

WOODLAND CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
6:00 P.M. MONDAY NOVEMBER 10TH, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Vince Suerth called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Suerth and Councilmembers Tom Newberry, Dave Daniels, Hank Zucker and Juan Vazquez

Absent: None

Staff: City Administrator / Special Counsel Dan Madsen; Planning & Zoning Pat Smith and City Clerk Kimberly Lenarz-Greenwaldt

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion was made by Newberry and seconded by Daniels to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

- A. Approve October 13th, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes
- B. Approve Payment of Claims & Financial Report

Motion carried, voting in favor were Mayor Suerth, and Councilmembers Newberry, Daniels, Zucker and Vazquez.

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR:

NONE

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS:

A. PUBLIC HEARING: Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS)

- A. Public Hearing – Subsurface Sewage Treatment Systems (SSTS)
Smith presented the staff report. The ordinance amendment would require a compliance inspection when the house is being sold or the property is being transferred or when an addition is being added, along with a bedroom being added, which is required by the current ordinance.

Mayor Suerth asked about how staff can track title transfers. City Clerk Lenarz-Greenwaldt said staff would notify title companies when they call for delinquent utility bills. Staff would include the requirement on city webpage and newsletter. City

Administrator Madsen said the City could notify the County that a compliance inspection is required when property is transferred. City Administrator Madsen said, however, ultimately it is up to the property owner to comply with the regulation. Councilmember Newberry says he supports the sale of property triggering a compliance inspection but with a transfer of property there may not be the funds to make the improvements.

Councilmember Zucker stated his is not opposed to having transfers trigger a compliance inspection. Councilmember Newberry said the City allowed seepage pits until 1996. He asked how does Woodland phase seepage pits out fairly? Councilmember Newberry would recommend only requiring compliance inspections for sale, additions or adding a bedroom.

Councilmember Daniels asked if the City could sunset seepage pits. Councilmember Vazquez said he would have more leniency with seepage pits if the City tested the seepage pits. Councilmember Zucker prefers sunsetting after 10 years. Councilmember Newberry stated that may cause homeowners to have to sell their homes. Councilmember Newberry said there are 26 seepage pits in Woodland.

Mayor Suerth opened the public hearing at 6:25pm. Blake Hansen, 2865 Breezy Heights Road, addressed the City Council. He suggested adding an amendment to the ordinance after a year or two if compliance was not occurring as rapidly as hoped. Councilmember Vazquez asked if the City should require water testing for owners of seepage pits. Councilmember Daniels said Scott County has a sunset clause.

Mayor Suerth motioned to close the public hearing at 6:42pm, Councilmember Vazquez seconded. Motioned carried 5/0. Councilmember Zucker motioned to waive the first reading and scheduled second reading for December 8, 2025. Councilmember Vazquez seconded. Motion carried 5/0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. 2026 Draft General Fund Budget

Madsen presented the Draft General Fund budget to the council and answered any question or concerns that they had, no motions were made and the Final draft will be presented at the December 8th, 2025 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Multi-City Lobbying Collective

Staff reported that Deephaven has been discussing a potential multi-city coalition to jointly fund a lobbyist for the 2026 legislative session. The focus would be on protecting local zoning authority, advocating for fairer property tax calculations, and staying informed on

legislation affecting area cities. The group is considering Carnival Berns P.A. due to their strong bipartisan connections. The estimated cost is \$50,000, with a prorated cost-sharing model still under development. Woodland is in.

MAYORS REPORT:

Contacted Bolton and Menk to winterize the Fire Hydrants

COUNCIL REPORTS:

- A. **Daniels:**
- B. **Newberry**
- C. **Vazquez:** Talked to staff about the trees that need to be removed. On the sewage pits do we want to add rain gardens about that as well, something we should probably look at as well.
- D. **Zucker:** Questioned if they should have a councilmember attend homeowner associate meetings or not. Wildlife is getting aggressive.

STAFF REPORTS:

- A. Police: Nothing
- B. Fire: Nothing
- C. Admin: Next meeting is a big meeting with the finalizing the budget. Staff asked for Newsletter article ideas or things they would like to be added to let them know. It was decided to bring back the newsletter article conversation to month to decide on how many articles they want to do per year.

Adjournment:

Motion was made by Daniels and seconded by Newberry to adjourn the Woodland Regular City Council Meeting at 7:20pm.

Motion carried, voting in favor was Mayor Suerth, Councilmembers Newberry, Zucker, Vazquez and Daniels. 5/0 vote.

Typed this 20th Day of November, 2025
Kimberly Lenarz-Greenwaldt
City clerk
Woodland, Minnesota