief Ryan Goede, Public Works Chris Barlau, and the City Clerk.

2. Approval of Agenda

- Consider Approval of Agenda – addition of Ducks Unlimited LG 220 Bingo request, and Resolution for donation of Gambling Funds to the FD truck & Bldg. **Grove moved and Roepke second approving the agenda with the additions. The motion carried. 5/0**

3. Public Comment Period

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

4. Business items or New Business –

- **Darrell Hugget and Mark Altman**
Candidate Introduction: Darrell Hugget introduced himself as a candidate for Carver County Sheriff. He shared that he is married, has grown children and grandchildren, and values the small-town character of communities like New Germany.
Professional Background: Darrell said he began his law enforcement career in Mound, where he served for 10 years, including work as a canine handler. He later joined the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office, where he served in several roles, including deputy investigator, captain, and major. He said he oversaw multiple aspects of the Sheriff's Office and helped build and operate the 911 command center.
Discussion with Council: Darrell said communication is especially important to him and noted that he has been visiting communities across Carver County to learn about their needs. He invited discussion about New Germany's priorities. Mark Altman, who is campaigning for or with Darrell and previously served as a paramedic in Carver County, also asked what issues are most important on the west side of the county. Fire Chief Goede said that delayed squad response times and do-not-enter calls are ongoing concerns. Council Member Grove also raised concerns about vehicles running the stop sign on County Road 33. Discussion continued regarding the needs of smaller communities.
Campaign Priorities: Darrell emphasized accountability and said his campaign is focused on making Carver County safer, supporting deputies in their careers, and addressing recent staff turnover during what he described as a challenging time to work in law enforcement.
- Miscellaneous – LG 220 Ducks Unlimited Bingo at Fat Boyz on June 13, 2026. – **Roepke moved and Grove second approving the LG 220 Bingo application. The motion carried. 5/0.**

Officers'/Department/Staff Reports

- Fire Department Report – Chief Goede reported they had a vendor was present for size fitting for three fire fighters, and one new fire fighter, this will put less of a strain on the budget.
 - Potential two additional fire fighter candidates.
 - **Skid Unit Update:** Chief Goede reported that the skid unit for the grass rig was quoted at \$20,504 in 2025 and \$22,400 in 2026, an increase of approximately \$2,000. Anthony Gruenhagen at Jerry's Transmission is the representative, and the current lead time is 18 weeks.
Council Discussion: Council Member Grove asked whether other apparatus companies should also be considered. Discussion included the possibility of purchasing a used truck, keeping the current truck, and replacing only the skid unit.
Replacement Planning: Chief Goede expressed concern that the department is no longer following its equipment replacement plan and noted that annual cost increases make delays more expensive over time. He said the previous replacement cycle had been 20 years, but that schedule has not been maintained, resulting in multiple equipment needs occurring at once.
Additional Equipment Needs: Chief Goede also noted that upcoming air pack maintenance is expected to cost about \$200,000.
Next Steps: Chief Goede will continue exploring vehicle and skid unit options.
- Parks – Roepke noted Camden Township has been contacted on the dead trees.
 - Mayer Lumber credit issue: PW charges have been coming off the Parks credit; deduct the difference from PW budget until it balances.



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Officers’/Department/Staff Reports

- Water/Sewer – Pre public notice draft for New Germany Wastewater Treatment (NPDES) permit from MPCA – no issues.
- Public Works – working on ground maintenance around the city. Rock mix in areas as needed.
 - An individual reached out looking for Community Service option in the city; I will provide Chris’s cell number for scheduling hours to work.
- Sheriff Report – April & 1st Quarter report included.
- Miscellaneous – nothing additional.
- **Clerk Report** – The City Attorney is closing the Kilbane Park file, Kilbane Park will remain city property.
 - **Bonding Update:** Following the May 12 emergency meeting, the city confirmed that the wastewater project did not receive a \$6 million bonding bill, as previously understood. Instead, the project received \$4 million in bonding funds.
Funding Gap: Combined with the federal grant of \$2.2 million, the current funding is still not enough to cover the estimated project cost of approximately \$12.4 million.
Upcoming Discussion: Jeanne from Ehlers and Jessica Hedin from SEH will attend the June 16 meeting to review options and provide additional information to the Council.
Planning Outlook: The city has four years to plan for the project and will need to pursue additional bonding bills or other funding sources to close the remaining gap.
- Building Permit – deck permit.

6. Consent Agenda

- Consider Approval of May 5, 2026, Council Minutes
- Consider Approval of May 13, 2026, Emergency Meeting Minutes
- Consider Approval of Claims for Payment
- Consider Approval of Financial Reports
- Resolution 2026-06 Gambling Funds from Mayer Baseball Club for Parks
- Resolution 2026- - 07 NG Relief Gambling funds for the FD Truck & Bldg., Capital fund.

Mielke moved and Grove second approving the consent agenda with the addition of Resolution 2026 – 07. The motion carried. 5/0

7. Old Business

- Miscellaneous – nothing additional.

8. Mayor City Council Reports

- Council member Kevin Grove – Discussion on Green Meadows shipping containers; extension on removal date. Burning piles; not allowed per Carver County Ordinance.
- Council member Thomas Mielke – Ron Eiden would like the alley dust coated.
- Council member Paul Roepke – nothing additional.
- Council member Lorn Hermann – nothing additional.
- Mayor Shirley Jaeger – nothing additional.

9. Adjourn City Council Meeting – Mayor Shirley Jaeger adjourned the meeting at 8:16 PM. The motion carried. 5/0

Respectfully submitted by Twyla Menth, City Clerk