

**STRATFORD CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
April 13, 2026**

The Stratford City Council met in regular session on Monday, April 13, 2026, 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, Clark Conklin Mark Scott and Doug Timmons. Also present were Nancy Baker and Chase Haman representing Stratford Community Development Corporation, Derrick Anderson, Tiffany Hasstedt, Landon Taylor, Alexis Hagar, Toni Larson, Cayden Heck, Brad Larson, Molly Vaughn, and Kim Leeds.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Doug Timmons to approve the tentative agenda. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman - aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Clark Conklin, seconded by Mark Scott to approve previous meeting minutes from regular meeting on March 9, 2026 and Special Meetings on March 30, 2026. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Doug Timmons to approve the consent agenda as follows: Financial Report for March 2026, Current Claims since Previous Council approval for \$185,348.49, and Delinquent Utility Account Report. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Nancy Baker and Chase Haman were present to update the City Council on the Stratford Community Development Corporation (SCDC) “Stratford on the Loose” and request some road closures for the event. “Stratford on the Loose” will be held July 11, 2026. Nancy stated that SCDC would like Avon Street from Tennyson Avenue to Goldsmith Street closed from 9:30 AM to 4:00 P.M. Most of the day’s events including bingo, vendor fair, gazebo music, and tractor pull would be at the city park. Closure on Shakespeare Avenue from the Library to Tennyson Avenue starting at noon.

Moved by Doug Timmons, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve closures of Avon Street from Tennyson Avenue to Goldsmith Street and Shakespeare Avenue from the library to Tennyson Avenue at noon on July 11, 2026 for “Stratford on the Loose” event. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Doug Timmons, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve Excavation/Digging request from Cayden Heck 918 Hwy 175 to trench ground water to storm sewer drain at southwest corner of Locust and Hwy 175. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Doug Timmons, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve of Stratford Early Learning Center (ELC) donation request for family pool pass for the May 2, 2026 Boots & Bling Adult Gala Fundraiser Event. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Clark Conklin and seconded by Doug Timmons to approve Iowa One Call A Proxy Member straight ballot. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Doug Timmons and seconded by Carol Bergman to get clarification from the city attorney on exactly what resident needs to correct the right of way at 1104 Teneyck Avenue to comply with City Ordinance. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Doug Timmons to approve the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Amendment and set hearing date for next regular meeting. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Doug Timmons, seconded by Clark Conklin to approve payroll increase for pool concession staff to \$7.25 per hour minimum wage. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Doug Timmons, seconded by Mark Scott to approve payroll increase for Cayden Heck of \$1.50 and Molly Vaughn of \$.25 per hour. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Doug Timmons to approve City Manager Leeds to seek quote to replace fencing at the lagoon. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Mark Scott, seconded by Doug Timmons to approve Dan Ostrem to consult city staff in preparation of proper Pool maintenance process. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Carol Bergman to decline MSA Electric Rate Study. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Doug Timmons, seconded by Mark Scott to approve Vanwert showing Itron electric meter demo at the next regular council meeting. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.

A short discussion was held concerning the Care Center lift station. It was noted that city staff is very concerned about the disposal rags from the Stratford Care Center ending up at the lift station, which causes problems to the pump. Council suggested discussing this with the administrator to try and get them to stop flushing them.

A short discussion with council was held concerning the valves at the lift station. There are nine of them and Iowa Department of Natural Resources would like the city to get them replaced. It costs about \$31,702 to replace them all so it was discussed to replace them in stages.


Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve Resolution 2026-15 – A Resolution designating Rescue Department compensation. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye, and Doug Timmons – abstain. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Mark Scott to adjourn at 8:40 P.M. Roll call vote: Carol Bergman – aye, Catherine Bergman – aye, Clark Conklin – aye, Mark Scott – aye and Doug Timmons – aye. Motion carried.



Brian Ouverson, Mayor

Attest:



Molly Vaughn, Deputy City Clerk