

MINUTES OF THE SULLY CITY COUNCIL

SULLY, IOWA

May 11, 2026

The Sully City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m., on May 11, 2026, in the Council Chambers with Mayor Brent Vander Molen presiding. Council Members present were Arnold Alt, Mary Carol Cross, Justin Van Soelen, Jon Van Wyk, and Tim LeCompte. Also present were Public Works Director Jeremy Behun and City Clerk Crystal Montgomery.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Motion made by Van Soelen, Seconded by Cross, to approve the consent agenda consisting of minutes for April 13, 2026 meeting, payment of claims list, treasurer's report; expense by function summary; equipment fund summary; RLF fund summary and approval of Coffee Cup Café Alcohol License. Van Soelen questioned large credit card statement, Montgomery advised paying Midwest and others via credit card to see if those payments will affect the rebate that the city receives from the card. Roll Call Vote: 5-0 Motion carried

**PUBLIC FORUM:** No discussion or comments.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED FY2026 BUDGET AMENDMENT:** No discussion or comments.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FY2026 BUDGET AMENDMENT:** Motion made by Van Wyk, Seconded by Van Soelen to approve and adopt FY26 budget amendment by Resolution 2026-06. Roll Call Vote: 5-0 Motion carried.

**CONSIDER BASEMENT WATER CONCERN:** Travis Chapman was present to discuss water issues he's had at his home, which have gotten progressively worse in the past 5 years. He's spent \$15,000 to install sump pumps and other attempted fixes and has still had problems with heavy rain. His request is for the city to investigate why problems have gotten worse. Behun will get an estimate for the area to run a camera through the lines, and Montgomery will review budget to see if there are available funds for this budget or for next year's budget, which begins July 1.

**CONSIDER ANIMAL CONTROL LEASE:** Motion made by Van Soelen, Seconded by LeCompte to approve an "as needed" animal control lease with both Marion County Humane Society and New Beginnings Rescue. Roll Call Vote: 5-0 Motion carried.

**DISCUSS STRAY CAT PROBLEM:** There's been some complaints on cats in some areas of town. The city does have a live trap that can be used, homeowner is responsible for removal of the catch. It was discussed if a second trap should be purchased and left that for now one should be enough.

**REVIEW FEE SCHEDULE:** Motion made by Cross, Seconded by Alt to approve fee changes, including animal control services and minor changes to community room rentals, removing the fee for individual items use. Golf cart permits and ages of children driving them were discussed, as there is a permit fee and an age requirement, but no conclusive decision was made at the time. Roll Call Vote: 5-0 Motion carried.

**REVIEW CLEANING POSITION/AD:** Discussion held regarding the resignation of long-time cleaning person. There has been an interim person cleaning until the position can be filled. The ad will be put in the paper for up to four weeks if necessary and applicants will be interviewed as applications/resumes are received at the city office.

**REVIEW TRASH FEES:** Midwest currently charges the city \$21.50 per residential pickup, with the city charging residents \$19.75. In July, the rates will go up to \$22.46 from Midwest. Van Wyk made a motion to charge residents what the city is being charged by Midwest, seconded by Alt to approve Resolution 2026-07, raising the residential rate to \$22.46 beginning July 1, 2026. Roll Call: vote 5-0 Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE AMENDMENT FIRST READING FOR SECTION 55:10; ANIMAL CONTROL:** Motion made by Cross, Seconded by Van Soelen to pass the first reading for animal control ordinance changes; which includes changes to the impound facilities, fees, and holding times. Roll Call: vote 5-0 Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE AMENDMENT FIRST READING FOR SECTION 92:02; ANNUAL WATER RATE REVIEW:** Van Wyk made the motion to approve the first reading for the annual water rate review, seconded by LeCompte to approve the base rate change for water to \$18.50 beginning July 1, 2026. The rate per 1,000 gallon will stay the same for FY27, with a planned 2% increase for each of the next four years, reviewing as necessary and with immediate changes allowed if increases put in place by Iowa Regional Utilities. Roll Call: vote 5-0 Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE AMENDMENT FIRST READING FOR SECTION 99.02; ANNUAL SEWER RATE REVIEW:** Cross made the motion to approve the first reading for the annual sewer rate review, seconded by Van Soelen to approve the planned 2% increase for each of the next five years, reviewing as necessary. Roll Call: vote 5-0 Motion carried.

**CONSIDER CHILDRENS STEP STOOLS FOR RESTROOM:** Discussion was held based on resident request; council did not think step stools were necessary.

**CONSIDER BALLPARK AGREEMENT:** Cross motioned to approve presented ballpark agreement with minor changes requested, seconded by Alt, with the understanding that signage will need to be placed at the ballpark entrance and on the concession stand wall stating the terms. All leagues will be required to sign up for field use, notify the city of schedules, and sign the terms for use of the fields. Agreement to be posted at the community building bulletin board, city website and on Facebook. Roll Call: vote 5-0 Motion carried.

**ACTION LIST REVIEW:** No action taken on listed items which included Lions Club agreement (in the works per Van Soelen) and sidewalk reviews. Mayor Vander Molen requested the sewer camera plan be placed on the action list.

**REPORTS/COMMENTS:**

1. Public Works Director Jeremy Behun advised the grass on the west field at the ballpark is not growing, he's working on trying to make it look good again.
2. City Clerk Crystal Montgomery reported receiving complaints on motorized scooters/bikes in the park, Behun will post a sign stating that motorized vehicles are not allowed. The new baby changing station has arrived but still needs to be installed, and the wall needs to be re-painted.
3. Council Member Alt would like to review the sidewalk requirements as he is on the sidewalk committee.
4. Council Member Mary Carol Cross asked if the flower inserts had been brought to James' for them to fill, Behun reported that they were on his list to deliver.
5. Council Member Justin Van Soelen reported that the bleachers need to be moved back from the fences, agrees that signage for no motorized vehicles is needed, there's a patch of concrete where 9<sup>th</sup> meets the curve near the airport that needs to be repaired, (Behun added that to his list) and that Darin Arkema took on the painting of the swing set at the ball park as a school project, but the chains/swings will need to be replaced. (Behun to review with Hometown Pride committee before ordering)
6. Council Member Jon Van Wyk would like to see a dog park area at the ball park and states there's .447 acres that a fence could easily be built around and he will bring estimates to the next meeting for further review and discussion as an agenda item.

The council meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm