

REG SPOONER CITY COUNCIL MINS
Tues, July 7, 2026 5PM in Council Chambers

- 1) CALL MTG TO ORDER; Mayor called mtg to order at 5p.m.
- 2) ROLL CALL; 7 present, 1 absent. Oja arrived at 5:02 p.m.
- 3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE;
- 4) PUBLIC COMMENTARY;

Jim Witzius – family owned Whispering Pines resort growing up. Discussed growth of Spooner or lack thereof. Events held in Spooner doesn't help downtown businesses. We have driven everything out of downtown. Jack Pine doesn't help downtown. Street dances are no longer in downtown. Not one single event other than Ladies Night Out. We need to do something different. Compared Spooner to Shell Lake, Hayward and Siren. At Shell Lake street dance, families were having fun. Entertainment for entire family. Cooperation with city police and county deputies. It was very well done. Spooner needs to make change, think about moving forward, can't keep doing same thing. Compared Spooner to Hayward during Musky Fest. Event space in parking lot. We can make similar space in downtown Spooner. Ask city council to rethink where we are going and looking at communities around us. We are 'Crossroads' but we are more like pass through on way to somewhere else. We want Spooner to be destination.

Nancy Markgren – grew up in Spooner and have lived here over 85 yrs. It was more vibrant city.

Kim Fox – we were destination. Grew up in Spooner and would love to see it thriving again.

- 5) Mayor's Comments;
Rodeo week – parade is at 12pm on Saturday. Remind residents to mow their lawns and make it look nice.
- 6) Approval of Agenda;
Motion (Oja/Parker) to approve agenda. PASSED.

7) CONSENT AGENDA:

****All items listed with (*) are considered routine and will be enacted by 1 motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless Council member so requests, in which event item will be removed from General Order of Business and considered at this point to agenda.**

- a) *Accept Mins from June 2, 2026 Council Mtg;
 - b) *Finance Committee Recommendation to Approve mthly payable cks: 53716 – 53905, 20260602, 20260615, 20260622, 26052701 – 26052705, 26060901 – 26060905, 26062301 – 26062305, 202606161 - 202606163;
 - c) *Finance Committee Recommendation to Approve Pay Request #2 – SDW/LSL Harmon Street- \$153,762.46 contingent on receiving final pay rates from Jake's Excavating;
 - d) *Finance Committee Recommendation to move forward with 2028 Community Development Block Grant Task 1 & 2, to include parking lots off Oak Street, Front Street and Walnut Street;
 - e) *Finance Committee Recommendation to Approve applying for Opportunity Zone 2.0;
 - f) *Finance Committee Recommendation to accept Spooner Health Donation/Partnership with contingencies discussed;
 - g) *Municipal Operations and Safety & Licensing Committees Recommendation to Approve Temp Parking Lot Closure, Crossroads Lanes & Sports Bar, July 11, 2026;
 - h) *Municipal Operations Recommendation to Approve Park Permit Request:
 - RR Park (Front Street): Semiquincentennial Committee – July 8, 2026;
 - RR Park: Farmers Market – July 11, 2026;
 - Centennial Park: Pamela Nowak, July 10, 2026RR Park,;
 - i) *Municipal Operations recommendation to Approve Temp Street Closure Application – Spooner Rodeo Parade, July 11, 2026;
 - j) *Municipal Operations recommendation to Approve Temp Street Closure Application – Jack Pine Savage Days, Aug 5 – 9, 2026;
 - k) *Municipal Operations recommendation to Approve seeking variance through Washburn County for the dugouts at Blooming Vale Ballfields in the Town of Spooner;
 - l) *RR Park Board Recommendation to approve RR Park request from Face tha Myouzik/Nicole Jonjak on Aug 22, 2026 ;
 - m) *Plan Commission Recommendation to Approve Extraterritorial CSM for Justin Bluse and Dan Burch, SW ¼ of the SE ¼, Sect. 23, T39N, R 13W, Town of Evergreen;
 - n) *Plan Commission Recommendation to Approve Extraterritorial CSM for Phil Hedlund, Lot and part of Lot, CSM No. 3814, Vol. 18, pg 157, Dec. No 354710, with the NE ¼ of the NW ¼ and the SE ¼ of the NW ¼, Sect. 25, T39N, R13W, Town of Evergreen;
 - o) *Plan Commission Recommendation to Approve Kennel License Conditional Use – 414 Elm St. (Gleason) and 1102 N High St. (Heilman) with condition that as attrition happens cannot replace the dogs;
 - p) *Safety & Licensing Recommendation to Approve Temp Alcohol Beverage Class "B" Beer (Picnic License) for Washburn County Junior Fair Assc, July 23 – 26, 2026;
 - q) *Safety & Licensing Recommendation to Approve Temp "Class "B"" Beer & Wine License for Spooner Chamber of Commerce, 2026 Jack Pine Savage Days, Aug 7 – 8, 2026;
- Motion (Gabriel/Everroad) to approve consent agenda, items a – q. PASSED.

8) *DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

- a. Plan Commission Recommendation to Approve Downtown Commercial District. Chapter 86, Article III Districts, Div. 6A Secs 86-256 through 86-280; Koverman – proposed amendment – changes were made after comments received from first public hearing. Changed name of district and updated accepted uses. Motion (Dunn/Lake) to approve Downtown Commercial District. Chapter 86, Article III Districts, Div. 6A Secs 86-256 through 86-280. PASSED.
- b. Plan Commission Recommendation to Approve Chapter 86, Article 1, Sec. 86-12; 86-254; Commercial Storage Facility Definition; Storage facility definition within C1 District is clearly defined – had discussion with what ‘storage’ is and what it isn’t within C-1. Motion (Lake/Fox) to approve Chapter 86, Article 1, Sec. 86-12; 86-254; Commercial Storage Facility Definition. PASSED.

10) STAFF RPTS/COMMENTS/REQUESTS:

- a) Financial Rpt May 2026;
Audit rpts are available for Council members who wish to have paper copy.
Motion (Everroad/Dunn) to accept Financial Rpt May 2026. PASSED.
- b) Chief’s Rpt;
June 2026 – part-time officer started, taking applications for LEA position. Two officers took part in special traffic enforcement assignments in county. Participated in Family Fun Fest. Officers have attended training. Executed drug search warrant with multiple persons taken into custody. Traffic enforcement and disorderly conduct complaints are higher than normal. Also had complaint of road rage where motorist was followed and confronted. Contacts 978, cases 146, total 1133. We appreciate officers/departments’ effort and thank you for all for what you do every day.
- c) BID Rpt;
Nothing much to rpt. Sign grant is in place. Façade grant is still being worked on. Working on getting new parking signs to make it clearer for available parking. Pretty good summer for downtown. June was big month with a lot of customer traffic.
- d) Library Liaison Report;
Library is wonderful, summer reading program is doing well. OPN will have 2 plans for board to decide. When they make choice, they will start capital campaign. Exciting place to be.

11) ADJOURNMENT;

Mayor adjourned mtg at 5:28 p.m.

ATTESTED BY:

Gary J. Cuskey, Mayor

Krista J. Lyons-Hartwig, City Clerk/Treasurer