

The Palo City Council met in open session Monday, April 21st, 2025, at the Palo Community Center in the Council Chambers. Mayor Van Kerckhove led those in the Pledge of Allegiance, then called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Councilmembers present: Angie Brekke, Pete Hagstrom, Doug Hanover, Jen Welton, and Darren Stoltenberg. Others Present: Lenna Goodale, City Clerk; Clark Robertson, Public Works; Michelle Cheever, City Engineer. Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve the agenda. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0). Hanover motioned to approve the consent agenda. Hagstrom, second. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

CLAIMS REPORT

VENDOR	REFERENCE	AMOUNT
ABC DISPOSAL SYSTEMS, INC	SOLID WASTE	14,269.74
ALLIANT ENERGY	GAS & ELECTRIC	5,747.12
ALLISON GROFF	TRAINING & MILEAGE	227.49
ALTORFER INC	GENERATOR-YATES ROAD	5,251.24
AMERICAN LEGION POST 679	FLAG	30.00
BOLTON & MENK INC	ENGINEERING	6,534.00
BOWKER MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS	HVAC- CC/CITY HALL	2,419.95
BRANDI ROERHLISBERGER	LIB. CARD	25.00
CAMPBELL SUPPLY CO.	TOOLS	550.10
CEDAR RAPIDS MUN. UTIL.	SEWER USAGE	15,861.94
CINTAS CORPORATION	CITY HALL/CC	1,307.18
CITY OF FAIRFAX	INSPECTOR	2,839.23
CONNOLLY CONSTRUCTION INC	ECICOG-112 VINTON	15,000.00
CYNTHIA STIMSON	MENTOR	85.20
D & K PRODUCTS	DYE	53.00
DALTON PENNINGTON	IA FIRE NUGGETS TRAINING	250.00
DELTA DENTAL OF IOWA	DENTAL INSURANCE	175.20
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	2,995.48
EFTPS	FED/FICA TAX	2,938.22
ELECTRIC PUMP, INC	REPAIR	4,812.08
EO JOHNSON TECHNOLOGIES	COPIER	467.45
FIRE SERVICE TRAINING BUREAU	FD TRAINING	250.00
FUSIONSITE MIDWEST LLC	PORT A POTTY	118.25
GAZETTE COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	LEGAL PUBLICATION	595.53
HAWKEYE COMMUNICATION INC.	CITY HALL	294.00
HAWKINS, INC.	CHEMICALS	1,289.59
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	2,139.53
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	SALES WET TAXES	1,925.71
IOWA PUMP WORKS INC.	pump	2,200.00
IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	254.58
IPERS	IPERS	3,782.45
IPERS	IPERS ADJUSTMENT	-0.02
INFRASTRUCTURE TECHNOLOGY SOLU	TECHNOLOGY	577.00
JAMES SEELY	OFFICE SUPPLIES	238.75
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	REPAIRS/MISC	550.73
JOSHUA DESPARD	IA FIRE NUGGETS TRAINING	250.00
KENWOOD RECORDS MGT INC.	RECYCLE BIN	15.90
LENNA GOODALE	TRAINING/TRAVEL	353.06

LIFE TIME FENCE COMPANY INC.	PARK FENCE	1,595.00
LINN COUNTY PLAN. & DEV.	INSPECTIONS/PROPERTY MAINT	1,749.96
LINN COUNTY REC	STREET LIGHTS	282.82
LINN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	CONTRACT FOR SERVICES	10,962.00
LYNCH DALLAS PC	LEGAL FEES	2,241.48
MENARDS SOUTH INC.	SUPPLIES-CLYMER	243.29
MENARDS-MARION	SUPPLIES	116.16
MERCY CEDAR RAPIDS	FIRE PHYSICAL	328.00
MICROBAC LABORATORIES INC	TESTING	144.25
MILES WYATT	IA FIRE NUGGETS	750.00
NUTRIEN AG SOLUTIONS, INC	SPRAY	729.40
OFFICE EXPRESS INC	SUPPLIES	76.98
PALO COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE ASS	PHONE	609.25
PLUNKETT'S PEST CONTROL INC.	MAINT BUILDING	80.25
RED LION RENEWABLES LLC	SOLAR PANELS	3,762.00
SCHIMBERG COMPANY	PAINT/FLAGS	171.04
SHAWN LAFLE	IA FIRE NUGGETS	250.00
iPROMOTEu.com, INC	Parks & Rec- T-ball Shirts	888.00
STATE CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS	CHEMICALS	1,697.44
STOREY KENWORTHY CORPORATION	UTILITY POSTCARDS	770.00
TRUENORTH COMPANIES, LC	INSURANCE	292.60
UHS PREMIUM BILLING	HEALTH INSURANCE	2,719.04
US BANK	CC- SUPPLIES	2,058.07
US CELLULAR	CELL PHONE	314.38
US POSTAL SERVICE	POSTAGE	454.36
VAN METER INC	REPAIR	105.34
VIKING INDUSTRIAL PAINTING LLC	WATER TOWER	4,952.00
WEX BANK	FIRE DEPT FUEL	381.58
Accounts Payable Total		135,399.37
Total Paid On: 3/28/25		10,013.53
Total Paid On: 4/11/25		9,192.48
Total Payroll Paid		19,206.01
***** REPORT TOTAL *****		154,605.38
GENERAL		68,395.71
ROAD USE		8,253.38
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		1,884.66
TIF		15,000.00
PARK CIP PROJECTS		1,964.00
WATER		27,406.01
SEWER		31,701.62
TOTAL FUNDS		154,605.38
March 2025		
General Fund	38,783.56	
Road Use	12,779.98	
L.O.S.T.	18,721.86	
TIF	2,171.71	
Debt Service	1,971.38	
Water Fund	38,228.63	
Sewer Fund	58,481.01	
Total Revenue:	171,138.13	

General Fund	54,389.46
Road Use Fund	10,940.87
Employee Benefits	6,099.72
Water Fund	34,674.99
Sewer Fund	31,352.54
Total Expenses:	137,457.58

Deputy Woodcock gave the Linn County Sheriff's Report. Met required hours and had 81 activities.

Goodale gave the clerk's report: 90 penalties, 38 courtesy calls, 0 shut-offs, 1 nuisance letter, 5 high consumption, 7 service orders, 1 rental inspection. There will be a special meeting on March 27. Residents voiced concerns at City Hall about mini-bikes racing on Vinton St and Main St. Allison Groff attended the IMFOA conference last week. Dollar General will open on May 5. May 10 is Amnesty Day from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. Demolition will start the first week in May for 2nd St. Completed FY26 budget and FY25 budget amendment. The City Clerk position was listed on the website, Corridor, Facebook, Iowa League of Cities, and Clerk Net. 6 applications at this point. Working on the city insurance with ICAP.

Robertson gave the maintenance report. The maintenance department toured a water plant in Dubuque. Had a meeting with disc golf, MPO, and DNR Flood Mitigation. Water testing and meter readings were done. Started on the pavilion at Clymer Park. Mowed, sprayed, and burned ditches. Ball fields are ready, and bathrooms are ready at Memorial Park. The splash pad is still closed. Munson started working on the FD back door keypad. Iowa Pump Works is looking into one pump. Worked with Cheever on the water plant and both lift stations, working with WesTech, and working with Linn Co on 28E. Fire hydrant markers are down, and we started flushing. Sunflowers and other wildflowers will be planted. Fixed some stop signs.

Andrew Lutter gave the fire department report. 13 calls this month. Hose handling training is done. Life flight in the next couple of months. Pancake breakfast on Sunday, April 27.

Robertson gave the Parks & Rec Report. T-ball shirts have been ordered. Fan merch can be ordered April 25-May 4. Pictures on banners will be taken at the first practice. Coaches meeting on April 27. Working on the sponsor's list to get their logo on banners. Summer reading, slow pitch, self-defense class, and sand volleyball have been postponed. Stoltenberg is working with the Kernels on some potential programs for Palo.

Mayor Van Kerckhove gave the mayor's report and stated that he would like to have the maintenance department install flag poles by July 4th.

The mayor opens agenda-related audience comments at 6:39 pm. A resident voiced concerns about drainage issues on her property in Dry Creek Estates. Closed comments at 6:46 pm.

Joe Horaney with the Solid Waste Agency. He informed the council of the new tipping fees for FY26. See website at www.solidwasteagency.org. Bed mattress recycling is \$20 at the landfill and \$10 at Willis Dady Shelter. They also partner with Central Furniture Rescue for all furniture.

Motioned by Hanover, seconded by Brekke to open public hearing at 7:00 pm. No discussion. Welton motion, Hagstrom second to close hearing at 7:01 pm. Brekke motion to approve **Resolution 042125A**, City of Palo's Annual Budget for FY26. Seconded by Hagstrom. Roll call. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Hanover, seconded by Stoltenberg to open public hearing at 7:01 pm. No discussion. Brekke motion, Hanover second to close hearing at 7:02 pm. Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve **Resolution 042125B**, approving the FY25 Budget Amendment #2. Roll call. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Hanover, seconded by Hagstrom to approve **Resolution 042125C**, setting the Public Hearing for Leasing City Equipment. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Had a discussion on leasing and purchasing a skid loader. The council decided to purchase instead of leasing at this time. Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Welton to approve the purchasing of Altorfer skid loader for \$105,000. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve **Resolution 042125D**, approving Part-Time Summer Seasonal Employee for \$20 per hour. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Goodale informed the council that they had approved earlier by motion, but Owens' engineer needs a resolution. Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Hanover to approve **Resolution 042125E**, approving Owen's Crossing Second Addition Final Plat. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

A discussion was held with Cheever and residents regarding the drainage/rock area in Dry Creek Estates. Motioned by Hanover, seconded by Hagstrom to postpone until Cheever does some investigating. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Hagstrom to approve **Amnesty Day** on Saturday, May 10th from 7:00 am to 11:00 pm. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Ryan Scheckel represents West Linn Community Group. They are looking to expand Palo Fun Days to four days. He asked the city to donate \$3500 to fireworks. Road closures for the run/walk, the parade, and would like to have the city pay for three sheriffs for three days. The city will post on the marquee, social media, and Facebook. Motioned by Hanover, seconded by Brekke to approve **Resolution 042125G**, approving the event items for the 2025 Annual Palo Fun Days. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Had a discussion regarding no glass in the can holders or can cage. Brekke motioned, and Hanover seconded to approve WLCG can holders at Clymer Park and Memorial Park with weekly pick-up. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

A discussion was held regarding the renter's responsibility for the fields. No equipment is provided, chalking, and raking of the fields. The storage shed rental fee is \$25 per month. Motioned by Welton, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve Baseball Diamond Maintenance. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Hanover to approve Trail Maintenance from April 1st to November 1st. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Robertson has completed his Public Drinking Water system. Robertson received his Treatment Grade 2 and Distribution Grade 2 certifications. Motioned by Hagstrom, seconded by Hanover to approve **Resolution 042125F**, approving Employment Compensation for the Public Works Superintendent of a \$1 increase. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

David Hockett with Bolton & Menk explained to the council the scope and fee for the new comprehensive plan. The city's comprehensive plan was adopted on 3/12/12. He mentioned that the plan will need public participation for this process. Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve **Resolution 042125H**, approving the Comprehensive Plan Proposal \$57,740. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Mayor Van Kerckhove asked the council to move the general audience's comments since there were representatives from NextEra. Motioned by Welton, seconded by Hagstrom, to open audience comments at 8:00 pm. Representative Garrett Goldfinger spoke regarding the reopening of Duane Arnold Energy Center. Q3 2025 license amendment to restore technical specifications. Q4 2025 security/cybersecurity plan. Q1 2026 application for subsequent license renewal, including environmental. Q2 2026 miscellaneous submittals for rescission of exemptions for decommissioning. Q1/Q2 2028 Operational readiness letter, and NRC authorization to support reactor fuel loading. Q4 2028 estimates the restart of commercial operations.

A resident spoke regarding painting curbs, a veteran sign at the park, and signage at the boat ramp.

A resident suggested looking into grants for stormwater. The mayor closed the comment period at 8:23 pm

Had an in-depth discussion with Cheever regarding the water rates, what expenses are going out of the water fund, and what the solution. Motioned by Stoltenberg, seconded by Brekke to postpone until the council has a water workshop for May 15 at 5:30 pm. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Welton, seconded by Hagstrom, to postpone until the council has a sewer workshop on May 15 at 5:30 pm. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

New Business- Brekke asked when the city will paint lines on Hwy 94. Robertson July 2025.

Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Welton to adjourn at 8:52 pm. Respectfully submitted by Lenna Goodale, City Clerk.