

# Ruthton News

...NOTICES...

THE CITY OFFICE  
WILL BE CLOSED  
FRIDAY 6/19/2025 IN  
OBSERVANCE OF  
THE JUNETEENTH  
HOLIDAY.

THE CITY OFFICE  
WILL BE CLOSED  
FRIDAY DAY 7/3/2026  
IN OBSERVANCE OF  
THE 4TH OF JULY  
HOLIDAY.

RECYCLING  
COLLECTION FOR  
JUNE  
6/8/2026 & 6/22/2026  
FOR JULY  
7/6/2026 & 7/20/2026

## MAY 4, 2026 COUNCIL MINUTES

Mayor Stan Townsend called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Council members in attendance were Darwin Sietsema, Chris McCurdy, and Stu Peterson. Absent was Brian Baartman. Also in attendance were Darrin Haroldson and Rochelle VanderWoude.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all those in attendance.

Minutes of the April meeting and the April 9, 2026 Board of Review meeting were approved with corrections by M/Sietsema 2/Peterson/cd unanimously.

Wastewater Supervisor, Darrin Haroldson gave the council his report for the month of April and answered the council's questions.

Bid proposals were presented for Crack filling to be done to Harrison Street, Norway Street, and Gilbertson Avenue from Norway Street to 231<sup>st</sup> Street. Bids were received from Precision Paving Solutions for \$12,780.00 and from Bertram Asphalt Company for \$8,028.90. The council accepted the Bertram Asphalt Company bid for \$8,028.90 by M/Peterson 2/Sietsema/cd unanimously.

Four (4) bids were obtained for a 60" zero-turn lawnmower for the ball diamond from Farmward Cooperative for a Ferris IXS 2200 for \$12,900.00; and from Lipinski Small Engine and Hardware for a Stihl 960IK for \$14,800.19; a Gravley Pro-Turn 560 for \$13,679.20; and Country Clipper for \$13,571.22. After discussion it was approved to purchase the Ferris IXS 2200 from Farmward Cooperative for \$12,900.00 by M/Peterson 2/Sietsema/cd unanimously.

Two (2) bids were received to cut down five (5) ash trees and grind stumps on southwest corner of Main Street and Leo Avenue from Lamote Tree Service for \$3750.00 and from Serreyn Tree Service for \$4200.00. It was approved to have Lamote Tree Service come in and do the tree work by M/Sietsema 2/McCurdy/cd unanimously.

It was approved to purchase a rolling broom for the Public Works lawnmower from Jim Haroldson for \$3,500.00 by M/Sietsema 2/McCurdy/cd unanimously.

The April bills were presented and approved by M/Peterson 2/Sietsema/cd unanimously. Receipts = \$96,272.83 Disbursements = \$115,488.33.

The garbage contract renewal from VanDyke Sanitation was received. The bid is for \$85.00 for the first (1<sup>st</sup>) eight (8) yard dumpster per week plus \$68.00 for each additional eight (8) yard dumpster per week. This contract is for three (3) years with the option of renewing this contract for an additional three (3) years providing there are no changes. After discussion, the council decided to table this issue as they would like to include in the contract that the contractor will only

pick up full dumpsters. If VanDyke Sanitation accepts the change the council will sign the contract. If not, the council would like Brad VanDyke to come to the next meeting.

Resolution 2026-04; A Resolution Establishing Fire Escrow Account Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 64A.50 was approved by M/Sietsema 2/McCurdy/cd unanimously. This resolution needs to be approved to be put on the State's Fire Debris Removal List. The importance of being included on this list is that if a structure in the city is damaged by fire and the owner has property insurance, the insurance company is required to withhold up to 25% of the insurance proceeds to ensure that the property owner either rebuilds or cleans up the debris on the property. Insurance companies must check with this agency before they pay out proceeds and if a city is on this list, they must follow the provisions of the state law creating this fire escrow account.

Resolution 2026-05; Resolution Supporting the Request for State Bonding for Infrastructure Improvements was approved by M/Peterson 2/Sietsema/cd unanimously.

Mayor Stan Townsend received a letter from the Mayor of Crosslake, Jackson Purfeerst on how the Paid Family Medical Leave is not only impacting our cities but also placing real strain on the small businesses within our communities. Mayor Purfeerst invited Mayor Townsend to join fellow Minnesota mayors in signing this letter to raise awareness about the need for PFML reform not only for cities, but for our small businesses that serve our communities as well. The council supports this letter and approves Mayor Townsend to sign this letter by M/Sietsema 2/McCurdy/cd unanimously.

It was approved to purchase bathroom stalls and accessories for the bathrooms at the ball diamond for \$6,205.00 by M/Peterson 2/Sietsema/cd unanimously.

Mayor Stan Townsend made a proclamation that the month of May 2026 as Poppy Month in the City of Ruthton and asks that all citizens pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom by wearing the Memorial Poppy during this month.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. by M/Townsend.

Rochelle VanderWoude  
Ruthton City Clerk/Treasurer

### CITY OF RUTHTON

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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### CITY OF RUTHTON

#### MAYOR:

STAN TOWNSEND

#### COUNCIL MEMBERS

DARWIN SIETSEMA

BRIAN BAARTMAN

CHRIS MCCURDY

STU PETERSON

#### CITY CLERK/TREASURER:

ROCHELLE VANDERWOUDE

#### PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR:

DARRIN HAROLDSON

#### FIRE CHIEF:

CASEY FRITZ

# ...NOTICES...

## ANIMAL LICENSES

Animal licenses are due.

Remember tags are now \$15.00 per animal and the tags are good for 3 years to coincide when your animals get their rabies vaccination. Please call the city office if you have any questions,

Thank You!

If you own a golf cart and plan on driving it around town, you now **MUST** have a permit for the golf cart according to Ruthton City Code 73.08.

You will need proof of insurance and drivers license in order to obtain a permit.

The cost of the permit is \$15.00

Please apply for one on-line.

Golf Cart Permits need to be renewed annually.

## MOSQUITO SEASON IS UPON US

Anticipating the mosquito problem again this year, Darrin will again be spraying on Monday evenings starting about 1 hour before sunset.

Weather permitting—if not it will be done the next permitting night. Citizens might want to close their windows at that time.

Thank You!

THERE IS STILL \$\$ THAT CAN BE USED FOR THE SMALL CITIES REHAB PROGRAM. YOU MUST OWN YOUR HOME. ELIGIBLE REPAIRS INCLUDE ROOFING, FOUNDATIONS, SIDING, HEATING UNITS, ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING, AND OTHER HEALTH AND SAFETY ITEMS. ADDITIONS ARE NOT ALLOWED. ELIGIBILITY FOR THE HOUSING REPAIR PROGRAM IS BASED ON HOUSEHOLD SIZE AND INCOME—YOUR GROSS HOUSEHOLD INCOME (BEFORE TAXES) MUST BE BELOW THE LIMITS SET BY HUD FOR PIPESTONE COUNTY.

1-PERSON HOUSEHOLD \$53,350

5-PERSON HOUSEHOLD \$82,250

2-PERSON HOUSEHOLD \$60,950

6-PERSON HOUSEHOLD \$88,350

3-PERSON HOUSEHOLD \$68,550

7-PERSON HOUSEHOLD \$94,450

4-PERSON HOUSEHOLD \$76,150

8-PERSON HOUSEHOLD \$100,550

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR WOULD LIKE AN APPLICATION SENT TO YOU, PLEASE CONTACT DSI AT (507) 694-1552 BY JULY 1, 2026.