WALKER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
LOWER-LEVEL COMMUNITY ROOM
DALE AND HARRIET JONES WALKER PUBLIC LIBRARY
203 TOWER AVENUE, WALKER, MINNESOTA
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

Call to Order – Mayor Worth

- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Councilmembers present: Mary Beth Hansen, Char Moore, Gary Wilkening, Jerecho Worth
- Councilmembers absent: Erin Haefele
- Staff members present: Hope Fairchild, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer; Peter Anderley, Police Chief; Susan Ostlund, Finance Specialist/Deputy Clerk

- Others present during portions of the meeting include:

Bob Moore, Self	Dean Morrill, Pilot Independent Newspaper
Alex Klave, Self	Tyler Anderson, Self

Consent Agenda – Mayor Worth

M/S Moore/Hansen to approve of consent agenda items 1 through 6 as follows, waiving the reading.

1. Approve of Walker City Council regular meeting minutes of September 2, 2025.
2. Approve of Resolution 26-2025, a Resolution Supporting the Walker Public Works Applying for Sourcewell Match Funding to Purchase a Towable Boom Lift.
3. Approve of Resolution 27-2025, a Resolution Supporting the Public Works Department Applying for Sourcewell Impact Funding to Purchase Towable Crack Sealer.
4. Approve of Administrative Assistant/Accounting Clerk Grace Sevigny's successful completion of her 6-month probationary period, and a 3% wage increase as of September 10, 2025.
5. Approve of State of Minnesota State Airports Fund Airport Maintenance and Operations Grant Agreement between the Minnesota Department of Transportation and City of Walker for the Walker Municipal Airport.
6. Approve of Resolution 30-2025, a Resolution Approving of the Airport Maintenance and Operations Grant Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

   Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Wilkening, Worth
   Motion passed (4-0)

Public Hearings – Mayor Worth
None.

Scheduled Presentations – Mayor Worth
Those looking to speak in front of the Council must fill out the City Council agenda request form that can be obtained at ci.walker.mn.us or at City Hall. The form must be submitted by noon on the Wednesday before the Council meeting.
None.

City Staff Comments – Administrator Fairchild
None.

Personnel, Budget & Administration – Councilmember Hansen
1. Discussion on proposed preliminary 2026 budget and levy.
   Discussion: Finance Specialist/Deputy Clerk Susan Ostlund provided an overview of the proposed preliminary 2026 budget.
2. **M/S Hansen/Moore** to approve of Resolution 28-2025, a Resolution Adopting 2026 Preliminary Budget and Tax Levy, and Certifying the Truth and Taxation meeting.
   Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Wilkening, Worth
   Motion passed (4-0)
3. **M/S Hansen/Wilkening** to approve of Resolution 29-2025, a Resolution Approving and Authorizing Sale of Real Property Pursuant to Minn. Stat. 412.211.
   Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Wilkening, Worth
   Motion passed (4-0)
4. **M/S Hansen/Wilkening** to approve of the Purchase Agreement between the City of Walker and the Walker Ambulance Primary Service Area Special Taxing District for the sale of 96-375-0031, also known as the Walker Ambulance Garage.
   Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Wilkening, Worth
   Motion passed (4-0)
5. **M/S Wilkening/Worth** to approve of Ordinance Number 2025-02, an Ordinance Amending Chapter 4, Article V. of the Walker City Code to discontinue the municipal liquor dispensary and issue off and on sale intoxicating liquor retail licenses to private enterprises, with an effective date of November 1, 2025.
   Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Wilkening, Worth
   Motion passed (4-0)
6. **M/S Wilkening/Worth** to approve of Ordinance Number 2025-03, An Ordinance Amending the Walker City Code to allow for up to two off-sale liquor licenses for private enterprises, with an effective date of November 1, 2025.
   Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Wilkening, Worth
   Motion passed (4-0)

7. **M/S Wilkening/Hansen** to approve of request from the Walker Bay Spirits Liquor Store Manager for payout of ½ accumulated sick time for all liquor store employees at the time of municipal liquor store closure.
   Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Wilkening, Worth
   Motion passed (4-0)
8. **M/S Hansen/Moore** to approve of Resolution 31-2025, a Summary Publication of Ordinance Number 2025-03.
   Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Wilkening, Worth
   Motion passed (4-0)

Planning and Zoning, Parks & Liquor Store – Councilmember Haefele
None.

Library, Cemetery & Airport – Councilmember Moore
None.

Public Works – Councilmember Wilkening
None.

Announcements – Mayor Worth
- Upcoming meeting dates:
  - Park Advisory Board meeting: 9/23/2025 at 5:00 p.m. (Lower-Level Community Room within the Dale and Harriet Jones Walker Public Library)
  - Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments meeting: 9/29/2025 at 6:00 p.m. (Lower-Level Community Room within the Dale and Harriet Jones Walker Public Library)
  - City Council meeting: 10/06/2025 at 6:00 p.m. (Lower-Level Community Room within the Dale and Harriet Jones Walker Public Library)

Adjournment – Mayor Worth
Mayor Worth adjourned the meeting at 5:17 p.m.

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Jerecho Worth, Mayor Hope Fairchild, City Administrator/Clerk-Trs.