

August 4, 2025

FELTON CITY COUNCIL

The Felton City Council met in regular session with Council members present A Belka; D Blake, M Hilde, M Mabus and J Rehder. The minutes of the July meeting were read, motion made by M Mabus and second by M Hilde and carried to approve the minutes as read. Special Bills: For the month of August were reviewed, motion was made by J Rehder and second by M Hilde and carried to approve. Visitors: H Erickson & a Maldonado & Ethan Mabus- Felton Fire Dept.

Old business and Misc.,

- **H Erickson & a Maldonado attended meeting to give us an update about the vehicles in their yards, A Maldonado has been working on cleaning up cars and E Hawkins reported that he moved some cars and working on cleaning up the yard. City Council will continue to monitor the progress.**
- **Ethan Mabus – Felton Fire Department attended meeting to inquire about a liquor license permit to sell liquor at the Trap Shoot event on October 25, 2025. D Blake will contact State to check on permit for the event.**

Council Reviewed and discussed the following:

- **Discussed ordinance #53, Related to parking junk motor vehicles, vehicles should be operable... M Mabus will update and bring to our July meeting to review. Update: Ordinance was approved with an addition to Section 5; Repairs pending, Submit and approve by city council. City Council reviewed Ordinance # 53 with updates, a motion was approved by M Hilde and second by J Rehder to approve Ordinance 53. The ordinance will be published in paper and posted on webpage.**
- **Effective July 1st utility rates were increased and billed to residents.**
- **Council reviewed the rent fees for Felton Fire Department, it was decided to increase rent rate from \$200.00 to \$300.00 effective October 1, 2025. A motion was made by J Rehder and second by M Mabus and carried to increase rate to \$300.00, effective October 1, 2025.**
- **Council approved to request a withdrawal from Lord Abbot for \$15,000, additional funds were needed for the road repair the city had done. A motion was made J Rehder and second by M Mabus and carried to request withdrawal of funds.**
- **M Mabus reported that there has been inquiries about swing set for the playground by the community hall. Michelle was going to check on cost and if the Felton Fire Department had available funds to help with cost. - No Updates.**
- **Safe Deposit Box- still working on the additional key to locate and will need to update names on safe deposit box. No Updates**

Pending Issues & Projects:

Water System Project

Bollig Engineering met with the council to review assessments for the city. Discussed the following areas:

Well & Well House- Determined that water source improvements will be needed, original well drilled/constructed in 1967. Water quality, discussed cities preference for future water source, West Central Regional Water District.

Water distribution- should consider looping to eliminate dead ends, expand development potential, replacing curb stops as needed.; PR Sanitary Sewer- Ponds, Lift station, forceman constructed 2014/2015. City feel that system may have quality life remaining. MPCA Cities I/I, concern in May 2023 report averaging 207% above what ponds are designed for over last 3-4 years. Recommends to dig up 3 to 4 spots to check PVC pipes, council approved to move forward to check out pipes. Storm Sewer- most drainage along city streets is conveyed via culverts (poor condition) and shallow ditches, with a few segments of sewer.

Streets & other items-, paved streets are in very decent shape, appear to be well maintained. Street repaid most effective with utility replacement, streets are similar to water/sewer, been around for many years but still good life remaining.

Bollig recommended next steps – 1. Summary of needs; source water improvements, misc. repairs. 2. Consider task order for preliminary engineering report (PER) to pursue funding. 3. Discuss sewer televising with Dennis (People Services).

City Council discussed the recommendations. A motion was made by J Rehder and second by M Mabus and carried to approve Task order No 2- Preliminary Engineering Report and Environment Report. Basic services – study and report phase, which will take place winter 2023/Spring 2024.

Engineer cost will be \$25,000 (payable after funding secured) Mark Klema from Bollig engineering attended our meeting to review the Preliminary Engineering Report. (PER) The report reviewed our Well & Well House, the existing water distributions, Sewer system and storm sewer. The proposed recommendation is looping to eliminate dead ends, add/replace several gate valves and take advantage of system's remaining life. Existing sanitary sewer, stated that likely has quality life remaining, pavement in decent condition.

The preliminary cost estimate for the project would be – Drinking water source - \$221,000; Drinking Water Distribution - \$553,000; WEP – Ineligible - \$59,000 and replace 10 fire hydrants - \$100,000. Total costs - \$963,000. M Mabus and second by J Rehder to make a motion to approve and authorize Bollig Engineering to

Submit the Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Reports to appropriate funding agencies. Update: Bollig requested to receive our monthly minutes and agendas prior to our meetings. It was decided to send minutes after the each monthly meetings are held.

West Central Water District representatives attended our meeting to report on the rural water project update. Discussed the following: need for project; Savings to municipal and rural customers; benefits of a regional water system; evolution of project boundaries and formation; proposed improvement, provide additional sustainable, long term potable water for Norman, Clay and Polk counties.

Reported on the progress to date, Federal Project secured funding 3,500,000, and 17 cities, counties and agency resolutions/ letters of support.

- The next step for Felton, Approve a memorandum of Inclusion;
- Memorandum of understanding for of EPA funds,
- Letter to EPA, Signatory resolution of approval
- Finalize Individual City Funding Applications;
- Prior to any construction city must adopt a formal resolution requesting to be connected to the WCRWD and enter into a formal agreement.
- Construction Timeline dependent on receipt of funding.

Discussed the West Central Regional Water District memorandum of Inclusion; the purpose is to formalize City of Felton's intent to be included in the West Central Water District's (WCRWD) planning efforts moved forward. A motion was made J Rehder and second by M Mabus and carried to approve the Memorandum of Inclusion. City of Felton will provide a non-refundable down payment of \$500 to the West Central Regional Water District.

Discussed the Memorandum of Understanding; purpose of this MOU is to formalize the agreement that the City of Felton will transfer its 2024 congressionally directed spending award of \$1,750,000 to Norman County to support the establishment and development of WCRWD. With some discussion the city would like an amendment to this agreement, that it would not be used other areas, would stay between the Felton and Norman County. **No Updates**

- Council discussed the ordinance for mobile homes in the city, D Blake will check on the current policies that we have. Update: The city has zoning, was not an ordinance for mobile homes. Council will pass a resolution for more clarity on mobile homes.
- Resident's properties: Three of the residents attended out meeting to discuss their properties, A Maldonado& H Erickson will try to eliminate some of the cars in their yards, council will monitor their properties for improvements, and no fine will be imposed at this time. S Otteson, is working on his yard and requested an extension to finish the projects he is working on. Council granted an extension and will monitor progress. No fine will be imposed at this time. Council will continue to monitor properties for progress. Discussed properties, will be sending letters to follow-up with Milz & Hawkins, to find out the progress of their properties. T Milz attended meeting, updated us on his progress with his property, will be putting license on vehicles and working on property.

Meeting adjourned upon a motion by J Rehder and second by M Hilde, these minutes have not yet been approved. They will be presented for approval to the City Council at the September meeting scheduled for September 8, 2025.