MINUTES
Northome City Council
Meeting Minutes
May 13th, 2026
6:00 pm
Northome City Hall

Staff Present: Tess Skiles (clerk), Angel Stradtmann (Bar Manager), Pete Bender (Public Works)
Others Present: Jerry Bolin (Karvakko)
Present: Mayor Karen Olson, Merritt Montgomery, Cole VanBeusekom
Not Present: Jamie Skoe, Danci Lindley

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 VanBeusekom to accept the May 13th, 2026, Agenda. Seconded by Councilor Montgomery. Voting Yes: Olson, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion Carried.

3. Motion made by Councilor VanBeusekom to approve April 8th, 2026, meeting minutes. Seconded by Councilor Montgomery. Voting Yes: Olson, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

4. Motion made by Councilor Montgomery to approve April 23rd, 2026, special meeting minutes. Seconded by Mayor Olson. Voting Yes: Olson, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

5. Motion made by Councilor VanBeusekom to approve April 28th, 2026, special meeting minutes. Seconded by Mayor Olson. Voting Yes: Olson, VanBeusekom. Abstain: Montgomery. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

6. Karvakko
   *Submitted the previously discussed grant application to the MN Dept. of Health for the lift station project. Second grant opportunity with Dept. of Health will open later this month. The goal is to have Todavich start this project later this summer.
   *Received one quote for campground bathroom after resoliciting bids. Doug Jordan submitted a quote that came to about $140,000. Without the planned sewer structure, the quote would come down to about $120,000. Going to get together with Jordan to discuss cost-cutting – goal is $95,000. Another option would be to open for competitive bids, but that would push the project out at least another month.

*ALP is about 90% done.
*Gladden Construction has finished the tree removal part of the obstruction removal project, and bollard installation shall begin this upcoming Friday. Anticipating final payment next month, the project can then be closed out after all reimbursements are requested and received from MnDOT.
*Disk & level project came in at a much higher cost to do the entire runway. Jerry will be talking with NAR to see what can be done to cut that cost. Soliciting quotes next month.
*Soliciting quotes for the tie-down expansion project by the end of this month.
*Still waiting on the legal description for the Good's new hangar location to give to the city attorney for the land lease. MnDOT is good with the location of the hangar, which is included in the ALP.

7. Angel Stradtmann (Bar Manager)
*Received a portion of apparel that was ordered - t-shirts and long sleeves. Should be receiving sweatshirts soon.
*Sales are up 4% from last April and 15% from year to date.
*Meat raffles are going well, and Chad's Meat Wagon will start coming back for every meat raffle throughout the summer, beginning June 26th.
*Bringing in Lake of the Woods Pizza Company pizzas to try out. The average cost is $10.55, and it will be sold for $17.
*Fishing opener was not busy.
*Councilor Montgomery suggested doing an inventory on June 30th.
*Angel is willing to pick up shifts, every other Friday, day shift, after her retirement, would like a higher wage than the $12.50 starting wage for part-time bartender if she does do this.
*Wage negotiation discussion will be held at the June meeting.
*Clerk contacting Kristine Gustafson, a previous lead bartender applicant, to hopefully hire her for part-time bartending.
*Angel has been in contact with Hanna Albrecht, who was previously hired in 2024, about putting her back on the schedule for part-time hours.

8. Pete Bender (Public Works)
*The well in the pumphouse will need to be pulled due to electrolysis. Not sure exactly what repairs will need to be done until the well is pulled, will definitely need some piping replaced. It is affecting how chlorine is distributed in water. Pete will begin the process of getting this repair started.
*Getting a sprayer for weeds around the ponds
*The change machine in the Laundromat is currently not taking dollars; Pete is working on fixing the error that is showing up.

9. Administrative
*Motion made by Councilor VanBeusekom to approve Resolution 2026-05 to accept a parks & recreation donation. Seconded by Councilor Montgomery. Voting Yes: Olson, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion carried.
*Motion made by Councilor Montgomery to approve Resolution 2026-06 for graduation day proclamation. Seconded by Councilor VanBeusekom. Voting Yes: Olson, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion carried.
*Motion made by Councilor VanBeusekom to approve the updated quote from Wild North Construction for the pavilion project for $45,800. Seconded by Mayor Olson. Voting Yes: Olson, Montgomery (with reservation), VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

*Motion made by Councilor Montgomery to approve the gift of a new bottle pop vending machine from Nei Bottling for the Laundromat. Seconded by Councilor VanBeusekom. Voting Yes: Olson, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion carried.
*Mayor Olson noted that filing for the Mayor/Council member election this year must be done between July 14th and July 28th, and Mayor Olson will not be filing. The clerk will be contacting Bear Country Chronicles to post a reminder in the paper that filing is coming up.

10. Financials
*Motion made by Councilor Montgomery to approve the city's monthly financial reports. Seconded by Councilor VanBeusekom. Voting Yes: Olson, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion carried.
*Motion made by Councilor VanBeusekom to approve the 2026 claim #'s 11,930-11,988 and expenditures. Seconded by Councilor Montgomery. Voting Yes: Olson, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

11. Motion made by Councilor Montgomery to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilor VanBeusekom. Voting Yes: Olson, Montgomery, VanBeusekom. Voting No: None. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

These are the official minutes of the May 13th, 2026, Northome City Council Meeting.

Karen Olson
Mayor

Attest: Lisa Skiles
City Clerk/Treasurer