

**Lanesboro City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 5, 2026
Lanesboro Community Center Meeting Room**

Present Members:

☒ Mindy Albrecht-Benson ☒ Chase Bakke ☒ Joe Cullen ☒ Alicia Pearson ☒ Kathryn Wade

Staff:

☒ Mitchell Walbridge ☒ Darla Taylor ☐ David Haugen ☐ Mark Lawstuen ☐ Jerod Wagner
☒ Joseph O'Koren ☐ Michelle Marotzke

Guests: Brent Kohn, Tony Rotchadl, Brian Malm, Elve Albrecht, Susan Riggott, Jon Buggs, Peter Torkelson, Linda Hennessey, Greg Qualy, Sheryl Qualy, Jerry Ritter, Sjeila Goetzke, Sandy Webb, Anna Hanson, Elliott Riggott, Richard HORihand; *Via Zoom:* Kristi Trisko, Delia Bell, Joe Goetzke, Hannah Winger, Tara, Deane Benson

Ashburn Street East Overlay Zone Public Hearing: Mayor Pearson called the public hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

- Jerry Ritter asked about how the overlay zone would affect each property. Mr. Ritter asked about the obtainment of easements and how property lines would be determined.
- Elliott Riggott asked the City Council why TH250 is being reconstructed. Riggott also questioned the status of financing the project.

Mayor Pearson closed the public hearing at 6:07 p.m.

Mayor Pearson called the regular meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

A. Agenda Approval: Member Wade entered a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Member Albrecht-Benson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

B. Public Comments:

- Sandy Webb thanked city staff for keeping the library open during the interim period between library directors. Sandy Webb also thanked former Library Director Tara Johnson for her years of service.
- Jon Buggs thanked the mayor for activities she participated in during 2025.

C. Approval of Minutes:

- a. December 1, 2025, Regular Meeting
- b. December 29, 2025, Special Meeting

Member Albrecht-Benson entered a motion to approve the minutes of the December meetings as submitted; Member Wade seconded the motion. During discussion on the motion, Mayor Pearson commented that she would like Omcare's name removed from the initiative title to match the City's Statement of Position on the Rural Health Innovation Initiative. Member Albrecht-Benson entered a motion to amend her original motion to approve the minutes with the removal of Omcare from the project title; Member Wade seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor to amend the original motion. The motion to approve the minutes was then passed with all members voting in favor.

D. Consent Agenda:

- a. Accounts Payable
- b. Resolution 2026-01: Designating Official Depository
- c. Resolution 2026-02: Designating Official Newspaper
- d. Resolution 2026-03: Authorizing Lawful Gambling for the Lanesboro Fire Department Relief Association

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- e. Resolution 2026-04: Authorizing Signature Authority for the City of Lanesboro
- f. Resolution 2026-05: Establishing Mileage Reimbursement Rate
- g. Resolution 2026-06: Appointing Trustees for the Lanesboro Fire Department Relief Association
- h. Resolution 2026-07: Appointing Lanesboro Fire Department Officers
- i. Resolution 2026-08: Authorizing Membership Renewal in Regional Safety Group
- j. Resolution 2026-09: Accepting Donations to Lanesboro Fire Department
- k. Resolution 2026-10: Accepting Donations to Legion Lights Fund
- l. Resolution 2026-11: Accepting Donations to Library Fund
- m. Resignation of Tara Johnson, Library Director
- n. Resignation of Eliza Mitchell, Assistant Librarian
- o. Lanesboro Arts – Application & Permit for Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – February 7, 2026
- p. 2025 Budget & Unaudited Fund Balances – Quarter 4 2025

Member Wade stated she would be willing to be a municipal trustee on the Lanesboro Fire Relief Association Board of Trustees. Member Albrecht-Benson entered a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with the addition of Member Kathryn Wade's name to Resolution 2026-06; Member Wade seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

New Business

- A. Consider Settlement Agreement with Wapasha Construction Company, Inc.:** City Administrator Walbridge requested the settlement agreement be tabled to allow additional time for legal counsel to review the draft agreement. Member Albrecht-Benson entered a motion to table the item; Member Bakke seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- B. Consider Calling for Public Hearing on TH250 Road/Utility Project – Municipal Consent:** Tony Rotchadl and Brian Malm, Bolton and Menk Inc., provided an update on the project's progress and gave an overview of the Municipal Consent process. Member Albrecht-Benson entered a motion to call for a public hearing for Municipal Consent as well as instructing staff hold an additional informational meeting for the public; Member Wade seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.
- C. Consider Amendments to Ordinance 151 – Land Use – Ashburn Street Overlay Zone:** Brian Malm and Kristi Trisko, Bolton and Menk, Inc., shared an overview of the proposed ordinance language as well as the purpose and intent behind the ordinance amendment. Administrator Walbridge stated the Planning and Zoning Commission also reviewed the ordinance amendment and recommended adoption of the ordinance amendment. The amendment provides property owners with flexibility to improve their properties under reasonable setbacks. Member Albrecht-Benson entered a motion to adopt the proposed ordinance amendment to add the Ashburn Street East Overlay Zone and renumber Ordinance 151 sections; Mayor Pearson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
At Administrator Walbridge's request, Member Bakke entered a motion to publish a Summary of Publication of Section 151.30 for the ordinance amendment adoption; Member Albrecht-Benson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- D. Consider Resolution 2026-12: Appointment of Mayor Pro Tempore for 2026:** Member Albrecht-Benson stated she was willing to continue as Mayor Pro-Tem for 2026. Member Wade entered a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-12 appointing Member Albrecht-Benson as Mayor Pro-Tem; Member Bakke seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- E. Consider Resolution 2026-13: Appointing Members to the Lanesboro Planning & Zoning Commission:** Mayor Pearson stated she was willing to continue serving on the Planning and Zoning Commission for 2026. Member Wade entered a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-13 appointing Mayor Pearson to the Planning and Zoning Commission; Member Albrecht-Benson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- F. Consider Resolution 2026-14: Appointing Members to the Lanesboro Public Utilities Commission:** Administrator Walbridge stated he received no applications for the Public Utility Commission. Because of a recent change to Minnesota statute, a commission of three members may have one of the seats

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designated for a city council member. Member Cullen stated he would be willing to serve as a voting member on the utility commission as he currently serves as the city council liaison. Member Wade entered a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-14 appointing Member Cullen to the Lanesboro Public Utility Commission; Member Bakke seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

- G. Consider Resolution 2026-15: Appointing Members to the Lanesboro Heritage Preservation Commission:** Administrator Walbridge stated two applications were received to fill the vacancies on the Heritage Preservation Commission. Member Albrecht-Benson entered a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-15 appointing Katie Holman and Christopher Martin to the Heritage Preservation Commission; Member Wade seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- H. Consider Resolution 2026-16: Appointing Members to the Lanesboro Public Library Board:** Administrator Walbridge stated that Mary Junko-Isle and Gwen Harmon, whose interim terms expired on the library board, both expressed interest in reappointment. Mayor Pearson entered a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-16 appointing Mary Junko-Isle and Gwen Harmon to the Library Board; Member Bakke seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- I. Consider Resolution 2026-17: Appointing Members to the Lanesboro Park Board:** Administrator Walbridge that Samantha Hareldson and Steve Harris, both whose terms were up for renewal on the Park Board, have expressed interest in serving another term. Member Bakke entered a motion to adopt Resolution 2026-17 appointing Samantha Hareldson and Steve Harris to the Park Board; Member Albrecht-Benson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- J. City Council Board & Commission Liaisons for 2026:** Administrator Walbridge stated the City Council could appoint liaisons to the remaining city departments, otherwise the department managers could routinely report back to the City Council. The City Council preferred to communicate directly with the department heads. No action was taken.

Mayor Pearson adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell Walbridge
City Administrator/Clerk