

**STRATFORD CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
January 8, 2024**

The Stratford City Council met for a budget work session on Monday, January 8, 2024, with Mayor Brian Ouverson calling the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Council members answering roll call were: Catherine Bergman, Carol Bergman, Terry Bryan, Clark Conklin and Chase Haman. Also present was Kim Leeds, and Cathy Siefken.

Council and City Manager Leeds reviewed the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan.

The Stratford City Council met in regular session on Monday, January 8, 2024, with Mayor Brian Ouverson calling the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall and leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council members answering roll call were: Carol Bergman, Catherine Bergman, Terry Bryan, Clark Conklin and Chase Haman. Also present were Brad Larson, Kim Leeds, and Cathy Siefken.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve the tentative agenda. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve previous meeting minutes from December 11, 2023. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve the consent agenda as follows: Financial Report for December 2023, Current Claims since Previous Council approval for \$21,765.77, authorize payment to Stony Creek Landscapes for \$600.00 for tribute plaques using Hamilton County Freedom Rock funds, authorize payment to JB Concrete for \$763.70 for base of speed limit sign, approve renewal of Class E Liquor License LE#003829 for Stratford Country Store and Delinquent Utility Account Report. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve Resolution 2024-01 – City of Stratford City Council Procedural Rules. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve Catherine Bergman as Mayor Pro-Tem as appointed by the Mayor and authorize this person to sign checks in the Mayor's absence. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman -abstain, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve Brian Ouverson as board member and Chase Haman as alternate for North Central Iowa Regional Solid Waste Agency. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin, and Chase Haman - abstain. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Clark Conklin to approve Terry Bryan as board member and Catherine Bergman as alternate for Ioway Creek Watershed Management Authority. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – abstain, Terry Bryan – abstain, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Chase Haman to approve Tree Board Committee Members as appointed by Mayor as follows: Catherine Bergman, Clark Conklin, Suzanne Carlson, Trevor Carlson, Julie Ehresmann, Amber Gable, and Darrell Young. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – abstain, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – abstain, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve Brian Ouverson board member and Grant Carlson, Dan Ostrem and Gary Johnson as alternates for Hamilton County Emergency Management board. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve Brian Ouverson board member and Mitch Peterson and Dan Ostrem as alternates for Webster County Emergency Management board. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve Grant Carlson board member and Brian Ouverson and Dan Ostrem as alternates for Hamilton County E-911 Service board. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve Brian Ouverson, Catherine Bergman, Carol Bergman, and Kim Leeds as the personnel committee members for the City of Stratford calendar year 2024. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – abstain, Catherine Bergman – abstain, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin - aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve Resolution 2024-02 – A Resolution approving mayoral appointments and organization board member approvals for calendar year 2024. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Clark Conklin to approve the 28E Agreement with Hamilton County Sheriff for law enforcement at a rate of \$20.00 per capita, for fiscal year 2025 starting July 1, 2024. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve returning the fund balance from the 2022 Watermain Project back to Security Savings Bank in the amount of \$45,467.90. Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Carol Bergman to not approve the 2% increase to the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Library budget as requested. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Chase Haman to approve Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Rescue Department budget request. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Clark Conklin to approve Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Fire Department budget request. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Arbor budget request. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve a wage increase of 3.5% for city staff effective on the first payroll paid out in Fiscal Year 2025 starting July 1, 2024. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Clark Conklin to approve listing the woodchipper for the sale price of \$35,000.00. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve giving the extra iPad to Fire/Rescue to use for reports. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to vote for Fred Miller on the Iowa Rural Water Association Board of Director's Ballot for 2024-2025. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Catherine Bergman to hold a budget work session at 6:30 pm before the February 12, 2024, regular council meeting. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2023-03 – An Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinance of the City of Stratford, Iowa, by

amending Chapter 135 pertaining to mailboxes and waiving the third reading. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2023-04 – An Ordinance amending the Code of the City of Stratford, Iowa, by adding yield signs on the northwest and southwest corner of Avon Street and Byron Street at the intersection of Milton Street and waiving the third reading. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2024-01 – An Ordinance §92.02 by setting new rates as established under 2012-08. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Chase Haman to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2024-02 – An Ordinance §99.07 2 by setting new rates. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Chase Haman to approve Resolution 2024-03 – A Resolution authorizing city employees to attend meetings deemed necessary pertaining to their work and for the city employees to receive reimbursement for mileage and related expenses. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Chase Haman to approve Resolution 2024-04 – A Resolution approving the Stratford Courier as the official publication for the City of Stratford for calendar year 2024. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve Resolution 2024-05 – A Resolution authorizing payment of certain types of expenditures prior to council approval. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Chase Haman to approve Resolution 2024-06 – A Resolution adopting policies on access to customer's utility records. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve Resolution 2024-07 – A Resolution naming depositories for city funds and signators for depositories. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve Resolution 2024-08 – A Resolution establishing a policy for snow removal at South Marion and Oakwood Cemeteries. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve Resolution 2024-09 – A Resolution for the City of Stratford policy statement on conflict of interest, code of ethics, and gifts. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Terry Bryan to approve Resolution 2024-10 – A Resolution designating fire department members by rank and compensation received per City of Stratford Code of Ordinance §35.05. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve Resolution 2024-11 – A Resolution adopting a records management and retention policy. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Chase Haman to approve Resolution 2024-12 – A Resolution approving the City of Stratford financial policy statement. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Terry Bryan, seconded by Chase Haman to approve Resolution 2024-13 – A Resolution re-establishing the Stratford Public Library trust fund. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Chase Haman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve Resolution 2024-14 – A Resolution re-establishing the Stratford Volunteer Fire Department Capital Equipment reserve fund. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Chase Haman - aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Chase Haman to adjourn at 8:04 P.M. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Terry Bryan – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, and Chase Haman – aye. Motion carried.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Ouversen, Mayor

**Attest:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cathy Siefken, Deputy City Clerk