



CITY OF NEW GERMANY- CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
September 15, 2026 – 7:00 PM

1. Opening Items

- Call meeting to Order – **Mayor Shirley Jaeger called the meeting to order at 7 PM.**
- Roll Call – ***Council Members; Paul Ropeke, Lorn Herrmann, Thomas Mielke, and Mayor Shirley Jaeger.***
- Others Present – Chris Barlau Public Works, Jenne Vogt with Ehlers, Kelly Horn with Ehlers, Ryan Goede Fire Chief, and Twyla Menth City Clerk.

2. Approval of Agenda

- Consider Approval of Agenda – add Resolution for the 2027 Preliminary Budget, special permit, and FD Liquor 125th Anniversary liquor license. **Mielke moved and Roepke seconded approving the agenda with the additions. The motion carried. 4/0.**

3. Public Comment Period

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

4. Business items or New Business –

- 2027 Preliminary Budget – Ehlers reviewed the preliminary budget, which included a 4% decrease in the maximum levy, \$40,830 in debt service, a \$405,471 General Fund levy, a \$20,608 interfund truck payment, a total levy of \$446,301.
- Chief Goede asked about interest earned on the Fire Department Capital Fund, and it was confirmed that the department receives the interest. The Council discussed new and used trucks and suggested forming a committee to begin the process, Council would like the FD to consider used verses new. Chief Goede will review and update the equipment list.
- The Council discussed Public Works equipment needs and added them to the FMP. Ehlers then reviewed levy, tax rate, tax base, and General Fund ending cash-balance trends with Council. The 2027 TNT rate is 66.582%, down from 68.640% in 2026.

Herrmann moved and Roepke seconded approving Resolution 2026-11, 2027 Preliminary Levy of \$446,301. The motion carried. 4/0

**** Note originally the Resolution was 2026-06, numbering error, the correct number is 2026-11, this was on account of the Variance Public Hearing Resolutions were already tentatively numbered.**

5. Officers'/Department/Staff Reports

- Fire Department Report – North Central informed Fire Chief Goede skid is shipping October 2.
 - More FD vehicles will be receiving service soon.
 - Annual Fire Extinguisher inspection is being scheduled.
 - Softball Tournament income was estimated at \$30K.
 - Requesting consideration of a Pension increase of \$300; from \$3500.00 to \$3800.00, will need to do by Resolution, will have the Resolution ready for the next meeting.
 - Carver county has eleven cities, in 2027, 7 of the cities are going to have full-time Fire Chiefs.
 - Fire Chief Goede explained Carver County is doing updates with pager/radio equipment and fitting the bill for the upgrades, reprogramming the weather channel, or removing, no cost to New Germany.
- Parks – playground equipment has been removed and in New Germany.
- Water/Sewer – Final NPDES/SDS Permit (wastewater lagoons), reviewed, no comments.
 - Utility billing tomorrow.
- Public Works
 - Speed limit sign on 62nd street placed.
 - UTV – used one at Lano's in NYA if anyone has time to go check it out.
- Sheriff Report – included in packet.
- Clerk Report – Submitted the DNR EAB grant for \$49,900., should hear in November if we receive the grant.
 - The Cady phone system has experienced glitches, and Randy with CarverLink determined that New Germany currently lacks the infrastructure needed to support it. The Clerk will cancel the contract and work with Randy to identify a better option. The Council authorized the Clerk to proceed with CarverLink's recommended solution.
 - CDA and Commissioner John Fahey are planning to attend on November 17.
 - Jessica Hedin the Wastewater Engineer will be attending a meeting when all the information is received from PSIG and WIF.



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5. Officers' / Department / Staff Reports cont'd

Clerk report cont'd

- Meeting on 9/17/2026 with Therese Haffner & Jutin Black regarding the Variance application for Trophy Lakes. I will send out the packet for Thursday, September 22, 2026, 7 PM public hearing.
- Utility billing will be on Thursday, September 17, 2026.
- Clerk's meeting – September 24, 2026 @ Tonka Bay 8:30 – 12 PM
- October 8 – Workshop 7:30 AM – 1 PM., @ Delano.
- Building Permit – no additional permits.

6. Consent Agenda

- Consider Approval of September 1, 2026, Council Minutes
- Consider Approval of Claims for Payment
- Consider Approval of Financial Reports
- October 3, 2026, Fire Department Temporary Liquor License for 125th Anniversary Dance.
- Fire Department 125th Anniversary October 3, 2026 – special permit food truck.

Roepke moved and Mielke seconded approving the consent agenda. The motion carried. 4/0

7. Old Business

- Janitor Position – still in need of janitor, possible one application coming in.
- Variance Public Hearing date – City Hall, September 22, 2026, 7 PM.
- Miscellaneous
 - Tennis Court quote – table until next meeting.
 - Hall Floor Quote – **Roepke moved and Mielke seconded approving Wood Floor Renovation quote for the City Hall upper-level wood floor refinish in the amount of \$19,695.50. The motion carried. 4/0**
 - Playground update – report was provided in Parks.

8. Mayor City Council Reports

- Council member Kevin Grove – absent.
- 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 Herrmann seconded adjourning the meeting at 8:59 PM. The motion carried. 4/0

Respectfully submitted by Twyla Menth, City Clerk-Treasurer