

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Matt Montgomery; Council Members Ryan Jeppesen, Chad Johnson, Diane Johnson, Laura Kronenberger, Chris Nobach, and Lisa Zimmerman. Also present were Jon Radermacher, City Administrator; Shelley Ryan, City Attorney; Jed Petersen, Public Works Director; Bill Angerman, City Engineer; Laura Qualey, Community & Business Development Specialist; Nicole Miller, Library Director; and Jeffrey McCormick, Police Chief.

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| Call to Order | Mayor Montgomery called the City Council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. |
| Roll Call | Roll call was conducted. Mayor Montgomery and Council Members Jeppesen, C. Johnson, D. Johnson, Kronenberger, Nobach, and Zimmerman were in attendance. |
| Pledge of Allegiance | Mayor Montgomery led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. |
| Approval of Agenda | A motion was made by Council Member Jeppesen, seconded by Council Member Zimmerman and unanimously carried, to approve the Agenda as presented. |
| Public Input | <p>Mayor Montgomery reviewed the public input procedure.</p> <p>Joe Gerten, Sixth Street North, Cannon Falls, expressed concerns about his water bill. He indicated that he is not being billed for actual water usage because of the tiered system that is used.</p> <p>Karl Bischoff requested permission to put up a handicapped parking sign near a residential group home in Cannon Falls. He was advised to discuss this request with City staff.</p> <p>Sadie Simmons, Cannon Falls, expressed concerns about a 122% increase in her May water bill. She attributed the increase to watering her garden, stating that she has done this for many years without a significant increase in her water bill. She indicated that she has been told in the past that use of a six-month average would protect residents from large utility bill increases resulting from seasonal watering practices. She stated that any policy or procedural changes in this regard should have been communicated to residents. City Attorney Ryan provided additional background information.</p> |
| Consent Agenda | <p>A. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending June 11, 2025</p> <p>B. Meeting Minutes for June 3, 2025, City Council Meeting</p> <p>C. Approve Final Pay Request for John Burch Park</p> <p>D. Approve Police Officer Resignation, Police Officer Promotion, and Fill Part-Time Position</p> |

- ~~E. Approve Prairie Island Police Services Agreement~~
This item was pulled by Council Member D. Johnson
- F. Approve Part-Time Police Officer Pay Adjustment
- G. Approve Hiring of Seasonal Part-Time Public Works Employees
- H. Approve Stump Grinding Quote
- I. Approve 2025 Street Maintenance Quote
- J. Resolution 2815, Relating to Conveyance of Tax-Forfeited Property
- K. Approve Hiring of Izzy Carlson for the License and Permit Technician Position
- L. Resolution 2816, Accepting a Monetary Donation of \$8108.06 from Goodhue County Emergency Worker Decon to the Fire Department

A motion was made by Council Member Nobach, seconded by Council Member Zimmerman and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agenda, minus Item E, which was moved to Council Business for discussion.

Council Business:
Prairie Island Police
Services Agreement

Council Member D. Johnson requested verification that insurance coverage would be provided for services provided by Cannon Falls employees. She also stated that the Police Commission was involved in drafting this agreement in the past. She suggested tabling this item and requesting that the Police Commission review the proposed agreement.

Police Chief McCormick discussed insurance coverage and a past agreement with the Prairie Island Tribal Community. He noted that staffing levels are now adequate to once again provide assistance. He reviewed the types of assistance that are being requested. City Attorney Ryan stated that she has reviewed the proposed agreement language but did not compare this agreement with the past agreement. Police Chief McCormick provided additional information and indicated that he will verify the liability insurance coverage.

A motion was made by Council Member C. Johnson, seconded by Council Member Nobach, to approve a police services agreement with the Prairie Island Tribal Community, contingent upon verification of insurance coverage. A voice vote was conducted and the motion carried by a vote of 5:1, with Council Member D. Johnson dissenting.

Reports:
Council Committees,
Commissions,
Nonprofit
Organizations

Community & Business Development Specialist Qualey provided an EDA update. She discussed Hardwood Estates lot purchases and stated that WHKS is working to finalize construction plans for the next phase of the development.

Council Member D. Johnson reported that the Planning Commission met on June 9 and discussed several items, noting that a formal meeting was not conducted due to the lack of a quorum.

Staff

Public Works Director Petersen summarized topics of discussion during a recent Public Works and Park Board meeting. A John Burch Park update was provided.

Public Works Director Petersen discussed water meter reading and billing procedures. He discussed the option of data monitoring for specific metering concerns. City Administrator Radermacher discussed the challenges of water meter data collection. He clarified that the City bills for actual water usage, rounded to the next highest increment of 100. He discussed the current system used by the City, noting that technological upgrades could be considered in the future. Council Members asked about the City's tiered billing system, and Administrator Radermacher provided additional information in this regard. He stated his understanding that no recent policy or procedural changes have been made. Sadie Simmons and Joe Gerten described the large number of resident concerns and comments that were recently posted regarding this issue. Mayor Montgomery suggested further research and discussion of the issues. He expressed appreciation for the explanation of the metering and billing processes.

Library Director Miller discussed the summer reading program and other activities at the Cannon Falls Public Library.

Police Chief McCormick summarized topics of discussion during a recent Police Commission meeting. He discussed preparations for the Cannon Valley Fair and the 4th of July parade.

City Engineer Angerman reported that 2024 projects are being wrapped up and that planning work continues on current projects.

Administrator Radermacher stated that the next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled on July 21. He reported that a meeting has been scheduled with township representatives on June 18 to discuss an orderly annexation process.

Administrator Radermacher stated that License & Permit Technician Izzy Carlson will begin her employment with the City on June 23. He noted that City offices will be closed on June 19 in observance of the Juneteenth holiday. He discussed his attendance at an upcoming League of Minnesota Cities conference.

Mayor and Council
Members

Council Member Nobach suggested further discussion of the water metering and billing policies and procedures along with potential system upgrades during a future Council meeting or work session. Administrator Radermacher provided additional information and discussed the budget planning process. Council Member D. Johnson provided additional comments regarding water and sewer billing procedures and agreed with the need for further discussion.

Council Member C. Johnson thanked public safety employees for their work during a recent incident.

Mayor Montgomery thanked Chief McCormick and the Cannon Falls Police Department for their work to keep the community safe.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Council Member Jeppesen, seconded by Council Member D. Johnson and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 1st day of July, 2025.



Matt Montgomery, Mayor

ATTEST:



Jon Radermacher, City Administrator