

NOVEMBER 3, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Lake Benton City Council was held on Monday, November 3, 2025 at 5:30 P.M. in the Lake Benton Area Community and Event Center. Mayor Patrick Haynes presided. Trustees Rosie DeZeeuw, Jon Olson, and Scott Christensen were present. City Attorney Mike Cable and Trustee Karen Lichtsinn were 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 October 20, 2025 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 20, 2025. Motion carried.

CLAIMS PRESENTED AGAINST THE CITY OF LAKE BENTON:

BOLT'S LB GROCERY	\$	2.49	OTTERTAIL	\$	1,925.41
ITC	\$	400.31	QUARNSTROM-DOERING	\$	420.00
S & E AUTO	\$	25.00	TRAVIS LUSTFIELD	\$	32.00
PAT HAYNES	\$	838.52	MN LIFE	\$	4.80
DSI	\$	252.25	TROY NORDMEYER	\$	32.00
ALEX AIR	\$	806.00	KYLIE ROCHEL	\$	160.00
ONE OFFICE SOLUTIONS	\$	22.56	FERGUSON WATER	\$	1,590.35
AMAZON	\$	38.88	PLUM CREEK LIBRARY	\$	48.00
CENTER POINT	\$	51.54	DANNY/MEGAN KROTZER	\$	250.00

MOTION by Jon Olson, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw 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.

The next item of business was to review/act on a building permit for Christopher Lichtsinn to install a utility shed. Christopher would like to install an 8' x 6' utility shed beside his driveway at 401 W. Benton Street. Christopher was given the setbacks in which to install a utility shed and the \$25.00 application fee has been paid. There are no setback concerns and everything is in compliance with the Ordinance. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Jon Olson to approve the building permit for Christopher Lichtsinn to install an 8' x 6' utility shed beside his driveway at 401 W. Benton Street. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on charging a fee to set-up and take down tables and chairs at the Event Center for a funeral luncheon/celebration of life. Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen informed the Council that it is the policy for tenants leasing the Event Center to set up tables and chairs, clean them, take them down and sweep the floor. This works well for wedding receptions, Sportsman's Club events, the Gala, and Pheasants Forever. However, it does not work so well for funeral luncheons.

The most recent funeral luncheon held at the Event Center seemed to have a lack of communication between the funeral director and the grieving family. The funeral director set up the tables but did not contact the family directly to let them know and did not take them down. The family was informed they would need to set up and take down the tables and chairs, but the tables and chairs were not taken down. However, several volunteers helped to take the tables and chairs down and Administrator/Clerk Eileen Christensen was very appreciative. It is a lot to ask a grieving family to add this burden to them. It would be easier if the City asked the family if they would like to set up and take down themselves or pay an additional fee for City staff to set up and take down the tables and chairs. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Rosie DeZeeuw to inquire if the family of a funeral luncheon would like to set up and take down the tables and chairs themselves or pay an additional fee of \$100.00 to have City staff set up and \$100.00 to have City staff take down the tables and chairs. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT:

No report.

MAYORAL REPORT:

Mayor Patrick Haynes attended the PowerOn Midwest Open House today at the Event Center. PowerOn Midwest is a series of new electric transmission projects anchored by a 765 kV backbone transmission line being developed by Great River Energy, ITC Midwest, OtterTail Power Company and Xcel Energy.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday November 17, 2025 at 5:30 pm.

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, a **MOTION** was made by Rosie DeZeeuw, seconded by Jon Olson and carried, the meeting adjourned.

MAYOR

ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK