

Canton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2025

Members present: Kristy Ziegler, Jen Dowling, George Hafner, Jeremy Hanson

Members absent: Jason Magnuson

City staff present: Anne Koliha, Barb Kerns, Jon Nordsving, Jim Davis

Visitor(s) present: Sabine Hafner

Mayor Ziegler called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Dowling, seconded by Hafner to approve the agenda, motion carried.

Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of August 13, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes
- b) Approval of September Disbursements

Motion by Dowling seconded by Hanson to approve the consent agenda, motion carried.

Public comments: none

Reports:

Mayor: Mayor Ziegler reported: Canton has multiple busses that arrive each day to transport youth to surrounding schools. Please be patient and alert during pick-up and drop-off times. The city staff have been busy with various street project activities, added to their regular duties, to ensure the 2026-2027 streets project stays on track. The council and city staff are reviewing preliminary plans for the watermain and sanitary system this month. Public information meetings will be starting within the next month. Details will be available thru the city Facebook page and sent by mail.

Deputy Clerk: none

Clerk: Clerk Koliha reported:

*The hazardous tree on Hudson Ave has been taken care of by property owner.

*Mitson House: contacted CHS regarding windows to which they have contact Wadsworth from Decorah to come take out windows for the old glass. Contact with contractor TLC to tear down house, we are on his list to complete will be later in the year closer to colder weather. The sign outside was purchased with city funds.

*Old Lumberyard Property: contacted with concerns of weeds behind building, water/sewer connection to building and also water hydrant.

*USDA Community Facilities Loan: continued work with Kyle from USDA-RD and financial advisor Mike Bubany to complete paperwork to obligate funds for the loan dollars.

*WHKS Lead Service Line Inventory: WHKS representatives have been in town door knocking on those properties that had not responded to the service line inventory.

*Asked council if they had any comments regarding the preliminary plans of the streets project to pass along to engineers – Jon and I will be meeting with them next week to review comments and to plan dates for public information meetings

Public Works: Nordsving reported: Been busy with numerous locates around the city for the contractors putting in fiber optic cable; will have a water system audit next week

Fire Department: Clerk Koliha worked with Fire Chief Kyle Ryan on a grant application to Compeer Financial for portable radios; also looking to apply for a DNR grant for hoses and nozzles and/or radios/pagers.

Police: none

Planning Commission: Review of building permit application for Jim & Kristi Davis; Discussion regarding Thompson fence along Minnesota Ave; Discussion regarding potential use of grass alley behind a property for sale to be improved in future to gravel access

Other: none

Old Business

a) 2026 Preliminary Budget Review

Clerk Koliha reviewed the budgets with council – the general fund budget is currently budgeted with a 10% tax levy increase but will be worked to bring that down by the end of the year – the sewer fund budget is a work in progress will need to look at doing a utility rate increase to help balance the budget – the water fund budget is healthy and doing well at this time

New Business

a) Consider approval of Resolution #2025-13: Establishing the 2026 Preliminary Tax Levy

Motion by Dowling, seconded by Hafner to approve Resolution #2025-13: Establishing the 2026 Preliminary Tax Levy; motion carried.

b) Consider approval of temporary liquor license application for the Canton American Legion for October 11, 2025

Motion by Hafner, seconded by Dowling to approve the temporary liquor license application for the Canton American Legion for October 11, 2025; motion carried.

c) Consider approval of fireworks display following Lighted Parade on December 6

Motion by Dowling, seconded by Hanson to approve the fireworks display following the Lighted Parade on December 6; motion carried.

d) Consider temporary closure of Main Street on December 6 for Santa Day Lighted Parade

Motion by Hafner, seconded by Dowling to approve temporary closure of Main Street on December 6 for Santa Day Lighted Parade; motion carried.

e) Consider fee for unmetered water service & publish update of fees in newspaper

Motion by Hafner seconded by Hanson to establish an unmetered water service fee of \$50 and publish an abbreviated schedule of fees update in the Fillmore County Journal; motion carried.

f) Consider approval of land use application for Jim & Kristi Davis

Motion by Hafner, seconded by Hanson to approve the land use application for Jim & Kristi Davis; motion carried.

Motion by Dowling, seconded by Hanson to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m.; motion carried.