

City of Calamus
Minutes of the City Council Meeting
301 2nd St. Calamus, IA 52729
April 27, 2026
6:00 p.m.

Mayor Jensen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Council members present included; Buckner, Miller, Levien, and Griebel. Sprague absent
Motion by Miller, Griebel to approve the consent agenda Ayes; All.

Public Comment: Lance Goettsch mentioned the county supervisors have set aside funds for the 250th America Celebration, there will be a meeting on this 4/29/26 at 10:00am to go over more details. He also spoke about the IA Economic Authority coming to Calamus for a tour and to meet with leaders. And then at 7:00pm there will be a public gathering. More details on this soon. Mike Lacey addressed the council and Mayor on the 2 weeks of vacation pay he felt he was shorted when he left the Public Works position. Mayor Jensen said that we have been in contact with our city attorney and the message back from him was that Lacey had only earned the 40 hours. Mayor Jensen will follow up with the attorney again and get back with Lacey. Karl Curtis had asked how the progress was coming along to bring the old depot back to Calamus, we are waiting to see if we are approved for the grant and then will move forward.

1. M/S, Levien, Buckner to open the public hearing for the FY27 budget. All Ayes.
2. M/S, Miller, Levien to close public hearing & open regular meeting. All Ayes.
3. M/S, Miller, Griebel to approve Resolution 26-09; Approval & adoption of FY 2026-2027 budget. All Ayes.
4. Discussion on garbage & recycling contracts & rates. After discussion with the city attorney we found by giving a 30 day notice we could void our contract with Republican Services. AT Disposal also presented the council & mayor with a bid. Discussion was held on rate comparisons between the 2 companies. AT Disposal will also donate 2 roll offs for a spring clean up every year and bins for both garbage & recycling. M/S, Miller, Levien to send a 30 day notice letter to Republican and go into a new contract with AT Disposal. Miller-Aye, Levien-Aye, Griebel-Aye, Buckner-Nay, motion passes.
5. Daryl Henning asked about the city using local option sales tax funds to donate to Calco to help with expenses. We are still in talk with the attorney regarding the verbiage on our ballot to see if this is an acceptable use of those funds. He would be interested in helping Calco pay future utility bills. Will table & discuss further at May meeting.
6. M/S, Levien, Buckner to approve golf cart for Karl Curtis. All Ayes.
7. Discussion on using LOST funds to make the skid steer payment. The payment will be \$6,585.84 and due July 1st.
8. M/S, Miller, Griebel to approve cigarette license for Calamus Country Store. All Ayes.
9. Discussion on the sale of a JD mower, red pick up truck and old street signs. M/S, Levien, Miller to take sealed bids the JD mower & truck with bids due June 27, 2026. Street signs will be free will donation. Miller, Levien and Griebel - Ayes. Buckner - Nay. Motion passes.
10. Discussion on public works position. Mayor Jensen expressed that he is happy with the 2 part time positions we have going on right now, feels like things are running smoothly and can re-evaluate the position in the fall. Both part time positions are capped at 15 hours a week each, anything over that needs approval from the Mayor. M/S, Miller, Levien to keep things running as they are with 2 part time employees and re-evaluate in the fall. Miller, Levien, Griebel-Ayes. Buckner-Nay. M/S Miller, Griebel to increase the wage for the 2 part time employees to \$18/hour and Ipers coverage. Miller, Griebel, Levien-Ayes. Buckner-Nay. Motion passes.

11. Discussion on getting all water meters located within the city limits. Knowing where these are located will help if there is a water main break and needing to get water shut off. Lance Goettsch shared that he has a map made up with most of these already and will be a great starting point.

Mayor report: Sold some old meters and scrap found in the city shop. Funds went back into the roads department. Trees will be cleaned up in the next couple of days in the park. Clean up has started cleaning out the city shop and making great progress.

Clerk report: Will be on vacation the week of May 4th. Will get the budget adopted to the county and IA Dept of Management.

Motion by Buckner, second by Miller to adjourn at 7:05 p.m. Ayes; All.

The next regular City Council meeting will follow a public hearing, on Tuesday, May 26 , 2026.

Jake Jensen, Mayor

Lisa Syring, City Clerk

“These minutes are not official minutes until approved by the City Council”

ALLIANT ENERGY	STREET LIGHTS	2,532.96
OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE	FY DUES	1,200.00
CALAMUS COUNTRY STORE		256.85
CALAMUS VOLUNTEER FIRE	FY26 CONTRACT	8,750.00
CHEMSEARCH	ECOSTROM	179.95
CLINTON CO AREA SW AGENCY	2026 LICENSE FEE	54.52
CLINTON CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE		1,186.60
CLINTON COUNTY TREASURER	DRAINAGE ASSESSMENT TAX X 2	20
DAVISSON TILING LLC	LAGOON DRIVEWAY FRENCH DRAIN	1,300.00
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	1,484.52
F & B COMMUNICATIONS	WEBSITE UPDATES/IT SERVICES	516.57

FENIX USA	DATA & SOFTWARE HOUSING	216.25
HAWKINS, INC	AZONE	253.09
IPERS	IPERS	971.67
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	WD40 SILICONE/OIL FILTER/OIL	76.95
LISA SYRING	MARCH CELL PHONE	40
MANATT'S INC	CHIP SEAL-2025	29,848.75
MIKE LACEY	MARCH CELL PHONE	40
NATIONWIDE	SURETY BOND COVERAGE	284
THE OBSERVER	JAN & FEB MINUTES & FINANCIALS	101.48
OMNISITE	BEACON 1 YEAR WIRELESS SERVICE	442
PER MAR SECURITY SERVICES	2 BOXES OF CARDS	543.41
RACHEL GOETTSCH	MARCH CLEANING	150
REPUBLIC SERVICES		3,579.80
TESTNLYTICAL SERVICES	NITRATE/COLIFORM	181
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA	STATE TAXES	351.67
US CELLULAR	DATE FOR TABLET	39.79
VISA	FEB UB	290
WHEATLAND EMS	FY26 CONTRACT	2,207.00
Accounts Payable Total		57,098.83
	Refund Checks Total	
Payroll Checks		5,445.14
***** REPORT TOTAL *****		62,543.97