

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regular meeting of the City Council of Appleton was held on Wednesday, July 9th, 2025 in the Council Chambers at the Appleton Civic Center.

Council Members Present in Chambers: Justin Koepp, Al Oyen, James Masee, Stacey Raddatz & Vanessa Lhotka-Meyer

Council Members Absent: None

City Staff Present in Chambers: John Olinger – City Administrator, Emma Haugen – Clerk/Treasurer & Cody Thomson – Appleton Police Officer

Public Present in Chambers: Rev. Herbert Rotunda, Mitch Fett & Andrew Schmidt

Public Present Virtually: None

Mayor Koepp called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. **Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Council.**

III. **Additions or Corrections to the Agenda:**

IV. **Public Forum:** None

V. **Public Hearing/Presentations:** None

VI. **Consent Agenda:** A motion was made by councilmember Oyen and seconded by councilmember Raddatz to approve the items listed on the consent agenda. After call for discussion and hearing none, Mayor Koepp called for a vote. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

VII. **Business:**

a. **Diamond Village Property and Grandstand** – Andrew Schmidt from the Appleton Recreation Association was present for this item.

i. The first item he spoke to the council about was where they are on their fundraising efforts for a new grandstand, use of the field and projects completed at the baseball field. He also asked the council if they city would be willing to loan the association \$200,000 over 4 years at 0% interest so that the project could be completed right away as the committed donations are stretched over a 5 year period. The payback to the city would be \$50,000 a year for 4 years. There was no decision made about the loan but the council was favorable to the idea.

ii. The second item was the parking area that is owned by the apartment complex directly next to the field. They have tried purchasing the property but there is a federal loan on it which puts a wrinkle in the plans to purchase it. There is also the option of eminent domain to acquire this land. A motion to proceed looking in to eminent domain on the parking lot was made by councilmember Masee and seconded by councilmember Lhotka-Meyer. After call for discussion and hearing none, Mayor Koepp called for a vote. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

b. **Swift County HRA/EDA Participation Resolution:** This resolution, if approved, will allow the city to take advantage of the program the county has available. A motion to approve Resolution 2025-24 to allow the city to participate with Swift County's HRA/EDA was made by councilmember Masee and seconded by councilmember Raddatz. After call for discussion and hearing none, Mayor Koepp called for a vote. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

c. **Set 2026 Budget Work and Union Negotiations Closed Work Session** – Administrator Olinger proposed scheduling another work session for the budget and union negotiations. A motion to set July 22 at 5:00 pm for a 2026 budget and union (closed) work session was made by

councilmember Raddatz and seconded by councilmember Oyen. After call for discussion and hearing none, Mayor Koepp called for a vote. All voted in favor. Motion passed

- d. **Cemetery Plots** – Administrator Olinger explained the cemetery commission’s recommendation to increase the cost of a single grave in the cemetery for residents and non-residents. A motion to set the cost of a cemetery plot for Appleton Residents at \$250 and non-residents at \$550 was made by councilmember Lhotka-Meyer and seconded by councilmember Oyen. After call for discussion and hearing none, Mayor Koepp called for a vote. All voted in favor. Motion passed.
- e. **Crack Filling/Seal Coating Pay Order #1** – Administrator Olinger gave an update to the council on the project. The crack filling and seal coating had taken place by the meeting date. A fog seal is expected to be completed the following week. A motion to approve pay request #1 of \$67,393.21 was made by councilmember Masee and seconded by councilmember Raddatz. After call for discussion and hearing none, Mayor Koepp called for a vote. All voted in favor. Motion passed
- f. **Rooney-Behl Pay Order #2** – Administrator Olinger gave an update on the construction. A motion to approve pay request #2 of \$324,027.17 was made by councilmember Masee and seconded by councilmember Lhotka-Meyer. After call for discussion and hearing none, Mayor Koepp called for a vote. All voted in favor.

VIII. **Information Items:** The topic of mosquito spraying was brought up as there had been inquiries made to councilmembers if it was going to be completed this year. It was noted by various council members that there are barrels of chemicals at the city shop that could be used. The council directed that the city administrator look into spraying mosquitoes this year.

IX. **Department & Commission Updates:**

X. **Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by council member Raddatz and seconded by councilmember Lhotka-Meyer. After a call for discussion and hearing none, Mayor Koepp called for a vote. All voted in favor and the motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 6:48 pm.