

City of Comfrey Minutes
June 10, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Comfrey Community Center

The City Council of Comfrey met in regular session on Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at 6:30 PM in the community center with all council members present. Also in attendance were S Berberich, J Henning, D Callanan, O Todd, R Cronquist, and Attorney Paul Muske. Mayor Richter presided.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

The agenda was reviewed with no additions.

The May 13, 2025 regular meeting minutes were approved with on a motion made by Arnsdorf, second by Redman and carried unanimously.

Total bills in the amount of \$55,673.84 were reviewed and approved on a motion made by Kastner, second by Redman and carried unanimously.

A resolution expressing acceptance and appreciation for memorial donations from the Joyce Platz Family to the first responders of \$673; and anonymous library donations of \$70 on a motion made by Redman, second by Evers and carried unanimously.

The May financial report was reviewed and approved on a motion made by Redman, second by Arnsdorf and carried unanimously.

Berberich updated the council on the shop addition progress. The cement has been poured and they should be starting on the walls next week. There has been some vandalism at the South Park. He will be talking with the police to find out his options. MPCA did a scheduled inspection at the treatment plant.

Fire Chief Berberich reported the fire department applied for a State Farm grant for up to \$10,000 to purchase some new radios and pagers.

First Responders had no new updates.

The library board met and started to discuss budget. They have another music program paid for by the grant scheduled for June 12th.

The police report was reviewed.

Owen Todd and Roberta Cronquist were present and shared information from the Citywide Drainage Improvements Feasibility Study. The study looked at pipe sizes in town and county ditches. Also looked at ponding locations and possible fixes for the 10-year flooding events. The options presented should help shorten up drainage time on the 100-year events also. The study proposed eight project phases and the current costs of each phase. They will start to look for grant funding to help with the cost of the projects.

A community member voiced concerns about the tire marks all over town and what the Sheriff's Department can do about it. They also inquired about options for dealing with a building on private property. Attorney Muske said the city would need to hire a building inspector to determine if the building is hazardous and be prepared to cover all costs. The council was told that blight letters will go out to individuals from the Sheriff's Department.

A resolution regarding Joint Powers for the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and the City of Comfrey to allow our attorney to access certain BCA systems and tools for submission of court records passed on a motion made by Evers, second by Arnsdorf and carried unanimously.

Comfrey Bar and Grill once again would like to have an outdoor band on Saturday, July 11th. They will provide a fenced in area and hire additional security for the event. The music must also end by midnight. The event was approved on a motion made by Arnsdorf, second by Redman and carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Kastner, second by Redman and carried unanimously to allow Comfrey Bar & Grill to serve alcohol in the South Park for the Community Days Car Show on Sunday, July 12, 2025.

A gambling permit for St. Paul's Catholic Church Raffle on October 26, 2025 was approved on a motion made by Kastner, second by Redman and carried unanimously.

A donation request from Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation is tabled until next month. Mayor Richter will talk with the new director to get a better idea of what they do with their funding.

A first reading was had of the draft Diseased Tree Ordinance.

The zoning committee issued land use permits to Dennis & Mary Ann Schumacher for a deck and Kory & Christa Simon for a garden shed.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion made by Arnsdorf, second by Evers at 7:26 PM.