

**CITY OF BALATON
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
September 22, 2025, at 6PM**

The order of the Minutes does not necessarily reflect the order of the meeting.

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER:** The Special Meeting of the Balaton City Council was called to order at 6:01 pm on Monday, September 22, 2025, by Mayor Lonnie Lambertus.
- 2) **ROLL CALL:**
 - **Present:** Mayor – Lonnie Lambertus; Council Members – Greg Erickson, Dylan Fricke, and Curt Paradis
 - **Absent:** Tracy McCloud
 - **Also Present:** Alexis – City Clerk/Treasurer, Josh Torgeson-Public Works Superintendent, Kasey Holm-Fire Chief, Loren and Nancy Westphal, Mike and Kim Wall, and Stephanie Fricke.
- 3) **Budget:**

EXPENDITURES

 - **City Hall:** Increase Materials and supplies from \$1,800 to \$2,800 due to copier machine lease.
 - **Streets, Parks and Snow:** Dylan raised a question about the pay loader expenses being \$31,000.00 and it ran the streets, parks and snow capital out lays dry and increased one by \$35,000.00. Do we want to take out of the Unrestricted Funds and transfer in under the General Fund Revenue to cover the cost so we do not suck those capital outlays dry? Could possibly bring the percentage down of the Levy increase. General Fund transfer in of \$32,000.00.
 Greg – So if we do that are we lowering below zero as there is only \$21,000.00 in there now.
 Another thing to look at and realized for next year as we just took out the \$32,000. It would need to be done every year to put down or next year percentage will go up to compensate.
 Dylan – What would the percent look like if we did half (\$16,000) – percentage would be 1.06%.
 Greg – Will this money that you are talking about (\$70,000.00) cover what the fire department needs?
 Curt – Some of it. We should do fairly in smaller chucks to get that back to them.
 Kasey – So the \$30,000.00 is not necessarily replacing the capital outlay, as we need to figure that out as well?
 So that is coming out of Unrestricted Funds. This will not affect the percentage of taxing. Can this be done now or anytime?
 Curt - December 31, 2025 will be the final say on the tax levy. Goal is to keep it down to 1%
 Lonnie – we can go lower on the % but cannot go higher.
 - **Fire:** Transfer out of Expense from \$82,268.00 (Council) and transfer in of \$30,000.00
 - **Payroll:** There is a new law coming into place on January 1, 2026 regarding the Minnesota Paid Medical Leave. \$3,000.00 was added throughout the FICA amounts to adjust for this law.
- 4) Greg Erickson made a motion to set the preliminary levy at 3.59%, second by Curt Paradis. Motion carried by all present.
- 5) **ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Greg Erickson and seconded by Dylan Fricke. Motion carried by all present. The meeting adjourned at 8: pm.

Jody Kruger / Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

Lonnie Lambertus, Mayor