

Lynd City Council Minutes
February 17, 2026

Present: Mayor Justin Guggisberg; Councilmembers Jerry Sodemann, David Reaves(teams), Josh Bruley, and Shantel Williams. Also Present: Public Works Director Dillon Schultz; Clerk Jenni DeRuyter and City Attorney John Engels

Mayor Justin Guggisberg called the Public Hearing to order. Gunnar with Bolton & Menk presented information regarding the City's Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan, fulfilling the public hearing presentation requirements. He provided background on the City's existing wastewater treatment facility, including its current condition and anticipated future needs. Three options were presented for consideration. Option 1 involves rehabilitating and expanding the existing pond system, with an estimated cost ranging from \$5.4 million to \$7.3 million. Option 2 would consist of constructing a new facility at a greenfield location, essentially starting from scratch, with estimated costs between \$10.8 million and \$14.6 million. Option 3 would involve sending the City's wastewater to Marshall for treatment instead of maintaining our own system. The estimated cost for this option ranges from approximately \$6.9 million to \$9.3 million.. Gunnar reviewed the details, benefits, and considerations of each option. Based on their evaluation, Bolton & Menk recommended Option 1 as the most feasible option for the City of Lynd. He also discussed potential next steps and possible funding opportunities. Mayor Guggisberg then made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Council Member Shantel. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Mayor Justin Guggisberg called the regular meeting to order. Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Minutes

The Council reviewed the minutes from the January 20, 2026, meeting. For clarification, it was noted that MnDOT will cover up to \$40,000 under New Business. Mayor Guggisberg made a motion to approve the minutes as clarified, seconded by Council Member Shantel. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Approval of the Agenda:

The agenda was reviewed with several additions. Under New Business, the following items were added: A. Building Permit, B. Resolution No. 2026-1, and C. AP Design. Under Mayor/Council Member Input, Korman was added. Under Public Works, Item 3 – Summer Position was added. A Community Center rental issue was also added under Council Member Input. Shantel made a motion to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Jerry. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Public Forum

No public comments or discussion occurred during the Public Forum.

Council Member Input

Mayor Justin Guggisberg reported that Korman plans to demolish the old house on the property and wanted the Council to be aware. He noted that appropriate precautions are being taken to properly handle any hazardous materials, including shingles, paint, and other potential contaminants.

Councilman Jerry Sodemann: No items presented.

Councilman David Reaves: No items presented.

Councilman Josh Bruley inquired about adding language to the Community Center rental agreement to clarify that the City is not responsible or liable for accidents or injuries occurring during rentals. This discussion followed a recent incident in which an individual climbed onto the shed roof to hang a piñata, raising liability concerns. Mr. Engels noted that the likelihood of someone successfully suing the City for falling off a roof is low, as simply having a roof is generally not considered negligence. However, he stated that clarifying liability language could be added to the current rental agreement if the Council wishes.

Councilwoman Shantel Williams: No items presented.

Fire Report

Fire Chief Dillon Schultz reported that the Fire Department responded to one first responder call and one fire call since the last Council meeting. Truck 829 has had part of the brake issue repaired; however, an air leak remains despite several repair attempts. Nate Gratz and Josh Johnson presented the Fire Department's 2025 Year in Review, noting a total of 34 calls for the year. The department partnered with the DNR to obtain a wildland/grass truck and experienced several

equipment repairs throughout the year, which were noted as normal despite regular maintenance. Upcoming events include the annual Fish Fry on Good Friday - April 3 and the Burger Burn on July 27th, 2026. The Fire Relief Association also conducted a fundraising letter campaign, a practice common among many communities. The department added a grain bin rescue trailer through donations from local businesses, secured six updated radios through donations, and received a radio base station from the Lyon County Sheriff's Office, which was greatly appreciated. The department is working to update hoses and nozzles to keep pace with service demands and maintain ISO ratings, which help support lower insurance rates for residents. The Fire Relief Association contributed \$4,100 to the Fire Department operating budget and donated \$550 back to the community. Jerry made a motion to approve the Fire Department Report, seconded by Shantel. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Law Enforcement Report

Lyon County Sheriff Eric Wallen that the department responded to a total of nine calls during the month of January. Jerry made a motion to approve the Sheriff's Report. Josh seconded the motion. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Public Works Report

Dillon reported that a couple recently moved out of one of the 4-plex units. Minor repairs related to normal wear and tear were needed, and the unit has already been rented to a new resident. Dillon also informed the Council that he will be out of the office March 16–20, 2026, for a medical procedure. Mayor Guggisberg volunteered to read the lift stations during his absence. The summer help employee from 2025, Brayden, has expressed interest in returning for the summer of 2026. Following discussion, Mayor Guggisberg made a motion to rehire Brayden for the 2026 summer season, seconded by Shantel. All members voted in favor. Jerry then made a motion to approve the Public Works Report, seconded by Josh. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Accounts Payable

Jenni presented the February 2026 Accounts Payable. David made a motion to approve the bills, Shantel seconded, and all voted in favor.

Financial Report

Jenni presented the financial reports for February 2026. Discussion was held regarding the Garbage Fund, and Jenni will provide a receipts and disbursements report at the March meeting. Shantel made a motion to approve the Financial Report, seconded by David. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

City Clerk's Report

Jenni reported that the Water Loss Ratio for December 2025 was -15%. The City billed residents for 459,000 gallons of water, while Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water (LPRW) billed the City for 514,000 gallons. Jenni also reported that during Southwest Sanitation's audit process, it was discovered that some garbage container sizes listed in the City's utility billing system did not match what residents actually have. A spreadsheet was created, and Dillon verified as much information as possible. Southwest Sanitation will also assist in confirming accurate records.

Jenni further reported receiving a few complaints at City Hall regarding dog-related issues, including habitual barking and excessive accumulation of animal waste at a residence. The current City ordinance was reviewed. After consultation with Sheriff Eric Wallen, it was determined that although these issues are addressed in City ordinance, they are not currently enforceable through the Sheriff's Department because they are not included in their citation system. Discussion followed, and City Attorney Mr. Engels will take the necessary steps to make these violations ticketable offenses.

Jenni also reported that, as the City transitions to a cash-based audit system, formal Council action is required. Mayor Guggisberg made a motion for the City to move to a cash-based audit for 2026, seconded by Shantel. All members voted in favor. Mayor Guggisberg then made a motion to approve the City Clerk's Report, seconded by Shantel. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Legal Issues

The Council discussed the MnDOT and BNSF contract. Mr. Engels noted that there is often limited opportunity to request changes to these types of agreements; however, he will review the contract and report back to the Council within the next week.

Old Business

Mayor Guggisberg discussed potential options regarding the historic site. The City has reached out to the SMSU History

Department about the possibility of a student internship related to the project. He also noted that several grant opportunities are expected to open in March that the City may consider pursuing. Discussion also included whether the City should enter into a formal agreement with Hoakstra for dog kennel services. After discussion, the Council agreed not to pursue a formal agreement at this time unless additional issues with dogs running at large arise.

New Business

A building permit for S. Williams to construct a fence in their backyard was reviewed. Mayor Guggisberg made a motion to approve the permit, seconded by Josh. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried, with Shantel abstaining from the vote.

Resolution No. 2026-1 adopting the Wastewater Facility Plan prepared by Bolton & Menk, Inc. was discussed. Shantel made a motion to adopt the wastewater facility plan, seconded by Jerry. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Mayor Guggisberg also discussed remaining funds from the Taylor Farms Grant. An estimate from AP Design was reviewed for the installation of awnings above the generator, air conditioner and back door to help reduce snow and ice buildup. The total estimate from AP Design was \$4,995.00, with the City responsible for \$1,588.00. Shantel made a motion to approve the purchase of the awnings from AP Design using the remaining Taylor Farms Grant funds, with the City's portion of \$1,588.00 to be paid from the General Fund. David seconded the motion. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

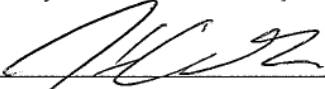
Committee Reports:

Roads – Shantel & Josh: No report at this time.

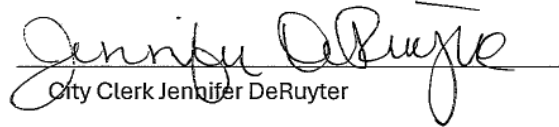
EDA – Justin & David: No report at this time.

Adjournment

Jerry made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Shantel seconded, and all were in favor.



Mayor Justin Guggisberg



City Clerk Jennifer DeRuyter