

**Lanesboro City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 6, 2026 – 6:00 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

Public Hearing: The Lanesboro City Council held a public hearing regarding its consideration of the transfer of powers and duties of the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization to the Fillmore County Board of Commissioners. The action is pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 274.01, Subdivision 3, which authorizes a city to transfer the powers and duties of its Local Board of Appeal and Equalization to the county board.

Mayor Pearson called the public hearing to order at 6:00 p.m. No public comments were shared. Mayor Pearson closed the public hearing at 6:01 p.m.

A. Agenda Approval: City Administrator Mitchell Walbridge requested that two items be added to the Consent Agenda: approval of The Lanesboro Firemens Relief Association Temporary Liquor License application for July 31, 2026, and the year-to-date unaudited fund balances. A motion was made by Member Albrecht-Benson to approve the agenda with the two additions; Member Wade seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; motion carried.

B. Public Comments: Sandra Webb shared that the Lanesboro Community Theater is holding performances of *A Wrinkle in Time* in late July.

C. Approval of Minutes:

- a. Minutes of Regular Meeting, June 1, 2026
- b. Minutes of Special Meeting, June 11, 2026

A motion was made by Member Bakke to approve the minutes as presented; Member Wade seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; motion carried.

D. Consent Agenda:

- a. Accounts Payable
- b. Resolution 2026-36 Accepting Donations for the Lanesboro Fire Department
- c. Resolution 2026-37 Appointing Election Judges for the Primary Election of August 11, 2026 and General Election of November 3, 2026
- d. The Lanesboro Firemens Relief Association Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – July 31, 2026-August 1, 2026
- e. FY2026 Unaudited Fund Balances

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

A motion was made by Member Albrecht-Benson to resume the open session; Member Wade seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; motion carried. The meeting resumed in open session at 6:22 p.m.

Continued Business

A. Discuss Managed IT and Cybersecurity Services: Administrator Walbridge requested that this item be tabled in order to consult further with the City’s loss control consultant from the League of Minnesota

Cities Insurance Trust. A motion was made by Member Wade to table discussion; Member Bakke seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; motion carried.

- B. Consider Resolution 2026-38 Ratification of Lanesboro Fire Relief Association Pension Benefit Level:** A motion was made by Member Wade to adopt Resolution 2026-38 which would increase the pension benefit level to \$1,950; Member Albrecht-Benson seconded the motion. Members Albrecht-Benson, Wade, Cullen, and Pearson voted in favor while Member Bakke abstained; motion carried.
- C. Consider Resolution 2026-37 Transferring Powers and Duties of Local Board of Appeal and Equalization:** A motion was made by Member Wade to adopt Resolution 2026-37; Mayor Pearson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; motion carried.

New Business

- A. Consider Zoning Commission's Recommendation to Grant Variance for Parcel ID 190300010 – 603-1/2 Auburn Avenue South:** A motion was made by Member Wade to adopt Resolution 2026-40 and approve the corresponding building permit; Mayor Pearson seconded the motion. Administrator Walbridge explained that the variance would allow the property owner to construct a 6-foot privacy fence in the rear yard and side yard while fence heights are restricted to a 4-foot maximum height in residential zoning districts. All members voted in favor; motion carried.
- B. Consider Zoning Commission's Recommendation to Grant Variance for Parcel ID 190247000 – 302 Kirkwood Street East:** A motion was made by Member Albrecht-Benson to adopt Resolution 2026-41 and approve the corresponding building permit; Member Bakke seconded the motion. Administrator Walbridge explained that the variance would allow the property owner to construct an enclosed screen porch within two feet of the front property line. The normal front yard set back is 30 feet. All members voted in favor; motion carried.
- C. Consider Purchase of Street Sweeper:** Public Works Director David Haugen stated the City's 2006 Elgin Pelican Street Sweeper has had significant mechanical setbacks and is at the end of its useful life. Director Haugen investigated both new and used street sweeper options for a replacement. Given availability of sweepers and the Vehicle Replacement Fund balance, Director Haugen recommended the purchase of a 2019 Elgin Pelican Street Sweeper from MacQueen Group. Director Haugen explained the unit would be mobilized from its current location in Michigan, brought to Minneapolis for a maintenance inspection, and then he would inspect the unit prior to finalizing the purchase. A motion was made by Mayor Pearson to approve the purchase of the 2019 Elgin Pelican Street Sweeper at a cost of \$153,000; Member Albrecht-Benson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; motion carried.
- D. Consider Park Board Recommendation to Replace Water Heater at City Hall:** Administrator Walbridge shared a quote from Vis Plumbing and Heating for an 80-gallon commercial water heater. During the review of the estimate, Member Bakke expressed that he would like to see additional quotes from other vendors. A motion was made by Member Albrecht-Benson to table discussion to allow for additional quotes to be obtained; Member Cullen seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; motion carried.
- E. Consider Authorizing Minnesota PERA Cost Analysis for Statewide Volunteer Firefighter Plan:** Administrator Walbridge explained that the Board of Trustees of the Lanesboro Firemens Relief Association requested a PERA Cost Analysis, an informational step for transitioning from an association Special Fund for pensions to the state-managed PERA pension plan. A motion was made by Member Albrecht-Benson to authorize the cost analysis; Member Wade seconded the motion. Members Albrecht-Benson, Wade, Cullen, and Pearson voted in favor and Member Bakke abstained; motion carried.
- F. Consider Easement Agreements for North Bluff Holiday Tree:** Administrator Walbridge explained that there is no formalized private drive access for the City to maintain the holiday tree on the north bluff that is located on the Amdahl property. Prior to any further maintenance or improvement for the tree, Administrator Walbridge recommended securing easements from property owners to access the tree.

A motion was made by Mayor Pearson to approve the City entering into the easement agreements drafted by Attorney O’Koren; Member Bakke seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; motion carried.

G. Consider Revolving Loan Fund Application from Village Depot, Inc.: Administrator Walbridge presented the EDA Board’s recommendation to issue an EDA loan to Village Depot, Inc. for \$10,000 with a five-year repayment term at two-percent interest. Funds would be used for a roof replacement at 117 Parkway Avenue North. A motion was made by Member Albrecht-Benson to issue the loan of \$10,000 with a five-year repayment term at two-percent interest; Mayor Pearson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor; motion carried.

Mayor Pearson adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell Walbridge
City Administrator/Clerk