

**Harris City Council  
Special Meeting Minutes  
Monday, June 16, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.**

- I. **Call to Order:** Mayor Carlson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Roll Call:** City Clerk Shannon Geier conducted roll call. Present were Mayor Randy Carlson, Councilmember Chell Borash, Councilmember Al Siedow, and Councilmember Garret Pearson. Councilmember Craig Moline was absent. Geier announced that a quorum was present.
  - **Amend agenda:** Pearson made a motion to amend the agenda by adding “H”-460<sup>th</sup>, and “I”- Picnic Tables. Borash seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- IV. **Public Hearing – Drinking, waste, and storm water infrastructure improvement projects:**

Nathan Feist of Bollig Engineering provided an update on several key projects: Sewer and Water to I-35, Water Distribution Looping, and Well #3. To help fund these initiatives, the city is applying for additional grant money and/or low-interest loans through Rural Development, which requires a public hearing. During the hearing, discussions covered existing needs, alternatives considered, recommended alternatives, project costs, funding sources, and project schedule. The public hearing concluded at 6:41 p.m.
- V. **Public Comment:** None.
- VI. **Regular Agenda:**
  - A. **Drinking, waste, and storm water infrastructure improvement projects** – There was no further discussion.
  - B. **Capital Improvement Plan** - Geier informed the council that Chris Ambuehl from Bollig Engineering is preparing a Capital Improvement Plan, which will be integrated into the city’s needs assessment. Carlson raised concerns about Harris requiring such a plan, arguing that the current budgeting process suffices. Geier countered that a long-term budgeting strategy is essential, especially since feasibility studies are often necessary for grant applications. City staff requested the council's input to help prioritize projects. Pearson supported this forward-thinking approach, highlighting its advantages for residents. Proposed initiatives included seeking funds for Ginger (south), Ginger (main), and Falcon; cleaning up the Feed Mill parcel as a potentially hazardous waste site; revitalizing main street; paving city roads; acquiring the Knife River gravel pit parcel to transform into a UTV park and campground; and maintaining flexibility in budgeting to address future needs.
  - C. **City Planner** - City Planner Claire Stickler will be taking maternity leave starting in July. In response to the City Council's inquiry about potential coverage, Feist confirmed that Bollig is available to provide planning services during this time. Bollig has experience in city planning and ordinance writing, making them a suitable resource for Harris's needs.

- D. **Flag update** - The Council had previously approved up to \$1,600 for a commercial flagpole for City Hall, but the actual cost was higher than anticipated. Siedow suggested budgeting next year for two flagpoles, which would include one for the Legion. Pearson made a motion to approve up to \$2,000 to purchase a single commercial flagpole for City Hall. The motion died for lack of a second. Siedow made a motion to table. Borash seconded the motion. Motion to table carried 3-1, Pearson opposed.
- E. **Cyber security infrastructure-MNIT (Minnesota IT Service) grant for Managed Detection and Response** – Tabled for more information.
- F. **HVAC pump replacement** – Pearson made a motion to authorize up to \$1,800 for Neighborhood Plumbing to repair the furnace and pump. Siedow seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- G. **Engine one seat belt replacement** – Siedow made a motion to authorize up to \$1,000 for the seat belt replacement. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- H. **460<sup>th</sup>** – A beaver dam is obstructing water flow and leading to road washout. To prevent further erosion, the dam and beavers need to be removed, and Dresser Trap Rock must be delivered to restore the road. Siedow made a motion to authorize up to \$4,500 for the completion of this project. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- I. **Picnic Tables** – Siedow found metal, colored picnic tables for sale by Apple Valley on an auction site. Borash made a motion to approve purchase of picnic tables up to \$1,500. Carlson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- VII. **Adjourn**: Siedow made a motion to adjourn. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

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City Clerk – Shannon Geier

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Randy Carlson - Mayor

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Date Approved