

City of Lismore
Minutes of the Council
September 8th, 2025

The following are the minutes of the City Council meeting held on September 8th, 2025. In attendance for the Council: Austin Garms, Ken Leinen, Ryan Schieck, Tory Bohlke & Mayor Andrew Fodness. Andrew Fodness called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was done.

On a motion by Ryan and seconded by Tory it was duly passed to approve the agenda. On a motion by Austin and seconded by Ryan it was duly passed to approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on August 11, 2025. Amber presented the financial statement which showed the deposits/invoices from the prior month to current.. On a motion by Tory and seconded by Austin it was duly passed to approve the financial statement, pay the invoices, approve bank statements and make the stated transfers.

Maintenance report – Josh gave the report – said fall clean-up is set for September 22nd. The dips in the road got filled and Josh wanted to give a big thanks again to those who helped – Cliff Altman, Galen Krogman and also Nobles County. It was brought up again about the curb stop by the shed/shop owned by Loosbrock Digging on main street that the valve was broke. It was discussed in the past but since it just looks like a new valve sleeve needs to be placed (like what we did on Chaz Kohorst curb stop) Council was fine with getting this done so on a motion by Ryan and seconded by Tory it was approved to fix the valve sleeve. On a motion by Ryan and seconded by Tory it was duly passed to fix the curb stop since it is broken and city responsibility. On a motion by Austin and seconded by Ryan it was duly passed to approve the Maintenance report.

Fire Department report – Jim was absent – Amber said that the Fire Department is applying for a FEMA grant for a battery-operated jaws of life. Still waiting to hear if the SCBA grant was approved or not so couldn't apply for those this next year just in case. New fire truck was purchased and Amber is working on getting the title filed and making sure if we need to pay sales tax or not since it is for the Fire Dept. On a motion by Tory and seconded by Austin it was duly passed to approve the Fire Dept report.

Amber Bertrand gave the clerks report – Amber received a letter from the MN Dept of Health in regards to the service connection fee which will be increasing 1/1/26. This fee is charged to each resident a month and is currently at \$0.93 or \$11.16 a year. It will increase to \$15.22 a year so increase on utility billing will go to \$1.27 a month or an extra \$0.34 overall a month increase. This is state mandated so nothing we can do but was just letting Council know of upcoming changes. On a motion by Austin and seconded by Tory it was duly passed to approve the Clerks Report.

On a motion by Austin and seconded by Ken it was duly passed to approve Resolution 25.9.1 Accepting Donations for Fire Dept. All in favor, motion carried.

On a motion by Ryan and seconded by Tory it was duly passed to no waive the liability coverage. All in favor, motion carried.

On a motion by Austin and seconded by Tory it was duly passed to approve the zoning permit for a garage for St. Anthony. All in favor, motion carried.

On a motion by Ryan and seconded by Austin it was duly passed to close the meeting at 6:34 pm to do employee reviews. Council discussed Amber and Josh's work and for Amber they did call Wilmont's Mayor to discuss as well. Amber and Josh did get raises for 2026 which will reflect in the budget. On a motion by Tory and seconded by Austin it was duly passed to open meeting back up at 7:00 pm.

Council discussed budget and decided to go with a 15% increase for the Preliminary Budget and will review more and set final in December. On a motion by Austin and seconded by Ryan it was duly passed to set Preliminary Levy at \$168,460 or a 15% increase from last years budget.

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Loosbrock Digging was able to look at the Culvert by Coltin Klosterman's house and what they found out was that the end of the culvert was across the street but at some point the end got covered by dirt which is why it wasn't draining well if at all. Calvin ended up jetting it out and extended it so it now should work correctly. We will put down some landscaping fabric and rocks so it doesn't run fast into anyone's yard or cause issues. Calvin said with the little bit extra of work to get it opened and the materials used it would be an extra \$300-\$400 from what he first quoted. On a motion by Ryan and seconded by Tory it was duly passed to approve an updated bid from Loosbrock Digging for no more than \$1,400. If amount ends up being more than that the Council will need to approve at next meeting.

Nobles2 Windfarm Grant money – Council is still thinking on what/where they want to spend this on but will most likely not do anything until next year. Amber will keep on agenda until money is spent.

With no further business to discuss, on a motion by Tory it was duly passed to adjourn the meeting.

The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 14, 2025 at 6:00 pm.

Minutes taken by Amber Bertrand, City Clerk