

**AUGUST 18, 2025**

The Regular Meeting of the Lake Benton City Council was held on Monday, August 18, 2025 at 5:30 P.M. in the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. Mayor Patrick Haynes presided. Trustees Rosie DeZeeuw, Karen Lichtsinn, Jon Olson, and Scott Christensen were present. City Attorney Mike Cable was absent. City Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen was also present.

Mayor Patrick Haynes called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Mayor Patrick Haynes then asked if anyone in attendance had an item, not on the agenda, to bring up during the Open Forum part of the meeting. If so, they had two minutes to state their concern. No items were brought forward at this time.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 4, 2025 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 4, 2025. Motion carried.

**CLAIMS PRESENTED AGAINST THE CITY OF LAKE BENTON:**

L-P RURAL WATER	\$ 5,898.39	STATION ONE	\$ 258.73
GOPHER STATE	\$ 17.55	CITY OF LAKE BENTON	\$ 173.91
POSTMASTER	\$ 204.35	S & E AUTO	\$ 205.98
STAPLES ENTERPRISES	\$ 32.37	DSI	\$ 2,327.00
SOUTHWEST SANITATION	\$ 4,070.99	CARDMEMBER SRVCS	\$ 313.31
ONE OFFICE SOLUTIONS	\$ 42.10	BUFFALO RIDGE NEWS	\$ 167.70
KIBBLE EQUIPMENT	\$ 98.16	DVL FIRE & SAFETY	\$ 63.20

**MOTION** by Jon Olson, seconded by Karen Lichtsinn to approve payment of the claims presented against the City of Lake Benton. Motion carried and the Mayor authorized the City Administrator/Clerk to make payment.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT UPDATE**

The July calls for service in Lake Benton were reviewed. **MOTION** by Karen Lichtsinn, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve the Law Enforcement Update. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on the real estate agreement with Wyatt and Jabel Kuiper. The Council received a letter from Wyatt and Jabel Kuiper indicating they will not be building a home in the Mork and Giles Addition Lots One (1) and Two (2) of Block Four (4). The amended agreement extended the construction of their home until September 1, 2025. Because Wyatt and Jabel will not be building, the City has the option of purchasing the real estate sold to the buyer for 50% of the sale price which is \$5,500.00. **MOTION** by Karen Lichtsinn, seconded by Jon Olson to approve purchasing Lots One (1) and Two (2) of Block Four (4) in the Mork & Giles Addition from Wyatt and Jabel Kuiper for \$5,500.00. Motion carried.

The Council was then asked if they would like to list the two lots in the Mork & Giles Addition with Lake Benton Realty after the Warranty Deed is signed and recorded. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve hiring Lake Benton Realty to list the two lots in the Mork & Giles Addition after the Warranty Deed is signed and recorded. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on a building permit for Josh Kellogg to install a fence. Josh would like to install a 6' x 65' fence on his property located at 310 Prospect Street. Josh was given the setbacks in which to install a fence and the \$25.00 application fee has been paid. There are no setback concerns and everything is in compliance with the Ordinance. **MOTION** by Jon Olson, seconded by Scott Christensen to approve the building permit for Josh Kellogg to install a 6' x 65' fence on his property located at 310 Prospect Street. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on advertising for bids in August and September to lease the City's farm land. The lease will expire the last day of February 2026. The farm land has previously been up for lease for a three year period to Tom and Mary Gunnink from March 1, 2023 through February 28, 2026. This property of approximately 145 acres has 114.26 acres of cropland, more or less. The Council previously approved leasing the land for three years. The ad will be placed in late August and the middle of September and open the bids at their October 6, 2025 regular meeting. **MOTION** by Karen Lichtsinn, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to authorize Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen to advertise for bids to lease the City's farm land for a three year term, and to collaborate with legal counsel regarding the paperwork before the ad is run and bids are opened. Motion carried.

**ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT:**

No report.

**MAYORAL REPORT:**

Mayor Patrick Haynes reminded the City residents that the City's Animal Ordinance states that no animals shall be running at large, vaccinations are required for dogs that are 6 months old and older, and pet owners must clean up after their dogs. Farm animals include chickens – no roosters allowed; the maximum number of chickens is 12. It is illegal for anyone to own any non-domestic animals. The City Ordinances are located on the City's website.

The Council also reminded the City residents not to leave their grass clippings on the street as it clogs the storm sewers.

The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 5:30 PM.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, a **MOTION** was made by Karen Lichtsinn, seconded by Scott Christensen and carried, the meeting adjourned.

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MAYOR

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ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK