

# **CITY OF ROSE CREEK**

ANDREW LEISEN - Mayor  
Kristine Allas – Clerk-Treasurer

105 MAPLE STREET SE – P.O. BOX 236  
ROSE CREEK, MN 55970  
(507) 437-6105  
(507) 437-1070 (fax)  
Email: [cityofrosecreek@gmail.com](mailto:cityofrosecreek@gmail.com)

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## **Regular Council Meeting May 5, 2025**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regular meeting of the City Council of Rose Creek was held, Monday, May 5, 2025, with the following present: Mayor Andrew Leisen, Council Members: Thomas Lewison, Andrew Felten, Mark Conradt, Wendel Sprung, City Clerk/Treasurer Allas, and absent: Public Works/Maintenance Aaron Wagner. There were approximately 13 guests/residents in attendance.

Mayor Andrew Leisen opened the regular meeting of the City Council at 6:00 p.m. and we recited the Pledge of Allegiance. City Clerk/Treasurer Allas swore in Thomas Lewison with his Oath & Acceptance for the council seat. Council Member Andrew Felten made the motion to approve the Agenda, Council Member Wendel Sprung seconded, and approved by Mayor Andrew Leisen.

Council Member Wendel Sprung made the motion to approve April 7, 2025, Regular Council Meeting Minutes, Council Member Andrew Felten seconded, and approved by Mayor Andrew Leisen. Council Member Andrew Felten made the motion to approve the April 14, 2025, Special Meeting for Canvassing the election of April 8, 2025, Council Member Mark Conradt seconded and approved by Mayor Andrew Leisen.

The council welcomed Southland's High School Principal & Superintendent Scott Hall as he presented his goal of updating the Rose Creek City Council. He feels it was a great year with the success of activities and all the teams and sports doing well. Enrollment is still growing (up 30%), and they use open enrollment. The district will be adding a full-time nurse/licensed counselor. They completed their food service audit and how they are using that program. The district is trying to make more room, by also renovating storage for more space. They also extended their summer roof restoration for another 10-year warranty and will have some repairs starting soon. The school district is not planning to ask voters for more funding. The Council thanked Superintendent Hall for the presentation.

Josh Englar of Barga, Inc explained his quote for the upcoming street repair, and the Council thanked him for coming to the meeting.

Curt Sheely gave a presentation on the City's insurance policy and asked if there needed to be changes, to let him know.

Citizen's Concerns: Response to S. Taylor – she was not in attendance. Council Members Mark Conradt and Andrew Felten spoke to the residents regarding the 2 documents that Ms. Taylor handed out to the resident present at the March regular Council meeting – and that the amounts that were presented from her documents were incorrect – #1 FMEC moving the electrical pole on Oak St cost the City nothing, and the electricity is now run under the street; #2 water tower fencing came from gambling tax funds that the City can use when purchasing a new item for the City as a whole, and the fence was placed for safety. Both Council Members reiterated that the expense amounts on the 2 documents were not completely true, and they are interested in knowing where the amounts came from. Bob Rosel stated that when documents are handed out, he would ask for proof, and he feels this is wasting Council's time to deal with it. Denise Lewison stated her opinion, when there is no proof of invoices, it makes the council, city, and staff look bad, and it is wrong to call for the television station to be here. Patty Conradt stated she agrees with Bob and Denise and that if you want respect, you must give it, or you don't deserve it. Council Member Andrew Felten explained that the Special Election mistake was nothing else but a mistake, and with the television crew here, it is overkill, and it puts a shadow on the town. Council Member Thomas Lewison stated the judge ordered him off the Council until the election, nothing else, and he could run for the office, and it's time to get down to important work and get rid of this stupid stuff.

Mayor Andrew Leisen recommended and urged others to contact the legislators regarding passing the bonding bill. He wrote letters to Senator Dornink and Representative Mueller and spoke with Kyle at U.S. Rural Development and Drew at MN Public Facilities, and he is hoping for the SE MN Municipalities to congressionally direct the spending to close any

gaps for grants/loans. MN Rural Water Association has free events for financing cities, and the next one is October, but they may have more events.

Council Member Thomas Lewison: 4<sup>th</sup> St project needs to be done, and he's been in contact with Bustad Dozing, and the sewer lines are flat and can not lower the main. He stated he has spoken with Mergen's, and they are on track with City paying ½ the trenching, and they pay for their part.

Rick Bottema requested to pay for the transfer of the property behind him, and the no cost to the City. The consensus was to for the City to check into it and get back to him.

Creek Club Report: Kretta Menuey presented the report: Spring Fling/Easter Bunny at the Rose Creek Wayside Park April 12<sup>th</sup> had around 75 kids. The water heater in the concession stand is not working, Council Member Thomas Lewison said he would check it out with Aaron Wagner, Public Works. Rose Creek Fun Days are being planned and need volunteers. Softball at the park diamond, need volunteers for the concession stand, Monday through Thursday for the Summer Youth, and they gross between \$100-300 but need volunteers.

Aaron Wagner gave the Public Works/Maintenance Report. He has been seeking for estimates for the roof damage/truss damage, and for street sealing or repair, ordered rock for Thill's Creek Addition and the extra rock pile. Council Member Wendel Sprung made the motion for Aaron to order rock as last year, and grading (check with Pell), Council Member Thomas Lewison seconded, and approved by Mayor Andrew Leisen. Mayor Andrew Leisen asked if 5<sup>th</sup> St by the church could be added to the estimates from Borgen Inc and Mower County Highway Department. Council Member Andrew Felten made the motion to accept Borgen's #1 crack repair \$26,424.30 and #1 chip seal \$48,283.32, Council Member Thomas Lewison seconded, and approved by Mayor Andrew Leisen. City Clerk/Treasurer Allas to notify Borgen Inc. He has been checking into street signs/stop signs/weight restriction signs (for Rail Street), with reflective and durable signs (\$3,200 – 4,500 range for all the signs. Some signs can be ordered through the County. Trees: Park has around 5 dead /ash trees, and some trees with hanging limbs near the road/resident's barns, with many limbs bent over.

City Hall Roof Repair/Fire Department shop (tightening or replacement of screws on the steel roof) and the trusses need shimming. Bar T Construction handed in an estimate with minimal information at \$2,100 and Maverick had an estimate of \$8,000 on the roof. Trusses had an estimate from Bar T Construction for \$400. Council Member Thomas Lewison made the motion approve repair of the roof with Bar T Construction for \$2,100 and \$400 for the trusses, Council Member Mark Conradt seconded the motion and approved by Mayor Andrew Leisen. He also asked for Summer Help approval, he has 2 people that are interested (mowing/painting). Council Member Andrew Felten and Thomas Lewison stated, this is a learning curve for having a fulltime public works/maintenance, and not to hire Summer Help at this time but some of the Council Members could assist for a while, especially with mowing.

Mayor Andrew Leisen gave a MN DOT update – no cost to the City of Rose Creek and they would put in Conflict Warning System while on County 19, and it warns you if there is a vehicle coming. No flashers for the reduced speed signs.

Mayor Andrew Leisen made the suggestion of the water/wastewater base rate be raised from \$27.50 to \$34.50 with the 1<sup>st</sup> 1000 gallons included (from \$55.00 for both water/wastewater base fee to \$69.00 for both water/wastewater per quarter), and after the base rate per 1000 gallons from \$3.75 to \$4.50 for each water and for wastewater, depending on how much usage. Council Member Mark Conradt made the motion to approve water/wastewater base rate be raised from \$27.50 to \$34.50 with the 1<sup>st</sup> 1000 gallons included (from \$55.00 for both water/wastewater base fee to \$69.00 for both water/wastewater per quarter), and after the base rate per 1000 gallons from \$3.75 to \$4.50 for each water and for wastewater, depending on how much usage and effective October (4<sup>th</sup> quarter), and payable January 2026 invoice, Council Member Thomas Lewison seconded, and approved by Mayor Andrew Leisen.

Vanessa Jennings is asking for a fence permit, and her father has constructed it the weekend before due to a safety issue of her little girl running towards Hwy 56. She is asking for 70' from the side of her home towards the park, and then 70' to the west and it is temporary material (cow panels). Council Member Thomas Lewison made the motion to approve a new fence permit on the condition that it either the temporary fence be removed or the material with a new fence be more appropriate before May 1, 2026, Council Member Wendel Sprung seconded and approved Mayor Andrew Leisen.

Wendel Sprung is asking for a fence permit for 2 small pieces of fencing to be added between his shop/shed and home/shed. Council Member Andrew Felten made the motion to approve the 2 additions between shop/shed and home/shed, Council Member Thomas Lewison seconded, Council Member Wendel Sprung abstained from voting, and approved by Mayor Andrew Leisen.

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Brad/Kim Ross asked for a deck permit. Council Member Wendel Sprung made the motion to approve a deck made of wood to be added to front of home at 200 Oak St E, Rose Creek, MN with total measure of 2½' off ground X 6'W X 16'L X 3½'H (from deck floor to top of railing) and (from home to edge of steps) 10'W, Council Member Andrew Felten seconded, and approved by Mayor Andrew Leisen.

Email: Mayor Andrew Leisen explained about the Council using their own email for Council information subjects it all to data practices. Council Member Thomas Lewison stated he does not have an email address for the Council to use.

Council Member Mark Conradt made the motion to approve and pay all Invoices/Claims/Payroll, Council Member Wendel Sprung seconded, and approved by Mayor Andrew Leisen.

City Clerk/Treasurer Allas requested from the Council to come in late tomorrow, due to assisting the City Clerk of Maplevue with her ARPA Funding report, the consensus of the Council was to go ahead.

Council Member Thomas Lewison made the motion to adjourn at 8:42 pm, Council Member Mark Conradt seconded and approved by Mayor Andrew Leisen.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristine M Allas, City Clerk/Treasurer