

CITY OF BALATON
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 11, 2025, at 7pm

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Balaton City Council was called to order at 6:59pm on Monday, August 11, 2025, by Mayor Lonnie Lambertus
- 2) **ROLL CALL**
 - a) **Present:** Mayor: Lonnie Lambertus, Council Members: Tracy McCloud, Greg Erickson, Dylan Fricke, Curt Paradis
 - b) **Absent:** None
 - c) **Also Present:** Erik Wallen - Lyon County Sheriff's Department, Alexis Birt-Clerk/Treasurer, Josh Torgeson – Balaton Public Works, Kasey Holm-Fire Department, Matt Gross-Attorney, Sophia Gaul-Above the Fold, Ashley Haraldson – Balaton Liquor, Kim Wall, Amy Gillingham, Theresa Zaske, and Mike Wall.
- 3) **APPROVE MINUTES:** A motion was made by McCloud and seconded by Erickson to approve the regular meeting minutes on July 14, 2025 and special meeting minutes on July 28, 2025. Motion carried by all present.
- 4) **FINANCIALS:**
 - (a) Audit Bills, claims & Demands: No questions or corrections. A motion was made by Fricke and seconded by McCloud to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried by all present.
- 5) **REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:** None.
- 6) **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** – Thereasa Zaske wanted to point out that Brad Knudson had contacted her over a couple days about some funds the BACF has to purchase trees. Zaske wanted it on record that Brad has not had a discussion or is an advisor to the BACF and anything he has said that they will do is not true, however if the city does want trees, or anything else, we can do so in the correct way.
- 7) **REPORTS – OFFICERS, BOARDS, COMMITTEES**
 - a) **Water/Sewer/Garbage Delinquent Accounts:** Birt informed the council that shut off was August 11, 2025 and only one resident was shut off.
 - b) **City Personnel** - Employee Hours YTD –
 - 1) **Deputy Clerk Bank Sign In** – A motion was made by Fricke and seconded by Erickson to give Jody Kruger access to the bar for online banking access. Motion carried by all present.
 - c) **Public Works:**
 - 1) **Fuller Paving – Seal Coating/ Black Top** – Torgeson let council know he was still waiting on quotes.
 - 2) **Thein Well**
 - (i) **Well #4 motor replacement** – \$6340.00 to replace to motor, when Thein Well did their inspection they said the motor was at the end of its life. Torgeson wanted approval to spend the money to replace the motor. A motion was made by McCloud and seconded by Paradis. Motion carried by all.
 - d) **Zoning:** nothing
 - e) **EDA:** Erickson stated at the last meeting the board approved two new members on and approved for an alternate. They approved Josh Chandler and Kasey Holm to be on board and then Tracy McCloud to be an alternate if either Greg Ericson or Dylan Ficke was gone, Matt Gross will be checking in to how all that works to make sure everything is done correctly. McCloud questioned that they were supposed to have interviews, and he was never contacted for one and as far as being an alternate he declines and wanted it know that the process was done wrong.
 - f) **Lyon County Sheriff Department**
 - 1) The Lyon County Sheriff Department Officer handed out the July 2025 incident report. Sheriff Wallen stated there was 40 calls and had no other comment.
 - g) **Liquor Store:**
 - 1) Haroldson said Monday nights are not worth being open and was curious about closing on Monday during the summer. Looking at doing this for the summer of 2026.
 - 2) Haroldson was also curious about opening on Sundays for football games and how on and off sale worked that day. The council had already approved to do on and off sale on Sundays. Gross stated on sale is regular hours and off sale can be sold 10 am to 6 pm. Haroldson also asked how opening Sundays and closing Mondays would affect the hours being worked.
 - 3) Nicole Larson and Haroldson had talked about updating gift cards to going to actual gift cards that money would be uploaded on to verses the paper where you just cross off.
 - 4) Haroldson was asked about having THC drinks at the bar. Gross said we can sell them off sale and he believed Balaton could sell them on sale but would have to look in to it to make sure and to know what the rules are with them. Also they would have to be purchased through a licensed manufacturer.
 - h) **Community Center:** n/a
 - i) **Fire/Ambulance Department:**
 - 1) A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by McCloud to approve Hailey Garnetz on as a licensed EMT to the Balaton Ambulance.
- 8) **NEW BUSINES:**
 - a) **Agreement for Assessor Services:** Mark Buysee contacted Lambertus and the City that it was missed the agreement was suppose to be signed in June of this year. A motion was made by Paradis and seconded by Fricke to approve the Assessor Services.
 - b) **Truth – in Taxation meeting:** Date set for December 8, 2025. A motion was made by Paradis and seconded by Ericson. Motion carried by all.
 - c) **Budget meeting dates:** A motion was made McCloud and seconded by Fricke for the Budget meeting dates to be set for August 26 at 6:00 pm and September 9 at 6:00 pm as well as moving the City Council meeting to Tuesday, September 9 at 7:00 pm. Motion carried by all.
- 9) **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** N/A
- 10) **CLOSED PERSONAL MEETING:**
 - a) A motion was made by McCloud and seconded by Erickson to close the meeting at 7:39 pm. Motion carried by all.
Closed meeting opened at 7:50 pm.
- 11) **MISCELLANEOUS:**

- a) **Timmerman Solar Facility:** The Special use permit for the Timmerman Solar Facility just has an updated bond and needs to be approved as presented. A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by Paradis. Motion carried by all.
 - b) **Jody’s 90 day review:** Lambertus and McCloud will get together for Jody’s 90 day review.
 - c) **Culligan Water:** Clerks were asking for approval to have Culligan be paid for under the city hall budget. A motion was made by Erickson and seconded by McCloud.
 - d) **PERA – Wall:** PERA was taken out of Walls check and shouldn’t have been. Wall wanted the paycheck to be reversed and corrected. Birt made it known that PERA was already paid and processed through so either way they are going to be sending her a check for the amount that was paid in. If PERA sends Wall a 1099-R and there is taxes taken out the city will cover/refund that amount.
- 12) **ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Pardis and seconded by Erickson. Motion was carried by all present. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm.

Alexus Birt, City Clerk-Treasurer

Lonnie Lambertus, Mayor