

May 11, 2026

The City Council met for a regular council meeting at the Walnut Grove City offices on Monday, May 11, 2026, at 6:00PM. Others were allowed to join the meeting via zoom but comments for guests were muted.

Present: Ron Stubbe, Dale Shannon, Yeng Yang, Sue West and Dylan Albertson.

Also Present: Tom Hansen, Beth Bjorklund, Kristy Baker, Jarett Herder, Andy Foster, Adrienne Kletscher, Alex Johnson, Kim Rolling, Dillon Robinson, Allan Anderson, Mark Johnson and Dave Hoyt.

Mayor Ron Stubbe called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

None of the residents in attendance had any comments.

Andy Foster was present to discuss the fire department. The department would like to purchase a Polaris ranger XP900 with 2700 miles for \$4500 from the DNR. Motion by Sue West, seconded by Dylan Albertson to approve the purchase of the XP900 from the DNR for \$4500. All voted in favor, motion carried. Foster reported that they will be listing the old fire truck on emergency vehicle auction site Garage this month.

The Fire department will be having their Fire Festival again this year on September 12.

Country View Manager, Kim Rolling, was present to report to the council. They currently have 20 occupied units and 3 more are scheduled to move in the month of June. The main AC unit for the building has been losing freon and needs to be recharged quite often. This unit is original to the building and may need additional repairs.

Adrienne Kletscher was present to discuss the 2026 Village Fair. She asked the council if they would be willing to add any additional 220-volt outlets in the city park for food trucks. The council said that they would prefer to have the food trucks park on the street, and to have the trucks use their generators either on Bedal next to the park or 7th Street. The council agreed that they could block off the street for the day to accommodate the food trucks.

EDA board member Alex Johnson spoke on behalf of the EDA to discuss Country View needs. The carpet in front of the elevators has been scheduled to be repaired. Currently there is only one one-bedroom apartment vacant and that unit needs new carpet and painting. They are hoping to get that ready for any potential renters. Johnson asked the council to approve the purchase of 6 new AC units for the apartments to replace the ones that aren't working properly and to have a couple spare ones on hand in case one is needed. Motion by Dale Shannon, seconded by Dylan Albertson to approve the purchase of 6 AC units for the apartments. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Ambulance director, Kristy Baker, was present to discuss the ambulance department. The ambulance had mechanical issues and was out of service to replace a part that had just been replaced. This part was warrantied. Tracy Ambulance was willing to loan one of their ambulances to the service until the WG ambulance was repaired. Baker then read a letter of resignation as the ambulance director for the Walnut Grove Amb. Department. She will continue serving as an EMT on the service. She recommended Jarrett Herder as her replacement. Motion by Dale Shannon, seconded by Dylan Albertson to accept Kristy's letter of resignation as director and approved the appointment of Jarett Herder to interim Ambulance Director for the remainder of the year. All voted in favor, motion carried. Council member Sue West thanked Kristy for her service.

Sue West asked the council to hold a special meeting to discuss personnel issues. Motion by Dylan Albertson, seconded by Sue West to hold a special meeting on Monday, May 18 at 6PM. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Tom Hansen presented the maintenance report. Hansen and councilmember Dylan Albertson drove up to the cities to look at a 2015 Elgin sweeper that MNDOT was selling for \$50K. The

council reviewed the specs. Motion by Sue West, seconded by Dylan Albertson to approve the purchase of the 2015 Elgin sweeper from MnDOT for \$50,000. All voted in favor, motion carried. Tom received a couple of different quotes to transport the sweeper to Walnut Grove. Motion by Sue West, seconded by Dale Shannon to approve the quote from Equipment Transport out of Stacy MN in the amount not to exceed \$2000. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Discussion was held on properties that some of the council believe that the city should begin condemnation proceedings on. It was determined that for now, the clerk will send out letters to property owners in violation of the nuisance ordinance if their property needs to be mowed or cleaned up. Public Works Director, Tom Hansen or the council should inform her when a property should be sent a letter. The council will put together a list of properties that they feel need more than just a clean up and discuss next steps for those properties at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

EMS coordinator Bjorklund reported that the handicapped accessible doors at the city office building were installed by Southwest Glass with Anderson Electric completing the electrical work that was needed. The total cost of the door install was \$8077.43, leaving \$1922.00 to use to purchase benches for main street and the park

Bjorklund informed the council of the different events that are scheduled at the community center this month.

May 13, 2026 at 5:30PM: Small Business Roundup.

May 20, 2026 at 6:30PM Skywarn training- regional training to identify and report severe weather to the national weather service.

May 28, 2026 at 6:00PM: Farm and rural emergency readiness workshop and hands on first aid education

Dave Hoyt was present to discuss the possibility of adding or updating the walking paths at the city park for better accessibility and possibly adding some benches. The Loggers have received a donation that they would like to use toward city beautification and would consider funding this project. Council members Albertson and Shannon will get together with Tom and discuss options and put something together to present to the Loggers.

Discussion was held on the city's insurance needs. Motion by Dylan Albertson, seconded by Sue West to approve Knakmuhs Insurance as the Agency of Record for the city of Walnut Grove. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Sue West, seconded by Dale Shannon that the City of Walnut Grove does not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by MN Statutes Section 466.04. All voted in favor, motion carried.

In 2024 a new law was passed allowing cities to adopt a resolution governing the counting of write-in votes for local elective office. The judges may count each write in vote or they can only count the write in votes if they are equal to or the more than a candidate that is on the ballot. Motion by Dylan Albertson, seconded by Yeng Yang to approve Resolution 2026-0511B governing write in votes by only counting the write in votes if they are more than a candidate that is on the ballot. All voted in favor, motion carried.

A land use application was submitted by John Clapp from the 8th Street apartments to add a parking lot to the north side of the property. Motion by Dale Shannon, seconded by Yeng Yang to approve the 2026 Land Use permit for the parking lot. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Dale Shannon, seconded by Sue West to approve claims 45935-46009. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Dale Shannon, seconded by Yeng Yang to approve the Minutes for the April 13 2026, regular meeting and the April 16, 2026, continued meeting. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Dylan Albertson, seconded by Yeng Yang to adjourn. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Paula McGarvey
Clerk-Treasurer