



CITY OF NEW GERMANY- CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JUNE 16, 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; Paul Roepke, Lorn Herrmann, Thomas Mielke, Kevin Grove. Others were present; Matt Steen Carver County Sheriff candidate, Cole Mace, Tasha VanBrocklin, Jessica Hedin with SEH, Jenne Vogt with Ehlers, Chris Barlau Public Works, and the City Clerk.**

2. Approval of Agenda

- Consider Approval of Agenda – addition of three patio music special permits for Fat Boyz.
Mielke moved and Grove second, approving the agenda additions. The motion carried. 5/0.

3. Public Comment Period

Open Public Comment Period – Tasha Van Brocklin brought a photo of a connection box that has fallen apart and voiced her concerns; appears to be another Frontier box.

4. Business items or New Business –

- **Matt Steen, Carver County Sheriff Candidate** – Matt Steen shared that he is running for Carver County Sheriff. Steen has lived in Carver County for majority of his life, currently resides in Chaska, and serves as a sergeant with the Richfield Police Department. Steen is seeking a four-year term. Steen's stated priorities include training, employee wellness programs, retention, and incentives that support long-term careers within the department. Steen identified understaffing, high overtime costs, unclear career paths, management concerns, and deputy turnover as key challenges. He also said he wants to collaborate with officers rather than remain behind a desk, improve training, and identify system issues that affect long-term retention. Steen noted that the jail is operating well and that he is not currently aware of significant issues beyond staffing turnover.
- **Jessica Hedin & Jeanne Vogt with Ehlers.**
 - **Jessica Hedin, SEH Wastewater Engineer**, presented an overview of the wastewater treatment project for the benefit of newer Council members. She explained that the city remains under a moratorium related to the current wastewater ponds, which is limiting growth. Predesign work has been completed, but the project is currently at a standstill in the design phase. Because the most recent cost estimate is now two years old, SEH recommends obtaining an updated estimate to reflect current project costs.
 - **Wastewater Project Funding and Delivery Method** – Jeanne Vogt of Ehlers reviewed the project estimate developed with MaryJane from the State of Minnesota. The current estimated cost of the wastewater project is \$11.127 million. Estimated funding sources include the state bonding bill (four million), federal grant (2.2 million), PSIG (2,119,925), WIF (1,471,726), Green Project Reserve (GPR) (400,000), and a PFA loan (1,529,457). Based on a 20-year term, the estimated annual payment would be \$68,290. Jessica Hedin recommended updating the project cost estimate, which is expected to cost \$2,000 to \$3,000.
 - **CMAR Delivery Method** – Jessica also explained Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) as an alternative to the traditional design-bid-build process. Under CMAR, firms submit qualifications, the city scores and ranks them, and a construction manager is selected early in the process. This allows for real-time pricing, evaluation of alternative methods, and closer coordination on labor and materials to help the project stay within budget. Jessica noted that CMAR may reduce change orders and contract administration because key decisions are addressed up front. The City will continue pursuing congressional and bonding funds. SEH again recommended updating the project estimate for \$2,000 to \$3,000.

Grove moved and Mielke second to move forward with an updated wastewater cost estimate from SEH, estimated to cost \$2-3,000.00. The motion carried. 5/0

- **Miscellaneous** – Rural Service District (RSD) – reviewed and no changes.

5. Officers' /Department/Staff Reports

- **Fire Department Report from Fire Chief Ryan Goede**
 - Received grant from Centerpoint for EV Blanket for \$2,200.00.
 - Ordered the skid unit for the grass rig, customized unit, cost was \$450 more, standard unit is for 8 ft box, errored on side of caution and went with the skid unit that will fit a short box: \$1,500.00 shipping, plus \$21,580.00 for the skid.
 - Ordering or starting the order for new turn out gear for the new fire fighters.

CITY OF NEW GERMANY- CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JUNE 16, 2026 – 7:00 PM

5. Continued Officers' / Department / Staff Reports

- Emergency Apparatus fixed what they could. DOT inspected, some of the parts on the trucks are now obsolete, cannot get the parts, no report back yet, engine tanker twelve did not pass pump inspection losing its prime.
- **Parks** - Netting for the ballpark should be here next week. Lindstrom fence has been received and installed.
 - Tree quotes - have one, Lorn will get one more.
 - Eric picked up the paint for the utility shed; Lorn and Sandy Herrmann will paint in July.
 - Chris reported he brought black dirt to Kilbane, let Chris know if more is needed.
- **Water/Sewer** – Viewed MPCA draft of wastewater permit.
- **Public Works**
 - Community Service worked 9 hours on Saturday, painted curb stops, helped Eric install pallet racking, and cleaned up in other areas.
 - Ryan has a number for Frontier – green box behind the Fire Station also needs attention.
- **Sheriff Report** – May 2026 report reviewed.
- **Miscellaneous** – nothing additional.
- **Clerk Report**
 - Placed the Seasonal employee ad on the city website.
 - If anyone is mowing or doing anything at public works or for the city and is not an employee, they must fill out volunteer form prior to doing any work. If they are using city equipment you must provide training and documentation of the training, you provided.
 - Starting with the 2027 budget information, need a meeting in July or August when I have all the information needed to move forward. Reminder of the preliminary budget is the highest amount can only decrease for final budget.
 - Updated the FD application, placed five new hire books for potential fire fighters in the FD office.
 - Diligently trying to find liquor liability insurance for the FD; have only found one and it is \$6,745.00 for three days. Talking with Carver County to see what can be figured out for the Fire Department's annual ball tournament.
 - Sent the approved Resolution 2026-08 to Met Council, they sent back the approved Metropolitan Council Contract for Small Communities Planning Program (2050 Comp Plan update).
 - June 18, 6 – 8 PM Carver County Election administration and head judge meeting.
 - June 25, Clerks Meeting at Mayer from 9 – 12:30.
 - Vacation date of July 9 – July 16, 2026. Be in on the 17th for utility processing.
 - Water shut offs are scheduled for Monday, door hangers will go on tomorrow.
- **Building Permit** – 380 Camden Avenue - 240 sq ft storage shed permit, 271 Park Street E -siding.

6. Consent Agenda

- Consider Approval of June 2, 2026, Council Minutes
- Consider Approval of Claims for Payment
- Consider Approval of Financial Reports
- Fat Boyz Special permits.

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

7. Old Business

- **Trophy Lakes** – Ben Hack was sent a formal letter regarding variance application.
- **Miscellaneous** – nothing additional.

8. Mayor City Council Reports

- **Council member Kevin Grove** – Green Meadows will be moving storage containers soon. Brad Quaas will be moving his containers in August/September.
- **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 – Roepke moved and Grove second adjourning the meeting at 8:20 Pm. The motion carried. 5/0

Respectfully submitted by Twyla Menth, City Clerk.