MINUTES
Northome City Council
Meeting Minutes
June 10th, 2026
6:00 pm
Northome City Hall

Staff Present: Pete Bender (Public Works), Angel Stradtmann (Bar Manager), Tess Skiles (Clerk), Aarin Reinarz (Training Bar Manager)
Others Present: Sarah Lindley (Resident), Malisa Schue (Resident), Jerry Bolin (Karvakko), Courtney Moyer (Resident), Lynn Hunt (Bartender)
Present: Mayor Karen Olson, Jamie Skoe, Danci Lindley, Merritt Montgomery
Not Present: Cole VanBeusekom

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Karen Olson. This meeting was recorded.

Open Forum- None

Agenda Items.....

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

2. Motion made by Councilor Skoe to accept the June 10th, 2026 Agenda. Seconded by Councilor Montgomery. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery. Voting No: None. Motion Carried.

3. Motion made by Councilor Montgomery to approve the May 13th, 2026 meeting minutes. Seconded by Councilor Skoe. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

4. Karvakko
   *Motion made by Councilor Skoe to approve the semi-final pay application from Gladden Construction for the airport obstruction removal project. Seconded by Councilor Montgomery. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery. Voting No: None. Motion carried.
   *Motion made by Councilor Montgomery to approve the surveyor proposal for the legal description for the new airport hangar being built by Ryan Good. Seconded by Councilor Skoe. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery. Voting No: None. Motion carried.
   *ALP is set to be completed by the end of summer
   *Tiedown design is done; MnDOT needs to approve plans, then bidding can begin
   *Karvakko has not been able to get in contact with the contractor who had bid on the campground bathroom project. Jerry will resolicit bids by posting online, in the local paper, as well as papers in surrounding areas, and he will also send the plans to the previous bidders again.

5. Koochiching County Agricultural Association (Karen Olson)
   *See attachment for written proposal by Mayor Karen Olson requesting donation on behalf of the Koochiching County Agricultural Association. She chose to abstain from the vote and remove herself from discussion.
   *Motion made by Councilor Skoe to donate $1,200 to the Koochiching County Agricultural Association general fund as well as 12 hours of city maintenance and equipment usage. Seconded by Councilor Montgomery. Voting Yes: Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery. Voting No: None. Abstain: Olson. Motion carried.

6. Wage Discussion
   *Agreed to table wage discussion to next meeting.

7. Pete Bender (Public Works)
   *Let council know that the vaporizer for the 1,000 gal. propane tank that the city building currently uses will need replacing soon. Lifespan is about 7-10 years; the current vaporizer was installed in 2009. Cost is $14,000-$17,000. Pete will be getting more specific numbers for July's meeting.
   *Motion made by Councilor Lindley to approve Pete to hire part-time summer help, a minimum age of 16 years old at 15-20 hours per pay period. Pay is $15/hour. Seconded by Councilor Skoe. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery. Voting No: None. Motion carried.
   *Will be replacing the culvert behind the city building.

8. Angel Stradtmann (Bar Manager)
   *Sales up 10% from last year; May sales in 2025 were better than this year.
   * Memorial Day went well
   *Sunday sales are inconsistent
   *Has been having to use a bag of coins from the laundromat change machine to help with making change for laundromat patrons because the change machine was out of order. Pete did get this fixed yesterday – June 9th
   *Meat raffles and pig races going well.
   *Chad's Meat Wagon will be returning on June 26th, and is scheduled to return for a couple of the following meat raffles
   *Alcohol awareness training is still in the process of being scheduled.
   *Motion made by Councilor Montgomery to approve Angel's official resignation from the position of Liquor Store Manager, last day being July 6th, 2026. Seconded by Councilor Lindley. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

9. Training Manager Evaluation – CLOSED
   *Aarin requested that this portion of the meeting remain open.
   *There have been 3 write-ups at Aarin's expense, and 1 employee complaint. Aarin reportedly neglected his closing duties, returning the next morning to finish, and also did not count pull tabs correctly over the past weekend.
   *Aarin acknowledged these mistakes and explained the reasoning. Did not count pull tabs because he did not use them. He meant to come in earlier in the morning to clean; he had a late and very busy shift the night before. He also acknowledged that these reasons do not excuse these mistakes.
   *Sarah Lindley pointed out that Aarin donated his time to come in the next morning to clean. She also pointed out that if pull tabs were incorrect, Ridge Runner Snowmobile Club would be involved.
   *Aarin let council know that he did get in contact with Ridge Runners and confirmed that there were no issues with the Monday audit.
   *Aarin also let council know he often cleans Sunday morning after Saturday nights, pointing out this does save on payroll.
   *Also stated he is very remorseful about how the situation happened.

*Councilor Montgomery suggested a training checklist
*Mayor Olson suggested Aarin and Councilor Montgomery meet to get an idea of what reports should be analyzed from the POS system.

10. Administrative:
*Motion made by Councilor Montgomery to approve the updated Personnel Policy, stating that the municipal liquor store will be closed on Easter Sunday, which is an unpaid, non-federal holiday. Seconded by Councilor Lindley. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery. Voting No: None. Motion carried.
*Motion made by Councilor Skoe to approve the Fire Dept.'s temporary liquor license for the 2026 Koochiching County Fair on the dates of August 7th-9th. Seconded by Councilor Lindley. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

11. Financials:
*Motion made by Councilor Lindley to approve the city's monthly financial reports. Seconded by Councilor Montgomery. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery. Voting No: None. Motion carried.
*Motion made by Councilor Skoe to approve claim #'s 11,989-12,034 and Expenditures. Seconded by Councilor Montgomery. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

12. Motion made by Councilor Skoe to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilor Montgomery. Voting Yes: Olson, Skoe, Lindley, Montgomery. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

These are the official minutes of the June 10th, 2026 Northome City Council Meeting.

Karen Olson
Mayor

Attest: Lisa Skeels
City Clerk/Treasurer

Koochiching County Agricultural Association
12103 Hwy 71
PO Box 183
Northome, MN 56661

June 4, 2026

City of Northome
PO Box 65
Northome, MN 56661

Attn: Northome City Council

Dear Council Members,

As in the past, the Koochiching County Agricultural Association (aka Ag Assn) is requesting a donation from the City of Northome for $1200.00 to assist with office operations at the Koochiching County Fair. The dates of the fair are August 7-9, 2026. → GENERAL FUND

We would also like to request up to twelve (12) hours of city equipment usage and manpower prior to the fair as needed. We would coordinate our needs with the schedule of the Public Works Department.

We appreciate your consideration of our request.

Regards,

Karen Olson

Karen Olson, President
Koochiching County Agricultural Association