

City of Antigo
Common Council
Wednesday, July 8, 2026

Common Council of the City of Antigo met in Regular Session on the above date at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers, City Hall, Mayor Thomas C. Bauknecht presiding.

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Barb Rebstock	Ward 1	Present	
Roy Dieck	Ward 2	Present	
Dee Sorano	Ward 3	Present	
Mary Hayes	Ward 4	Present	
Mark Edwards	Ward 5	Present	
Joel Wagner	Ward 6	Present	
Glenn Bugni	Ward 7	Present	
Kevin Smith	Ward 8	Present	
Scott Henricks	Ward 9	Present	
Thomas C. Bauknecht	Mayor	Present	

Department Managers in attendance were: Michael Wetzel, City Administrator; Joseph Husnick, Police Chief; Kirk Packard, Street Commissioner; Corey Smith, Fire Chief; Luke Schmidtke, Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator; Charley Brinkmeier, Land Surveyor/Project Manager; and Sarah Repp, Parks, Recreation, and Cemetery Director.

Others in attendance were: Michael Winter, City Attorney; Shannon Smith, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer; Scott Sternhagen, CliftonLarsenAllen (Remote); Adam Mueller, NewsChannel 7; and Adam Darr and friends and family.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silent Meditation

Approval of Minutes

1. Approve Minutes from the June 10, 2026 Meeting
Aldersperson Wagner moved, Aldersperson Smith seconded to Approve Minutes from the June 10, 2026 Meeting.

Result:	Carried - Voice Vote
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Presentation

2. Recognition of Adam Darr for Lifesaving Measures Taken During a Family Emergency
Corey Smith, Fire Chief, presented Adam Darr with a certificate of recognition and letter for lifesaving measures taken during a family emergency. Chief Smith read the letter commending Adam for his life saving actions and encouraged everyone to learn the signs and symptoms of strokes that can be displayed by people experiencing them.

3. Scott Sternhagen, CliftonLarsenAllen, presentation of the 2025 Audited Financial Statement
Scott Sternhagen, CliftonLarsenAllen, presented the 2025 Audited Financial Statement. He noted that the City received a clean audit opinion which is the highest opinion it can receive. A Federal single audit was required this year due to the amount of Federal money the City spent. Mr. Sternhagen noted there were no findings for the Federal Single audit and that the regular audit really went well. He noted his appreciation for Kaye Matucheski, Clerk-Treasurer/Finance Director, and her team for having everything ready for the audit.

Mr. Sternhagen noted there were two findings that are consistent with previous years, one being that the auditors prepare the audit book and the other is the auditors prepare the end-of-year adjusting entries. He noted that is very normal for a municipality the size of Antigo. Mr. Sternhagen noted the General Fund Budget to Actual and stated that the City's General Fund financially is in a very good spot.

Aldersperson Hayes questioned where the funds from the other financing sources are from and

Mr. Sternhagen noted the main portion of those funds are from Utilities mandated by Public Service Commission (PSC) in lieu of tax and a smaller portion comes from Room Tax as well. He noted the City General Fund is in great shape and stated the City has money in the Capital Fund for various future projects. Mr. Sternhagen noted the Ambulance fund is in a good spot. Mr. Sternhagen discussed Water, Sewer and Storm Water noting that Water and Sewer are in a good shape. He stated that Storm Water is not doing bad but noted that the City might consider possible rate structure increase for Storm Water.

Citizen Comment

4. **Subjects on the Current Agenda** – None.

5. **Subjects Not on the Current Agenda** – None.

Update on Citizen's Referrals from Previous Council Agenda

Committee Reports

None.

Consent Agenda

Result:	Carried (9 to 0) Motion to Approve Consent Agenda
Mover:	Mary Hayes
Second:	Joel Wagner
Ayes:	Barb Rebstock, Roy Dieck, Mary Hayes, Mark Edwards, Joel Wagner, Glenn Bugni, Kevin Smith, Scott Henricks, Dee Sorano
Nays:	None

Consent Agenda Resolutions

Resolution No. 49-26 New Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) Policy for the Police Department

Whereas, the City of Antigo utilizes Automated License Plate Readers (ALPR) in efforts to fight crime and apprehend persons of interest; and,

Whereas, the Chief of Police for the City of Antigo has deemed it in the interest of the public to implement a policy around the access and use of data obtained by these ALPR's by Antigo law enforcement officers; and,

Whereas, City Administration has also reviewed the policy to ensure equity and transparency for City residents.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, By The Common Council, City of Antigo, the Antigo Police Department's Automated License Plate Reader Policy dated July 15, 2026 is approved.

Be It Further Resolved, that the effective date for this policy is July 15, 2026.

Resolution No. 50-26 Budget Transfer from Severance Reserve Account to Police Department for a Retirement Payout

Whereas, when City employees retire, they are able to receive payout for sick leave and vacation time, but it is hard to budget in specific departments for these payouts as retirements are not always known at budget time; and,

Whereas, a severance reserve account was established to build a reserve for these unknown payouts which allows the costs to be spread across several budget years; and,

Whereas, a Police Department employee has retired so the transfer needed from the severance reserve is \$42,044.92.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, By The Common Council, City of Antigo, to authorize the Clerk-Treasurer/Finance Director to transfer \$49,044.92 from the Severance Reserve Account to the Police Department Severance Account.

Consent Agenda Communications

6. Department Manager Reports

New Business

Resolutions

Resolution No. 51-26 Opportunity Zone Application

Whereas, most of the City of Antigo, along with some outlying township land, have met the qualifications of a low-income community; and,

Whereas, low-income community census tracts are eligible to be designated as Opportunity Zones by the Governor; and,

Whereas, being designated an Opportunity Zone allows for incentives for private development.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, By The Common Council, City of Antigo, authorizes City Administration to apply to be designated an Opportunity Zone for a ten-year period beginning on January 1, 2027.

Be It Further Resolved, that City Administration may work with another local government entity to jointly apply.

Michael Wetzel, City Administrator, stated he brought this before the City Plan Commission on July 7, 2026. He noted that Antigo is currently an Opportunity Zone going back to 2017 when it was established through the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act for a duration of ten years. He noted that with the 2025 Big Beautiful Bill Act (BBBA), Opportunity Zones were overhauled into a 2.0 program. Mr. Wetzel stated that an Opportunity Zone is not a grant, and it does not give the City money, but it unlocks a private equity vehicle that has very strong Federal Capital Gains Tax incentives for private developers through a privately managed fund with Federal regulations.

He noted the process in which the census tracts are designated as low-income communities. The City, along with some of the land from surrounding townships, qualifies for two different census tracking. Mr. Wetzel stated an Opportunity Zone allows the City to apply to be designated as a low-income community by the Governor. If chosen, it opens up a private equity fund called a Qualified Opportunity Fund (QOF). He noted funds from a QOF must be used in distressed areas, and he stated that private studies found in the 1.0 program, 93%-95% of funds went to distressed Metro areas. He noted the 2.0 program removed most Metro tracts and created a higher Capital Gain Tax incentive for rural specific Opportunity Zones. Mr. Wetzel stated Antigo qualifies as a rural Opportunity Zone, and he is asking for approval from the Council to proceed with an application that is due to the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) by July 31, 2026. He noted that Angie Close, WEDC, stated that joint applications will be viewed more favorably. He asked for approval to apply jointly with the County. If chosen, this would take effect January 1, 2027.

Result:	Carried (9 to 0) Motion to Approve Resolution No. 51-26 Opportunity Zone Application
Mover:	Glenn Bugni
Second:	Joel Wagner
Ayes:	Barb Rebstock, Roy Dieck, Mary Hayes, Mark Edwards, Joel Wagner, Glenn Bugni, Kevin Smith, Scott Henricks, Dee Sorano
Nays:	None

Licenses

7. "Class B" Beer/Fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License for HomeField, LLC, Jaime K. Hitz, Agent, Located at 527 Field Street (Contingent Upon Completion of Inspections)

Result:	Carried (9 to 0) Motion to Approve "Class B" Beer/Fermented Malt Beverage and Intoxicating Liquor License for HomeField, LLC, Jaime K. Hitz, Agent, Located at 527 Field Street (Contingent Upon Completion of Inspections)
Mover:	Scott Henricks
Second:	Kevin Smith
Ayes:	Barb Rebstock, Roy Dieck, Mary Hayes, Mark Edwards, Joel Wagner, Glenn Bugni, Kevin Smith, Scott Henricks, Dee Sorano
Nays:	None

Miscellaneous Business**Payment of Bills**

Result:	Carried (9 to 0) Motion to Approve Payment of Bills
Mover:	Barb Rebstock
Second:	Joel Wagner
Ayes:	Barb Rebstock, Roy Dieck, Mary Hayes, Mark Edwards, Joel Wagner, Glenn Bugni, Kevin Smith, Scott Henricks, Dee Sorano
Nays:	None

8. Direct Deposits for June 5 and June 19, 2026 Payrolls
9. BMO Bank Accounts Payable Check Nos. 86465-86644
10. Self-Funding Health Insurance Check Nos. 2198-2199

Committee Referrals

Mayor Bauknecht stated there is a Committee of the Whole meeting on July 29, 2026, to address Charley Brinkmeier, Land Surveyor/Project Manager, leaving and how to proceed with that position. Mr. Wetzel noted the Special Finance, Personnel and Legislative Committee meeting on July 15, 2026, will be addressing the Land Surveyor/Project Manager position. He noted the Committee of the Whole is to kick off the Budget season, stating he will have a presentation on his overall ideas.

Aldersperson Edwards congratulated Sarah Repp, Parks, Recreation, and Cemetery Director, on the Fireworks event, noting it went well and that he heard a lot of good feedback.

Ms. Repp noted that the Street Department, Police Department and Fire Department worked very well together. She noted working with the County was amazing and stated the Antigo/Langlade County Chamber of Commerce did a fabulous job organizing the parade. Ms. Repp noted the community really came together to make the event work.

Mayor Bauknecht also noted the positive feedback he has heard about the fireworks event.

Upon inquiry from Aldersperson Hayes, Luke Schmidtke, Building Inspector/Zoning Administrator, introduced himself.

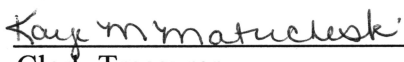
Adjournment

Result:	Carried (9 to 0) Motion to Adjourn at 6:37 p.m.
Mover:	Mary Hayes
Second:	Barb Rebstock
Ayes:	Barb Rebstock, Roy Dieck, Mary Hayes, Mark Edwards, Joel Wagner, Glenn Bugni, Kevin Smith, Scott Henricks, Dee Sorano
Nays:	None

Approved:


Thomas C. Bauknecht, Mayor

Attest:


Clerk-Treasurer