

**MINUTES OF REGULAR
MEETING NEW ROCKFORD
CITY COMMISSION
NEW ROCKFORD,
NORTH DAKOTA
NEW ROCKFORD CITY HALL
AUGUST 3, 2026**

President Richter called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at City Hall. Commissioners Fleming and Belquist were present, along with City Attorney Peterson, City Auditor Presnell, Public Works Superintendent Hirschert, and Water Plant Manager Coenen.

Belquist made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of junk vehicles and a housing incentive application for Denae and Bradley Hillebrand. Fleming seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Richter made a motion to approve the July 6, 2026, regular meeting minutes, and the July 21, 2026, special meeting minutes. Belquist seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Richter made a motion to approve the financial report. Fleming seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Fleming made a motion to approve the July bills. Belquist seconded the motion. In a roll call vote, Richter, Fleming, and Belquist voted "aye." No nay votes. Motion carried.

4th Corporation	175.00
Banyon Data Systems...	2,991.75
Cash & Carry Lumber	40.46
CenDak Cooperative	4,262.18
Dakota Dust-Tex	47.40
Duchscherer Supply	210.21
Eddy Co. Auditor	14,639.00
Electric Pump	26,848.26
Ferguson Waterworks	151.34
Messner Gravel	590.00
Mid-American Research	
Chemical	1,198.64
Miller Fresh Foods	21.56
New Rockford NAPA	57.96
ND One Call	75.00
ND Chemistry Lab	20.39
New Rockford Transcript.	927.41
Warren Implement	126.00
Yri Electric	556.28
Aqua-Pure	7,000.00
CCU	1,194.53
NR Park District	7,489.60
NRABC	9,897.13

US Postmaster	260.00
BCBS	8,618.90
AT&T	267.64

MDU	823.97
ND Tax Commissioner	100.00
NDTC	569.11
Bank Forward	4.00
Grand Forks Utility	52.00
Waste Management ...	17,387.43
Otter Tail Power Co	6,110.78
IRS	6,197.46
NDPERS	3,572.51
ND Child Support	614.00
Bruce Hirschert	4,227.95
Jason Munson	3,054.39
Andrew Presnell	4,151.99
Ian Coenen	2,789.60
Madisen Myhre	498.69
Kendal Swantek	188.06
Richard Swenson	1,685.39
Taylor Anderson	1,953.93
Susie Sharp	1,701.59
Bank Forward	47.40

City Division Reports:

Public Works Superintendent Hirschert presented his report to the commission. Public works staff have been preparing a nuisance items list, spraying for mosquitoes, and mowing ditches. Hirschert has been working on quotes for renovations at the Brown Memorial. Richter made a motion to accept the report. Fleming seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

City Librarian Susie Sharp presented her annual report to the commission. Sharp handed out an informational packet for commissioners and reviewed inventory, patrons, building maintenance, and other items. Sharp requested that the commission appoint Nancy Ritzke to the open seat on the Library Board. Richter made a motion to appoint Nancy Ritzke to the Library Board. Fleming seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. Richter made a motion to accept the report. Belquist seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Water Plant Manager Coenen presented his report to the commission. Aqua Pure was at the water plant and replaced membranes on the reverse osmo-

sis machines; additional valves were installed at the water plant. Commissioners asked Coenen about cybersecurity at the water plant. Coenen informed the commission of current security. Commissioners instructed City Auditor Presnell to reach out to NRG for options for additional cybersecurity at the water plant. Richter made a motion to accept the report. Belquist seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

City Auditor Presnell presented his report to the commission. Presnell has been working on the 2027 preliminary budget, updating the lead service line inventory, and submitting a WSI claim. Fleming made a motion to accept the report. Richter seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business:

GIS mapping was discussed. Interstate Engineering was here on Monday, Thursday, and Friday last week, starting to input curb stop locations. A discussion was held about having North Dakota Rural Water return to help locate curb stops.

Substandard/Nuisance houses were discussed. Hirschert stated he found eight houses that could meet the criteria. Hirschert will provide the list to the commissioners to review.

The City Hall construction was discussed. The liens on the proposed property were discussed. Attorney Peterson informed the commission that Collection Center, Inc accepted the city's offer of \$2,000.00. Richter made a motion to pay Collection Center, Inc \$2,000.00. Belquist seconded the motion. Discussion was held; Attorney Peterson stated that he would pay the amount out of his law office trust account and have the city reimburse his office. All were in favor. Motion carried. Attorney Peterson also informed the commission that he had a draft purchase agreement.

Junk vehicles were discussed. Attorney Peterson said the city can send a 48-hour notice on the remaining vehicles

from last year.

New Business:

Fleming made a motion to approve the housing incentive for Denae and Bradley Hillebrand.

Belquist seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Richter made a motion to approve a building permit for Neal Rud. Belquist seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Richter made a motion to approve the excavating permit for William and Kelly McKnight. Belquist seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Fleming made a motion to approve the special event permit for the New Rockford Eagles Club pending receipt of the required paperwork. Belquist seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Belquist made a motion to approve the street closure request for the Community Ambulance Service of New Rockford. Fleming seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Presnell informed the commission that PRC Wind would like to discuss the option of moving to a month- to-month office lease instead of a yearly lease. Attorney Peterson will review the current lease agreement and work with Presnell on a new lease.

Richter made a motion to

approve the Bank of North Dakota loan documents. Fleming seconded the motion. Discussion was held on the documents; Attorney Peterson reviewed the documents and had no concerns. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Presnell and Hirschert presented a grant opportunity for the lagoon. Fleming made a motion to approve moving forward with the grant. Richter seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Street light charges were discussed. Presnell presented a report to the commissioners showing the deficit on streetlight charges due to rising electrical costs from Ottertail Power Company and presented proposed new rates. Richter made a motion to approve the 94% rate increase for streetlights due to the increase in costs from Ottertail Power Company. Fleming seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Richter made a motion to approve the pledge of securities. Fleming seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Richter made a motion to move the September regular commission meeting from September 7, 2026, to September 14, 2026, at 9:00 am at City Hall. Belquist seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The 2027 preliminary budget was reviewed. Belquist made a

motion to approve the 2027 preliminary budget. Fleming seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Richter made a motion to set the 2027 budget hearing for September 14, 2026, 9:00 am at City Hall. Fleming seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A proposed ordinance for motorized scooters was reviewed. Belquist made a motion to approve the first reading of city ordinance Chapter 13 Traffic – Article 12.1 – Regulation of Motorized Scooters with the addition of rules of the road under 13-12.1-04. Richter seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A proposed ordinance for shipping containers was reviewed. Changes were discussed. Peterson will draft a new proposal and present it to the commission.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

The next regular meeting will be on September 14, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at City Hall.

Stuart Richter,
President
Andrew Presnell,
Auditor

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