

## MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD MARCH 23, 2026

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Steve Dean at 7:03 PM at Le Roy City Hall, 207 S East Street, Le Roy. The council members present were Matt Steffen, Dawn Hanafin, Scott Tucker, Ron Legner, Curt Dunafin, Kyle Merkle, and Sarah Welte. Kelly Lay was absent.

Staff members present were Dave Jenkins, Dan Lush, Perry Mayer, Anita Corso, and Brad Frankovich.

There were no comments from the public.

Included on the consent agenda were Approval of Regular Council Meeting Minutes from 2/23/2026, invoices from 3/2/2026 totaling \$ 242,474.33, invoices from 3/16/26 totaling \$153,588.31, payroll for the period of 2/16/2026 – 3/1/2026 in the amount of \$54,669.49, and payroll for the period 3/2/2026 – 3/15/2026 totaling \$54,408.76.

The items of the consent agenda were voted on separately.

Motion was made by Matt and seconded by Sarah for approval of the Regular Council Meeting Minutes from 2/23/2026. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-abstain, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-yes, Sarah Welte-yes. Motion carried 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstain.

Motion was made by Matt and seconded by Kyle for approval of invoices and payroll. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-abstain, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-abstain, Sarah Welte-yes. Motion carried 5 yeas, 0 nays, 2 abstain.

In Staff Reports Perry reviewed main breaks & repairs, water tower repairs, the chlorine system update at the south tower, the public education notice sent, brine tank repairs, a lead line update and indicated the locate equipment may need to be replaced.

Anita reminded everyone that their statement of economic interest must be filed by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Also, the new community portal for utility billing and payments will hopefully launch in May.

Discussion began regarding the funding request for \$25,000 to develop the Garden Grove Farm Agri-Tourism business. Brad Marcy gave a brief overview of the request and an update on the project. Curt reviews the Economic Development committee's discussion and the list of questions needing answers. Motion to table the discussion until the next meeting by Kyle was seconded by Sarah. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-yes, Sarah Welte-yes. Motion tabled 7 yeas, 0 nays.

The LBD request totaling \$67,250.00 for roof replacement and north exterior wall repair at 116 N. Chestnut Street had been reviewed by the Economic Development Committee. Curt reported that the committee recommends approval without the awning and HVAC system bringing the total to \$52,800. Motion to approve the request for \$52,800 by Dawn was seconded by Matt. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-yes, Sarah Welte-yes. Motion carried 7 yeas, 0 nays.

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD MARCH 23, 2026 (cont)

Motion by Matt was seconded by Scott Tucker for approval of the LBD funding request from LS & JH Land Holdings totaling \$53,750.00 for roof replacement at 212 & 214 E. Center Street, "Opera House". The Economic Development Committee found that the roof recently installed was not solid and recommended approval. Discussion raised concerns about workmanship. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-yes, Sarah Welte-yes. Motion carried 7 yeas, 0 nays.

Motion by Sarah was seconded by Matt for approval of the LBD funding request totaling \$41,850 for the demolition of existing drop-ceiling and installation of two layers of fire-rated gypsum board (approximately 4,000 sq. ft.) at 200 & 202 E. Center Street. The Economic Development Committee recommended approval as it is a health and safety issue. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-yes, Sarah Welte-yes. Motion carried 7 yeas, 0 nays.

Motion by Scott Tucker was seconded by Matt for approval of the LBD funding request from Bobby Hutton totaling \$6,400.00 for replacement of the concrete approaches at Hutton Motors service bay entrances. The Economic Development Committee reported that concrete work was approved before but more is needed by the sidewalk for safety. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-yes, Sarah Welte-yes. Motion carried 7 yeas, 0 nays.

Discussion began regarding the Hotel/Motel Tourism Grant funding application request from the Empire Township Museum totaling up to \$15,000.00 for community event including a drone show. The Economic Development Committee reviewed the groups already planning events for the America 250 celebration. Curt reported the drone show is on hold and they really only need \$7,000 which the committee recommends approval of Hotel/Motel funds. Motion to approve the \$7,000 was made by Sarah and seconded by Kyle. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-yes, Sarah Welte-yes. Motion carried 7 yeas, 0 nays.

Old & New Business discussion topics:

- National Fitness Campaign – Le Roy has been approved to apply for a grant. Consensus is for Dave to move forward with the application process.
- New electronic sign – what needs to be on it? Suggestions: city sponsored events, general list of businesses, events by LPA or Legion or other non-profits. Possibly advertisements for a fee. Guidelines to be developed.
- Maintenance for the brown signs along Chestnut
- Mayor has been receiving very positive feedback from visitors regarding downtown
- Nursing home update

Motion by Kyle was seconded by Sarah to adjourn the regular council meeting. Roll call: Matt Steffen-yes, Dawn Hanafin-yes, Curt Dunafin-yes, Scott Tucker-yes, Ron Legner-yes, Sarah Welte-yes, Kyle Merkle-yes. Motion carried 7 yeas, 0 nays.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Submitted by,

Anita Corso  
City Clerk