

City of Palo Regular Council Meeting
Monday, October 20th, 2025

The Palo City Council met in open session Monday, October 20th, 2025, at the Palo Community Center in the Council Chambers. Mayor Van Kerckhove led those present in the pledge of allegiance then called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Councilmembers present: Angie Brekke, Pete Hagstrom (via phone), Doug Hanover, Jen Welton, and Darren Stoltenberg. Others Present: Jennifer Fencil, City Clerk; Clark Robertson, Public Works; Dan Morgan, City Attorney; and Michelle Cheever, City Engineer. Motioned by Welton, seconded by Hagstrom to approve the agenda. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0). Hanover motioned to approve the consent agenda, Stoltenberg second. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

CLAIMS REPORT

| VENDOR | REFERENCE | AMOUNT |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| ABC DISPOSAL SYSTEMS, INC | SOLID WASTE | \$ 14,683.19 |
| AGVANTAGE, FS, INC. | FUEL | \$ 36.00 |
| ALLEGRA | DOOR HANGERS- SEWER | \$ 155.85 |
| ALLIANT ENERGY | GAS & ELECTRIC | \$ 5,076.28 |
| ALTORFER INC | BUCKETS | \$ 5,407.50 |
| BOLTON & MENK INC | ENGINEERING | \$ 26,086.00 |
| CAMPBELL SUPPLY CO. | | \$ 295.50 |
| CEDAR RAPIDS MUN. UTIL. | SEWER USAGE | \$ 38,137.71 |
| CEDAR RIVER BILLBARD | TRAIL SIGN | \$ 40.00 |
| CINTAS CORPORATION | CC/CH | \$ 722.98 |
| CITY OF FAIRFAX | INSPECTOR | \$ 1,778.62 |
| CJ COOPER & ASSOCIATES INC | DRUG TESTING DOT | \$ 350.00 |
| CONSOLIDATED ENERGY COMPANY | FUEL | \$ 1,586.58 |
| CUSTOM HOSE & SUPPLIES INC. | | \$ 211.67 |
| D & K PRODUCTS | HYDRO SEEDING- HORTON | \$ 680.00 |
| DANIEL CHARLIER | FLAGS | \$ 415.29 |
| DAWN VAN DORSTON | RENTAL REFUND | \$ 500.00 |
| EFTPS | FED/FICA TAX | \$ 2,886.18 |
| EFTPS | FED/FICA TAX | \$ 2,729.27 |
| EFTPS | FED/FICA TAX | \$ 5,615.45 |
| FUSIONSITE MIDWEST LLC | PORT A POTTY | \$ 297.00 |
| FUTURE LINE TRUCK EQUIPMENT | PLOWS | \$ 307.79 |
| GAZETTE COMMUNICATIONS, INC. | LEGAL PUBLICATION | \$ 209.79 |
| HAWKEYE COMMUNICATION INC. | CH | \$ 294.00 |
| IMWCA | WORKER'S COMP | \$ 816.00 |
| IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE | STATE TAXES | \$ 1,995.06 |
| IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE | SALES TAX | \$ 232.46 |
| IOWA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE | WET TAX | \$ 2,125.57 |
| IOWA DNR | ANNUAL WATER FEE FY25/26 | \$ 152.97 |
| IOWA ONE CALL | LOCATES | \$ 47.70 |
| IOWA PRISON INDUSTRIES | STREET SIGNS | \$ 362.34 |
| IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT | UNEMPLOYMENT | \$ 216.94 |
| IPERS | IPERS | \$ 3,629.38 |
| INFRASTRUCTURE TECHNOLOGY SOLU | TECHNOLOGY | \$ 7,613.85 |
| JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL | SUPPLIES | \$ 417.30 |
| KENWOOD RECORDS MGT INC. | RECYCLE BIN | \$ 16.85 |

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| L.L. PELLING CO., INC. | PREMIX | \$ 56.70 |
| LINN COUNTY REC | STREET LIGHTS | \$ 279.76 |
| LINN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE | CONTRACT FOR SERVICES | \$ 11,745.00 |
| LYNCH DALLAS PC | LEGAL FEES | \$ 5,064.19 |
| MENARDS SOUTH INC. | PAINT | \$ 698.86 |
| MICROBAC LABORATORIES INC | TESTING | \$ 111.75 |
| MUNICIPAL SUPPLY, INC. | METERS | \$ 531.19 |
| MUNSON ELECTRIC INC | ELECTRICAL/CAMERA | \$ 4,748.35 |
| OFFICE EXPRESS INC | SUPPLIES | \$ 172.96 |
| PALO COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE ASS | | \$ 609.25 |
| PETER L KOPPEN | STUMP GRINDING | \$ 500.00 |
| PLUNKETT'S PEST CONTROL INC. | PEST CONTROL | \$ 80.25 |
| RED LION RENEWABLES LLC | SOLAR PANELS | \$ 5,701.11 |
| REPUBLIC ELECTRIC COMPANY LLC | STREET SIGNS | \$ 1,484.50 |
| STATE CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS | CHEMICALS | \$ 1,748.36 |
| UMB BANK | GO 2019A | \$ 1,200.00 |
| US BANK | SUPPLIES & STAMPS | \$ 2,965.84 |
| US CELLULAR | CELL PHONE | \$ 595.16 |
| US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY | RIVER GAGE | \$ 3,740.00 |
| US POSTAL SERVICE | POSTAGE | \$ 500.00 |
| US TREASURY | REPAY UNUSED ARPA FUNDS | \$ 269.12 |
| VESSCO, INC | BLOWER REPAIR | \$ 2,133.01 |
| VIKING INDUSTRIAL PAINTING LLC | INSTALLMENT 4YR- 2025 Q3 | \$ 4,952.00 |
| WEX BANK | FIRE DEPT FUEL | \$ 105.68 |
| Accounts Payable Total | | \$ 170,506.66 |
| Total Paid On: 9/26/25 | | \$ 10,512.37 |
| Total Paid On: 10/10/25 | | \$ 9,851.91 |
| Total Payroll Paid | | \$ 20,364.28 |
| ***** REPORT TOTAL ***** | | \$ 190,870.94 |
| GENERAL | | \$ 82,599.89 |
| ROAD USE | | \$ 12,798.43 |
| EMPLOYEE BENEFITS | | \$ 625.20 |
| DEBT SERVICE | | \$ 1,200.00 |
| ARPA | | \$ 5,572.12 |
| SEWER CIP PROJECTS | | \$ 4,184.85 |
| PARK CIP PROJECTS | | \$ 7,415.50 |
| WATER | | \$ 23,516.69 |
| SEWER | | \$ 52,958.26 |
| TOTAL FUNDS | | \$ 190,870.94 |

Deputy Tyler Block gave the Linn County Sheriff's Report. Met the required 87 hours and received 59 calls.

Hanover motioned to open Public Hearing at 6:33 pm, seconded by Stoltenberg. A resident at 50 Dale Lee Drive spoke about his CPA background and described his research on these types of bonds. He concluded that he supported the action. Motion by Hanover, seconded by Hagstrom to close the public hearing at 6:38 pm. Council discussed the matter. Motioned by Stoltenberg, seconded by Brekke to approve **Resolution 102025A**, Private School Revenue Bonds- Xavier School Project that states the City's intent to proceed with the bond request. Roll Call. Motion carried (5-0).

Fencil gave the clerk's report. There were 68 delinquent letters, 26 shut off courtesy calls, 2 shut off's, added residents to set-off

program, 7 service orders, Port-A-Potty's will be picked up (Clymer has been picked up & Memorial on Nov. 7th). Allison and I had IMFOA training in Des Moines last week, worked on Annual Reports, still struggling with gWorks. Trunk or Treat is this weekend.

Robertson gave the maintenance report. Mowed ditches and cut down dead ash trees, compiled inventory list of tools and equipment with maintenance history, water tower inspection completed, HVAC at city hall serviced, CAT inspected and repaired voltage regulator on water treatment plant generator and ordered blower parts, 2 of 3 plows serviced with one still under repair. Working with Cedar Rapids on flow meter on Elis Road, consulted with WesTech and Vesco about in-house pilot study, and Grayco set up the paint sprayer for line painting. Roto-Rooter inspected older downtown district for infiltration study. Installed smart point meters, flushed and flow tested hydrants, and started preparing for winter conditions in parks and on equipment. Completed monthly and quarterly water testing, attend meetings working with parks and recreation committee and city budget planning.

James Seely gave the fire department report. 15 calls- 8 medical, 2 mutual aid, 2 service calls and 3 false alarms. Successful hose testing and training on low flow hoses in recent weeks. Free hot dogs at Fire Station on Halloween & witch watch trucks will be out during trick-n-treat.

Parks & Rec meeting minutes included for review.

Mayor Van Kerckhove announced the Google Data Center planned near Duane Arnold Electricity Plant.

Mayor opens agenda related audience comments at 6:52 pm. No discussion. Closed comments at 6:54 pm.

Erin Seely was presented with the 2025 Citizen of the Year Award. Erin was present to receive award.

Discussed employee health insurance renewal. Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Hanover to switch to Wellmark. Motion carried (5-0).

Salt contract for winter road treatment was discussed. Motioned by Welton, seconded by Brekke to approve the not to exceed \$4400.00 contract. Motion carried (5-0).

Proposal for weekly cleaning services at City Hall was discussed. Council requested that the time spent, and cleaning outcomes be tracked. Motioned by Welton, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve the month-to-month arrangement. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Stoltenberg, seconded by Welton to approve **Resolution 102025B, Write Off Uncollectable Debt from unpaid utilities**. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Welton, seconded by Hanover to approve **Resolution 102025C, 90 Day Employee Review- Jennifer Fencil**. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Discussed Agenda request for Cub Scout Pack 87 to use the Facilities (gym & kitchen) free of charge on February 28th, 2026, for the Pinewood Derby. Motioned by Welton, seconded by Brekke to approve the request. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Discussed Agenda request for Pack 87 to use the Facilities (gym & kitchen) free of charge on February 7th, 2026, for the Blue & Gold Banquet. Motioned by Welton, seconded by Brekke to approve the request. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Discussed Agenda request for Troop 766 to use the Facilities (Library, chambers, gym & kitchen) free of charge from December 6 at 6pm to December 7th, 2025, at 6:30 am, for the Lock-In. Motioned by Welton, seconded by Brekke to approve the request. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Discussed building a roof for the sand and salt bunker. Purchasing materials and building internally was agreed upon. Motioned by Welton, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Discussed selling equipment the maintenance dept does not use. One snow blower and two mowers. Motioned by Stoltenberg, seconded by Brekke to approve. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Discussed the Flock License Plate Recognition cameras proposed by the Linn County Sheriff's Office. Council would like information from other communities that have installed them and to consider the cost in the FY27 budgeting process. Motioned

by Hanover, seconded by Stoltenberg to table the matter until February 2026. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0)

Cheever gave an update on efforts to standardize the typical drainage ditch cross-section requirements to improve drainage. Further information will be provided at an upcoming meeting.

Discussed speed limits in residential neighborhoods. The legal speed limit is 25 miles per hour in those neighborhoods, and the signs currently say 20 miles per hour. Though not enforceable, the argument for keeping the lower limit signs is to deter speeding where kids play. Motioned by Welton, seconded by Hagstrom to post signs in compliance with state law and order more flashing light speed signs. 4 Yeas, 1 Nay by Brekke. Motion carried (4-1).

Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Welton to approve **Resolution 102025D, Setting Public Hearing for FY26 Budget Amendment #1 on November 17th at 6:30 pm at City Hall Chambers**. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Welton, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve **Resolution 102025E, Approving Annual Urban Renewal Report for Fiscal Year 2024-2025**. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Welton, seconded by Brekke to approve **Resolution 102025F, Approving Street Finance Report for Fiscal Year 2023-2024**. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Welton to approve **Debris Management Plan**. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Discussed approving Prairie Vista 3rd Addition TIF Application. Council decided to move forward and involve Bond Counsel. Motioned by Welton, seconded by Brekke to approve. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Hanover to approve **Resolution 102025G, Setting the Public Hearing for Amending the Future Land Use Map as Part of the Palo Comprehensive Plan**. 5 Yeas, 0 Nay. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Brekke, seconded by Stoltenberg to approve the final passage and adoption with respect to **Ordinance No. 83-2025 AN ORDINANCE Amending Chapter 55 (Animal Protection and Control) of the City Code of Ordinances. Roll call. Motion carried (5-0)**.

Motioned by Stoltenberg, seconded by Brekke to introduce and approve the first reading of ORDINANCE 85-2025, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 99 (Sewer Service Charges) of the City Code of Ordinances of the City of Palo, Iowa. Roll call vote. Motion carried (5-0).

Motioned by Welton, seconded by Brekke to introduce and approve the first reading of ORDINANCE 86-2025 An Ordinance Establishing Chapter 26 "Utility Committee" of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Palo, Iowa. Roll call vote. Motion carried (5-0).

Mayor opens general audience comments at 8 pm. Kelsey Tayler discussed drainage issue and the possibility of installing a bioswale to manage runoff. Bill Zeller asked about playground equipment in Zeller Park. Closed comments at 8:13 pm.

New Business-

Old Business-

Motioned by Welton, seconded by Hagstrom to adjourn at 8:13pm. Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Fencil, City Clerk.