

July 15, 2025

Ruthton News

...NOTICES...

THE REGULAR CITY
COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE
THE SECOND MONDAY OF
EVERY MONTH
AT 6:30 P.M.

RECYCLING COLLECTION

FOR JULY
7/7/25 & 7/21/25

FOR AUGUST
8/4/25 & 8/18/25

CITY OF RUTHTON

MAYOR:

STAN TOWNSEND

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

DARWIN SIETSEMA

BRIAN BAARTMAN

CHRIS McCURDY

STU PETERSON

CITY CLERK/TREASURER:

ROCHELLE VANDERWOUDE

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR:

DARRIN HAROLDSON

FIRE CHIEF:

CASEY FRITZ

CITY OF RUTHON

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JUNE 9, 2025 COUNCIL MINUTES

Mayor Stan Townsend called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Council members in attendance were Darwin Sietsema, Brian Baartman, Chris McCurdy, and Stu Peterson. Also in attendance were Leon Mortland, Tim Madsen, Jordan Odegard, Darrin Haroldson and Rochelle VanderWoude.

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

Minutes of the May meeting were approved by M/Sietsema 2/Baartman/cd unanimously.

Leon Mortland and Tim Madsen were here with financial reports for the Peace Lutheran Cemetery and the Opdal Cemetery. The council hopes to have a decision in the next few months on whether the City of Ruthton wants to take over one or both cemeteries.

Jordan Odegard from Bollig Engineering was here for a project update on the infrastructure project. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is recommending that a survey be completed. A consultant will complete the work that will include photos, research, documentation, complete SHPO inventory forms, and submit a final report. Bollig is working on requesting proposals from consultants that typically range from \$15,000 - \$20,000. This work is reimbursable through the project. It was discussed and decided to approve the lowest proposal for Phase I/II Architecture-History Survey, up to a cap of \$20,000 by M/McCurdy 2/Sietsema/cd unanimously. Rural Development is potentially looking to submit the water tower project to national pooling in August for funding. A public hearing is scheduled for Monday, July 14, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

Wastewater Supervisor Darrin Haroldson gave the council his report for the month of May and answered the council's questions.

Two (2) bids were received to finish the back parking lot of the community Center by Logan Steenstra Construction with concrete for \$30,450 and from Fuller Paving with asphalt for \$31,170. After much discussion, the Logan Steenstra Construction bid was accepted for \$30,450 by M/Baartman 2/Peterson/cd unani-

mously. A small concrete pad will also be poured by the fire hall.

The May bills were presented and approved by M/Peterson 2/Sietsema/cd unanimously. Receipts = \$13,515.14 Disbursements = \$63,041.82

Resolution 2025-05; Resolution Supporting the Request for State Bonding for Infrastructure Improvements was approved by M/Baartman 2/McCurdy/cd unanimously.

In May, six (6) certified letters were sent out for properties with blighted conditions. After a re-inspection on June 9, 2025, it was found that little to no improvements were made at each property. After much discussion, it was decided to send Administrative Notices for Code Violations to the six (6) properties and have them hand delivered by the Pipestone County Sheriff's Department by M/Sietsema 2/Peterson/cd unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Rochelle VanderWoude
Ruthton City Clerk/Treasurer

...NOTICES...

DUE TO DARRIN AND
ROCHELLE BEING ON
VACATION THE LAST PART
OF JULY, THE WATER
METERS WILL BE READ AND
SENT EARILIER.

ROCHELLE WILL BE OUT OF
THE OFFICE ON VACATION
FROM JULY 30TH - AUGUST
6TH. SHE WILL RETURN ON
THURSDAY AUGUST 7TH.

...NOTICE...

The city is asking everyone to refrain from blowing any grass clippings onto the city streets and highways. When done mowing simply run the mower over the grass and blow it back on your property.

In Minnesota it is illegal to discharge grass clippings onto a public road that could create a hazard or be an obstruction. It is considered a misdemeanor offense under Minnesota Statute 169.42 Subd. 1 for “Objects on a highway”. Violations can result in fines and potentially jail time.

The Ruthton City Code §92.18 Public Nuisances Affecting Peace and Safety reinforces the state law and states: The following are declared to be nuisances affecting public peace and safety. (T) The depositing of garbage or **REFUSE** on a public right-of-way or on adjacent private property.

Grass clippings can create dangerous conditions for vehicles, especially motorcycles and bicycles, due to reduced traction. Beyond safety concerns, grass clippings can also contribute to water quality issues when they enter stormwater systems.