

LARIMORE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Larimore City Council
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2026 @ 7pm

The city council met on Monday, July 6, 2026 @ 7pm located at 119 Booth Ave., City Hall Council Chambers for Reorganizational Meeting & Regular Monthly Meeting. FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING: August 3, 2026, for Regular Scheduled Meeting.

I. Roll Call/Welcomes: Meeting was called to order by Mayor Dean Elfman., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call: Joey Voelker, John Suchor, Dave Garton, Tim Tuma, Dean Hoover-absent, Tanner Knudson-absent, Mayor Elfman. Also present: City Supervisor JJ Nesdahl, Auditor Mikki Behm, Deputy Auditor Lynette VanInwegen, Deputy Prudhomme, Deputy Stromberg, and Attorney Joe Quinn. Guests Present: Stephen Bolen, Ron Swanson, Stephen Hemington, James Roach, Lindsey Voelker, Paige Anderson, Chris Pearce, Alex Lehman, Ron Miller, Donna Kuhl, William Schroeder, Heather Fuglem, Charlene Sather.

II. Reorganizational Meeting:

a. Oaths of Office were completed by Wade Hursman-Ward 2 Council Representative. Lindsey Voelker, Chris Pearce, and Paige Anderson for Larimore Park District four-year term.

III. Appointments:

a. M/S/C(TT/JV) Motion to appoint Michelle (Mikki) Behm as City Auditor.

b. M/S/C(JS/DG) Motion to appoint Lynette VanInwegen as Deputy Auditor.

c. M/S/C(DG/JS) Motion to appoint Joseph Quinn as City Attorney.

IV. M/S/C(JS/TT) Motion to appoint Dave Garton as City Council President.

V. M/S/C(DG/TT) Motion to appoint Joey Voelker as City Council Vice President.

VI. M/S/C(TT/JV) Motion to approve City Auditor-Mikki Behm, Deputy Auditor -Lynette VanInwegen, Mayor-Dean Elfman and President of Council-Dave Garton as signers for all city bank accounts & CDS with Old National Bank.

VII. M/S/C(WH/TT) Motion to accept appointments of committees by Mayor Dean Elfman

i. Budget/Finance/Audit: Chair Tim Tuma. Members Joey Voelker & Wade Hursman

ii. Public Safety-Fire Dept./Ambulance:

Chair Wade Hursman. Members Dave Garton & Tim Tuma

iii. Infrastructure: Chair Joey Voelker. Members John Suchor & Dean Hoover

iv. Health-Sanitation/Health Landfill: Chair Dave Garton. Members Wade Hursman & Dean Hoover.

v. Employee Committee: Chair John Suchor. Members Tim Tuma & Dave Garton

vi. Planning & Vision-Forestry: Chair Dean Hoover. Members John Suchor & Joey Voelker

vii. Planning/Zoning: Chair Ray Fegter. Members Mark Williamson, Bruce Melby, Stephen Hemington, Tanner Knudson

VIII. Commissions/Boards/Committees:
a. Airport Commission: Wayne Knudson, Todd Yahna, Jesse Morten, Troy Pietron. Brittany Morten-Secretary, Tim Tuma-Council Rep.

b. Library Board: Heather Fuglem-President. Jennifer Fryman-Treasurer. Members Jenny McLean, Kaitlyn Kluck. Librarian Melissa Lehman, Council Rep John Suchor.

c. Larimore Park Board: JJ Nesdahl-President, Mikki Behm-Vice President, Lindsey Voelker, Chris Pearce, Paige Anderson.

d. Tree Committee: Chair: Rosemary Hoover. Members Dean Hoover, Teresa and John Gorman, Hazel Sletten.

e. Advisory Committee: High School Representative Kal Triplett, EDC Terry Smith, LACAC Desni Morland, Park Board Rep JJ Nesdahl, City Council Rep Dave Garton.

f. Star Fund Committee Representative:

i. Stephanie Hougen-Old National Bank Representative

ii. John Suchor-Council representative

iii. Paul Bernardy, Dominic Capp, Dave Rustebakke-3 Members at Large

g. EDC: Jenna Kylo, President. Tim Larson-Vice President. Paul Mutch-Secretary. Brittany Zahradka-Treasurer. Andy Landman & Terry Smith-Board Members.

IX. M/S/C(TT/JV) Motion to approve Grand Forks County Assessor's Office as City of Larimore's Assessor.

X. M/S/C(DG/JS) Motion to adjourn reorganizational meeting.

XI. Regular Monthly Council Meeting

Opened by Mayor Dean Elfman

XII. Roll Call: Joey Voelker, Dave Garton, John Suchor, Tim Tuma, Dean Hoover-Absent, Wade Hursman, Mayor Elfman.

XIII. Sealed Bid Opening for new Eastview Second Addition Lot #5, Parcel #46-1502-00005-000. M/S/C(TT/JV) Motion to accept Mr. Gemmill's sealed bid for Eastview Second Addition Lot #5 for \$101.00.

XIV. Consent Agenda: M/S/C (DG/JS) Motion to approve Consent Agenda which includes regular city council meeting minutes June 1, 2026 and Auditor's Financial Reports for April and May 2026.

XV. Approval for payment of Bills:

a. #70749-70811: D. Garton 554.10, D. Hoover 554.10, D. Elfman 815.15, J. Suchor 554.10, J. Voelker 554.10, P. Rosenquist 176.85, T. Knudson 554.10, T. Tuma 554.10, EFTPS 3508.80, CHS Ag Service 157., ECRWD 8595.80, Mutch Gas 729.13, Midcontinent Communications 206.77, GF Utility Billing 70., Waste Management 20039.16, Aflac 427.84, ND Pers Retire 3351.14, ND Pers Health 5757.76, Johnson Publishing 426.60, Larimore Insurance Agency 33., Century Link 106.91, Menards 37.65, Vesperis 893.20, ND One-Call 27.90, Advanced Engineering 71., Bernardy Insurance 8626., Corporate Technologies 213.92, GF County Sheriffs 12269.37, USPS 261.42, Larimore Park Board 2142.39, J. Pearce 1240.39, EFTPS 2813.20, Verizon 86.64, Advanced Business Methods 236.05, Tim Sheas Nursery 245., Xcel Energy 2254.19, Dakkota Natural Gas 108.55, Menards 45.85, Colonial Life 124.42, FireHose Dist 111.36, Structural Materials 1546.02, Zoro Tools 91.47, B. Carlson 421.90, J Skjoldal 66.79, EFTPS 132.74, P. Rosenquist 176.83, EFTPS 2811.76, Acme Tools 38.12, Auto Value 726.64, Breidenbach Excavating 7747.69, Century Link Qcc 1.45, c. Sather 80., ECRWD 9744.20, Elan Financial Services 113.75, Great outdoors Septic 100., Larimore Flower 74.84, Menards 466.61, ND One-Call 25.50, NDHC 185., Riteway Business Forms 220.29, Sanitation products 422.44, Xcel Energy 788.08.

b. M/S/C(DG/JV) Motion to approve payment of monthly bills. Roll Call: D. Garton-yay, T. Tuma-yay, J. Voelker-yay,

J. Suchor-yay, W. Hursman-yay. Motion carried.

XVI. Building Permit(s): Jim & Michelle Roach x2, Alex Mutch, JJ Nesdahl, Don Scheitel, Jon Falch, Konuk Rentals LLC, Tumbleweed Bar, Lee Jacob-

son, Troy Deplazes, Benre Vanderwalt, Mitchell Voight Demo Permit with asbestos test report.

XVII. Raffle Permits: M/S/C(DG/JV) Motion to approve raffle permit for the Polar Bear Booster Club.

XVIII. M/S/C(TT/JS) Motion to approve Beer Garden Permit for Tumbleweed Bar

XIX. Star Fund:

a. Meeting Minutes & Recommendations

b. M/S/C(JS/JV) Motion to approve the recommendations of the Star Fund Committee and issue checks to: City of Larimore for \$15,000 grant for the Living Local App build; \$10,000 loan and \$2000 grant for Kiera Moore for bringing her hair care business to Larimore to help with startup, inventory, and signage.

XX. Public Comment/Guests:

a. Heather Fuglem, United Way (Larimore Food Pantry)-United Way of Grand Forks/East Grand Forks assumed operation of the Larimore Food Pantry and has expanded its inventory, modernized operations, improved organization, and increased community partnership. Following the United Way's involvement, volunteers reorganized the pantry, expanded storage, improved food selection, and created a welcoming shopping experience for families. The number of households served has increased by 228%, which has continued to increase over the last three years. The food pantry now serves 14 communities across 4 counties. With the continued increase in need and storage, United Way is looking into a Bricks & Mortar Grant through Department of Commerce to find a bigger building to purchase that would allow for even more storage of shelf-stable items when it comes to ordering from the Great Plains Food Bank. If anyone would like to volunteer, or even donate to the Larimore Food Pantry, please get in contact with Heather Fuglem. Donations can be dropped at City Hall as well.

b. Stephen Bolen- spoke on his opinion of E-bikes and suggested to the city council to hold a training session with kids to share the law for properly operating E-Bikes, etc.

Stephen also brought up door to door mailing and suggested the city investigate having pods of mailboxes instead of requiring residents to have a PO box.

c. William Schroeder-noticed the airport has a new windsock. Discussed with the council the airport authority, and requested that when they hold their meetings, that their minutes get published with the next city council meeting minutes. Tim Tuma is the council representative of the airport authority and will pass that information along at their next meeting.

XXI. Report on Law Enforcement: Deputy Prudhomme. Total calls for service for the month were 129. There were 11 EMS related calls, 7 suspicious activity calls, and 28 traffic stops for the month. Deputy Mlnarik has turned in his resignation, and his last day will be July 15th. Interviews have been conducted and they have applicants that they have extended offers to. Chief Deputy Stromberg was out and informed the City Council on NDCC 53-02-08, security rules and regulations for public dances and festivals. The city council has agreed to put the agreement in the renewal packets for the bar establishments' annual beer and liquor license renewals.

a. Monthly LE Report: M/S/C (JS/DG) Motion to accept the monthly Law Enforcement Report.

XXII. Report from Public Works Supervisor: Jeremy Nesdahl. Landfill permit application was sent into the State

for approval. We do need a zoning map/ordinance stating the status of the landfill, so if we can turn this over to planning and zoning to get this taken care of. Would like the council to discuss the mowing ordinance. There are repeat properties that the city is constantly having to take care of and charge, and then no payment and assessed to property taxes. Attorney Joe informed the council by the penalty provision for the entire Chapter that the city can enforce as an infraction where property owner will be cited to come to court subject to a fine up to \$1,000.00. JD Tractor has been picked up, and the new leased tractor is sitting in Grand Forks until the updated contract is completed and then they will deliver. JJ will follow up with JD this week to see what the plan is. Secondary lift station has had issues about 3-4 times lately where fuses have blown. Luckily JJ has caught it before it caused any issues, however it's

not sending alert to the city cell phone like it's supposed to. Alarm alerts haven't been going through due to a Verizon change with text to email, so AE2S is going to investigate revamping alarm system so we get the actual alerts. City equipment has been over at baseball field helping set backstop poles. Lewis Avenue pavement hole is not coming back up, and by winter something is going to be done so equipment doesn't catch it and peel back asphalt. Last year it bounced back after the frost was out but this year it hasn't come back. Need to look at.

a. M/S/C (TT/JV) Accept the City Maintenance Report

XXIII. Reports and Comments from TASK/ASSIGNMENTS

a. **Budget/Finance/Audit:** Budget meeting will be on Thursday, July 9th at 4 p.m. at City Hall.

b. **Public Safety-Fire Dept., Ambulance Disaster Readiness:** Fire Department meeting is 2nd Monday of the month. Since Wade is new to council, if he wants to attend. There was a DNG leak in Hillsboro where someone dug through a 4" main, and their fire department wasn't sure on hand to handle it. DNG is willing to come out and cover processes with the fire department.

c. **Infrastructure-Streets/Sewer/Water/Alleys/Lights-** Streetscape Project

Update Tuesday, July 7th at 1 p.m. will start as a Virtual meeting and then onsite tour for anyone that is able to attend. Facility Plan & SRF funding-decision needs to be made. M/S/C(JV/WH) Motion to move forward with facility plan by AE2S and to apply for the SRF funding.

d. Employee/Personnel-N/A

e. Health-Sanitation/Health/Landfill-Landfill Application was submitted to the State by Mikki and JJ

f. **Planning and Vision-Bldg & Ground, Forestry, Ordinances-RCI** Grant was received. Information was sent to Hazel and Rosemary.

XXIV. Attorney's Report- Joe Quinn: N/A

XXV. Unfinished Business/New Business:

a. Water Tower Agreement from AT&T for maintenance/modifications. City Council is not going to approve this until the individual entity that we've hired to maintain our water tower, H&H Coatings, approves the contract, and they're not going to approve it until they receive payment

from the requestor, in this case AT&T. Curtis needs to reach out to H&H and make payment and then everything will be signed.

b. M/S/C(JV/TT) Motion to sell city parcel #46-1501-00043-000 located in Eastview Addition, Lot 13, Block 2 for \$50.00 to Joel & Susan Piatz contingent upon Planning and Zoning's recommendation to rezone the parcel to commercial or the sale will be null and void and ownership will revert back to the City of Larimore.

c. Larimore Days Monday July 13th - Sunday, July 19th. City Hall will be closed to the public on the 16th & 17th.

d. Registration for NDLC Fall Conference due by August 2, 2026 (let Auditor know if you plan to attend) Conference date is September 16-17, 2026 @ the Alerus. They have an elected official's workshop that would be beneficial to all council members.

XXVI. M/S/C(DG/TT) Motion to adjourn.

These minutes are unofficial until approved by the city council.

Mikki Behm, City Auditor.