

Lynd City Council Minutes
August 18th, 2026

The Lynd City Council met in regular session on August 18, 2026. Present were Mayor Justin Guggisberg and Councilmembers Jerry Sodemann, Josh Bruley, and Shantel Williams. Councilmember David Reaves was absent. Also present were Public Works Director Dillon Schultz, City Clerk/Treasurer Jenni DeRuyter, and City Attorney John Engels.

Mayor Guggisberg called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

The Council reviewed the minutes from the July 21st, 2026, meeting. Shantel made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Council Member Jerry. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Approval of the Agenda

The Council reviewed the agenda and made the following additions: under Old Business, A. Historic Site and B. Fee Schedule; under New Business, B. Building Permit and C. Building Without Permit; under the City Clerk Report, Item 2, Bushes at Sharratt Street and North River Street; and under the Fire Department Report, Item 3, Fire Department Budget. Justin made a motion to approve the agenda with the changes as presented. Shantel seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Public Forum

Jordan provided an update on the Lead Service Line Replacement Project. Plans and specifications were submitted to the State in March/April, and the project was certified by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) in July. The project includes the service line at 120 Willow Street, which is currently identified as an unknown galvanized pipe. Although it is believed to be non-lead, the service line must be verified and replaced as necessary.

With MDH certification complete, the City may proceed with bidding and construction. The next steps include finalizing the project schedule, advertising for bids in the Marshall Independent and through Quest, posting the bid information on the City's website, opening bids, and awarding the project. Jordan will provide the City with the information needed for publication. Justin made a motion to proceed with bidding and construction of the Lead Service Line Replacement Project. Shantel seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Jordan also provided an update on the sewer pond project. At this time, the landowners contacted have not been interested in selling property for the proposed project. Ghent is reviewing a couple of potential options to determine whether they may be feasible. The City will also continue to evaluate whether other available property in the proposed pond area could provide sufficient acreage for the project.

Council Member Input

Mayor Justin Guggisberg: No items presented.
Councilman Jerry Sodemann: No items presented.
Councilman David Reaves: No items presented.
Councilman Josh Bruley: No items presented.
Councilwoman Shantel Williams: No items presented.

Fire Report

Fire Chief Dillon Schultz reported that the Fire Department had responded to five first responder calls and one fire calls since the last Council meeting. After further investigation, it was determined that the best option would be to have the repair shop complete the turbo replacement rather than having volunteers perform the work. The apparatus will be taken in for the repair.

Nate Gratz, Assistant Chief of the Lynd Fire Department, presented a request to increase the Fire Department budget by \$15,000. Nate reviewed the department's current budget and compared it with fire departments in communities similar in size to Lynd. The comparison showed that Lynd's Fire Department budget is significantly lower than those of comparable communities. Nate noted that the department's newest apparatus is 23 years old. While the department is not concerned with the age of the equipment itself, aging apparatus can result in increased maintenance needs, repair costs, and difficulty obtaining parts. With growing community needs, rising operating costs, and increased equipment maintenance expenses, the department believes additional funding is necessary. Nate also reported that, so far in 2026, department members have donated approximately 171 hours of unpaid time to help offset department costs.

Jerry made a motion to approve the Fire Department Report. Shantel seconded the motion. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.bm,

Law Enforcement Report

Lyon County Sheriff Department reported that the department responded to a total of seventeen calls for service during the month of July. Shantel made a motion to approve the Sheriff's Report. Josh seconded the motion. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Public Works Report

Brayden, the City's summer help, has returned to the doctor for a follow-up appointment. He has been released to light duty this week, followed by two weeks of work as tolerated. After that time, he should be able to return to working evenings after school.

The lift station in Affinity Hills has been experiencing issues with the generator and dial-out system. Staff are currently investigating whether the issue is related to the battery or if there are additional problems that need to be addressed.

Monte Electric has received the globes for the new streetlights in Affinity Hills; however, the poles have not yet arrived. Monte Electric will contact Dillon once the poles are in and the lights are ready to be installed.

The shelter wall has been installed and is currently being painted. The completed work looks great.

Dillon had a call with BNSF and Aaron VanMoore regarding the railroad crossing at 235th Street. The crossing lights and stop arms are considered a separate project and are anticipated to be replaced in 2027. BNSF is currently working to secure funding for the project. The City will be responsible for signage and pavement markings associated with the crossing improvements. Once work begins, the anticipated closure of the crossing is expected to be minimal, approximately one-half to three-quarters of a day.

Cody with Precision Paving provided a quote of approximately \$5,200 to complete crack filling near Bergman Circle.

Dillon reported that the new pull-behind mower has significantly improved mowing efficiency and has cut mowing time approximately in half.

Shantel made a motion to approve the Public Works report. Jerry seconded the motion. Upon a vote, all members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Accounts Payable

Jenni presented the July 2026 Accounts Payable. Josh made a motion to approve the Account Payable, Jerry seconded, and all voted in favor.

Financial Report

Jenni presented the financial reports for July 2026. Shantel made a motion to approve the Financial Report, seconded by Jerry All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

City Clerk's Report

Jenni DeRuyter reported that the water loss ratio for July 2026 was -6.5%, with the City billing residents for 533,571 gallons of water while Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water billed the City for 501,000 gallons.

Josh made a motion to approve the City Clerk's report. Jerry seconded the motion. Upon a vote, all members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Legal Issues

None at this time.

Old Business

Council agreed to leave \$1,000 in the 2027 budget for remaining historic site expenses. Gruhot indicated he may be able to donate funds toward a pad for historic equipment to help preserve it.

Council reviewed the City's fee schedule, including building permit fees and penalties for work started without a permit.

Water and sewer connection fees were discussed. The current sewer connection fee is \$1,000 and water is \$500. Justin made a motion to increase the water connection fee to \$1,000 effective January 1, 2027.

Council also discussed clarifying the Fire Department fee schedule to include \$500 per hour after the first three hours and charging residents at cost for any additional equipment required.

John will determine whether an ordinance is needed to amend the fee schedule.

Justin made a motion to remove the copy charge and increase the sewer base rate to \$45.00 effective January 1, 2027. After further discussion, Council tabled the fee schedule until next month.

New Business

Council reviewed and discussed the proposed 2027 General Fund budget. Jenni noted that the preliminary levy and budget information must be submitted to the County by September 30. Council will continue to review the budget and discuss it further at next month's meeting.

A building permit for Dallas Williams, 107 Walnut Street, was presented for a 20-foot by 20-foot, 60-inch-high no-dig fence. Justin made a motion to approve the permit, seconded by Jerry. Shantel abstained from voting. Motion carried.

A building permit for Joshua Bruley, 104 S. River Street, was presented for a 50-foot by 72-foot, 50-inch-high no-dig fence. Justin made a motion to approve the permit, seconded by Shantel. Josh abstained from voting. Motion carried.

Council discussed work completed prior to obtaining a required building permit. It was noted that a pickleball court, including a concrete pad and fencing, had been installed on a property without an approved permit. A building permit is required for the concrete and fencing associated with the court. The City's fee for work completed prior to permit approval is \$50. Jenni was directed to send a letter to the property owner requesting payment of the \$50 fee and submission of the required building permit application.

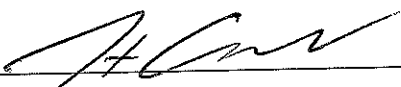
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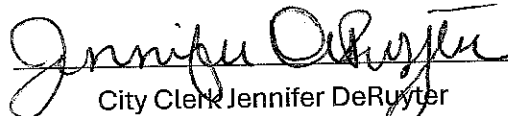
Roads – Shantel & Josh: No report at this time.

EDA – Justin & David: No report at this time.

Adjournment

Josh made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Jerry seconded, and all were in favor.


Mayor Justin Guggisberg


City Clerk Jennifer DeRuyter