

OCTOBER 20, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Lake Benton City Council was held on Monday, October 20, 2025 at 5:30 PM 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, Maintenance Supervisor Travis Lustfield, and Deputy Karter DeSmet were 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 6, 2025 were reviewed. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen , seconded by Jon Olson to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 6, 2025. Motion carried.

CLAIMS PRESENTED AGAINST THE CITY OF LAKE BENTON:

L-P RURAL WATER	\$ 5,047.89	GOPHER STATE	\$ 6.75
CITY OF LAKE BENTON	\$ 170.73	POSTMASTER	\$ 200.69
S & E AUTO	\$ 129.99	FIRST SECURITY BANK	\$ 30,000.00
STAPLES	\$ 41.70	JOHANSEN'S REPAIR	\$ 7,258.37
LB FIRE RELIEF	\$ 38,339.93	CARDMEMBER SRVCS	\$ 527.47
MN FIRE SERV CERT BD	\$ 105.00		

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

PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE

Maintenance Supervisor Travis Lustfield informed the council the Maintenance Department has completed the mowing for the year and they are painting the propane tanks, repairing and painting the picnic tables at the park and softball field. They are also working to get the snow removal equipment ready for the winter and the hydraulic motor on the new snow truck sander needs to be replaced for approximately \$1,000.00. **MOTION** by Rosie DeZeeuw, seconded by Scott Christensen to approve the public works update. Motion carried.

LAW ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

Deputy Karter DeSmet reviewed the September calls for service with the Council and stated there is not a lot going on at this time of year. They continue to stop speeders on Fremont and Benton Streets and they will be moving the speed limit sign north to Highway 14. **MOTION** by Karen Lichtsinn, seconded by Jon Olson to approve the law enforcement update. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on a building permit for Daryl Lichtsinn to install a utility shed. Daryl would like to install a 10' x 14' utility shed behind his garage at 107 S. Harrison Street. Daryl 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 Jon Olson, seconded by Scott Christensen to approve the building permit for Daryl Lichtsinn to install a 10' x 14' utility shed behind his garage at 107 S. Harrison Street. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on a Gambling Exempt Permit for the Lake Benton Sportsman's Club. The Lake Benton Sportsman's Club is planning to have a raffle drawing at their annual fishing tournament on January 31, 2026. The Club needs Council approval due to

the fact the application requires the local unit of government's acknowledgement and the Mayor's signature. **MOTION** by Rosie DeZeeuw, seconded by Jon Olson to approve the Gambling Exempt Permit for the Lake Benton Sportsman's Club annual fishing tournament on January 31, 2026 and authorize the Mayor's signature. Motion carried.

The next item of business was to review/act on contribution to Minnesota Paid Family & Medical Leave (PFML). Minnesota is introducing a new Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML) benefit for employees beginning January 1, 2026. The City's auditors, Kinner & Company, reached out to the City to offer their assistance in making sure we are compliant. An overview of the process and frequently asked questions was provided to the Council. The City qualifies for the small employer reduced premium rate of .66% (≤ 30 employees and average wages $< 150\%$ of SAWW).

Kinner & Company requested the Council decide what percentage (up to .44%) do you wish to withhold from employees. Either the City can pay all of it (.66%), or the City pays .44% and the employee pays .22%, the City pays .33% and the employee pays .33%, or the City pays .22% and the employee pays .44%. Mayor Patrick Haynes informed the Council should they approve paying the full .66%, it should only cost the City approximately \$1,200.00/year. **MOTION** by Scott Christensen, seconded by Karen Lichtsinn to approve the City pay the full contribution of .66% PFML benefit for the employees. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK REPORT:

No report.

MAYORAL REPORT:

No report.

The next regular meeting is Monday, November 3, 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 Jon Olson and carried, the meeting adjourned.

MAYOR

ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK