

**Lanesboro City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 27, 2026 – 5:00 p.m.
Lanesboro City Council Chambers**

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

Mayor Pearson called the regular meeting of the Lanesboro City Council to order at 5:01 p.m. Member Albrecht-Benson participated remotely.

A. Agenda Approval: City Administrator Mitchell Walbridge requested to add a food truck request for the Preston EMS Annual Picnic under New Business. A motion was made by Member Wade to approve the agenda with the requested addition; Member Cullen seconded the motion. All members voted in favor by roll call vote; motion carried.

B. Public Comments: No public comments were received.

C. Approval of Minutes:

- a. Minutes of Regular Meeting, April 6, 2026
- b. Minutes of the LBOAE Meeting, April 14, 2026

A motion was made by Member Wade to approve the minutes of both meetings as presented; Member Albrecht-Benson seconded the motion. During discussion, Member Bakke questioned whether the minutes of the April 6, 2026 meeting were correct regarding Member Albrecht-Benson’s motion to increase the Lanesboro Fire Relief Association’s pension benefit level. City Administrator Walbridge stated he would review for accuracy and that the City Council should defer approval until details of the minutes are verified.

A motion was made by Mayor Pearson to amend the original motion to only approve the minutes from the April 14, 2026 meeting; Member Wade seconded the motion. All members voted in favor by roll call vote to amend the motion; motion carried.

On the amended motion, all members voted in favor by roll call vote; motion carried to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2026 meeting.

D. Consent Agenda:

- a. Accounts Payable
- b. Lanesboro Arts Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – June 6, 2026
- c. Lanesboro Arts Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – June 20, 2026
- d. Lanesboro Arts Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – July 11, 2026
- e. Lanesboro Arts Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – August 8, 2026
- f. Lanesboro Arts Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – October 10, 2026
- g. Lanesboro Arts Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – October 24, 2026
- h. Lanesboro Arts Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – November 7, 2026
- i. Accept Grants from Lanesboro Area Community Foundation
- j. Resolution 2026-33 – Governing Write-In Vote Counting

A motion was made by Member Albrecht-Benson to approve the Consent Agenda; Member Bakke seconded the motion. All members voted in favor by roll call vote; motion carried.

Continued Business

A. Consider Purchase and Sharing Agreement for DuraPatcher: Administrator Walbridge explained he went through the agreement with both Chatfield City Administrator Michele Peterson and Stewartville

City Administrator Bill Schimmel. Grammatical corrections were made as the agreement would be between three parties. Administrator Walbridge also discussed the sharing agreement and scheduling. Based on his conversations with the other cities' management, no concerns regarding the schedule sharing have ever been brought forth.

A motion was made by Mayor Pearson to approve the City of Lanesboro entering the DuraPatcher Agreement; Member Wade seconded the motion. All members voted in favor by roll call vote; motion carried.

New Business

- A. Consider Application for Simple Lot Split for Parcel ID 190398100:** Administrator Walbridge presented an application from Richard and Cheryl Lamon to split their lot at 811 Auburn Avenue South into two lots. Recommendation from the Lanesboro Planning and Zoning Commission was to approve the application contingent upon receipt of recorded utility and access easements as the new parcel would be landlocked. Administrator Walbridge also stated he spoke with adjacent property owner Linda Schrupp, 801 Parkway Avenue South, who questioned the survey stakes on her east property line. Administrator Walbridge stated that while the split may be approved, the City Council's decision does not determine the property lines. The two parties would need to work together to determine the official boundary.

A motion was made by Member Wade to approve the simple lot split application; Member Albrecht-Benson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor by roll call vote; motion carried.

A motion was made by Mayor Pearson to adopt Resolution 2026-30 Approving a Simple Lot Split for Parcel ID 19.0398.100; Member Bakke seconded the motion. All members voted in favor by roll call vote; motion carried.

- B. Consider Application for Conditional Use Permit for Parcel ID 190205000:** Administrator Walbridge presented an application from Michelle Leon of Rivers Retreat LLC for the property at 109 Elmwood Street East. Recommendation from the Lanesboro Planning and Zoning Commission was to deny the application based on findings of fact that the proposed use of short-term vacation dwelling unit lodging is neither a permitted nor conditional use per the City's land use ordinance.

A motion was made by Member Albrecht-Benson to deny the application; Member Wade seconded the motion. During discuss, Member Wade asked about other properties within the residential zoning districts that may operate as vacation dwelling units. Administrator Walbridge explained that the properties referenced by the applicant fall under a legal non-conforming use and are grandfathered in by previous versions of the land use ordinance code. All members voted in favor by roll call vote; motion carried.

A motion was made by Mayor Pearson to adopt Resolution 2026-32 Denying a Conditional Use Permit for Parcel ID 19.0205.000; Member Wade seconded the motion. All members voted in favor by roll call vote; motion carried.

- C. Consider Replacement of Public Works Truck:** Public Works Director David Haugen submitted a request to replace the current Public Works pickup per the City's vehicle replacement schedule. After receiving bids, staff recommend approval of a bid from Decorah Chevrolet for a 2026 Chevrolet Silverado 3500HD. The after-trade-in price is \$18,870. In addition, Director Haugen requested purchase of attachments, lighting apparatuses, and tires totaling \$5,653. Administrator Walbridge reviewed the department's vehicle replacement fund balance with the City Council.

A motion was made by Member Bakke to award the bid to Decorah Chevrolet and approve the purchase; Mayor Pearson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor by roll call vote; motion carried.

A motion was made by Mayor Pearson to approve the purchase of the additional equipment for the truck; Member Bakke seconded the motion. All members voted in favor by roll call vote; motion carried.

- D. Consider Donation Request from Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation:** A motion was made by Member Wade to donate \$500 to the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation; Member Bakke seconded the motion. All members voted in favor by roll call vote; motion carried.
- E. Discuss Local Board of Appeals and Equalization:** At the request of the City Council, Administrator Walbridge presented information on the Open Book Meeting format versus the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization. Members were in favor of transitioning to the Open Book Meeting format on a three-year trial basis. Members noted that in nearly all considerations of making a property value adjustment, they rely on the input and expertise of the county assessor. Administrator Walbridge stated he would draft a resolution for the next regular meeting to initiate the Open Book Meeting format change. A motion was made by Member Wade to table the discussion; Member Albrecht-Benson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor by roll call vote; motion carried.
- F. Preston EMS Food Truck Request:** Preston EMS is holding its community and member picnic in June. Because this is a public event, Preston EMS leadership requested that the city licensing requirements for Stumpys be waived for the one-time event. A motion was made by Member Bakke to waive the City's mobile food unit license for the event; Member Wade seconded the motion. All members voted in favor via roll call vote; motion carried.

Mayor Pearson adjourned the meeting at 5:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell Walbridge
City Administrator/Clerk