



MINUTES

Council Meeting

6:00 PM - Monday, July 6, 2026

City Hall, 8 Summit Drive, Blackduck MN

The Council of the City of Blackduck was called to order on Monday, July 6, 2026, at 6:00 PM, in the City Hall, 8 Summit Drive, Blackduck MN, with the following members present:

- COUNCILORS PRESENT:** Mayor Maxwell Gullette, Councilor Laurie Hamilton, and Council member Ronald Fredrickson
- COUNCILORS EXCUSED:** Councilor Nicholas Seitz
- STAFF PRESENT:** City Administrator Christina Regas and Public Works Director Mike Schwanke
- OTHERS PRESENT:** Connie Moen, Blackduck Tri-Sigma, Time Ramerth and Joe Pelawa of Widseth

1. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Roll Call
Regas took roll call of those present to the meeting.
- b. Pledge of Allegiance
Mayor Gullette led the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- a.

Laurie Hamilton moved to approve the agenda as presented Ronald Fredrickson seconded the motion.

Carried 3 to 0

Maxwell Gullette	For
Laurie Hamilton	For
Ronald Fredrickson	For

3. CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed under the Consent Agenda, unless removed from the Consent Agenda shall be approved by one Council motion.

- a. June 8, 2026 Blackduck City Council Meeting Minutes
- b. JUNE 18, 2026 - Kitchigami Regional Library Board Meeting packet including May 21, 2026 minutes
- c. June 2026 Fund Balance Report
- d. June 2026 Bill Report

- e. June 2026 Liquor Fund Vendor ACH payments - CashWise
- f. June 2026 Sewer Income Statement
- g. June 2026 Water Income Statement
- h. June 2026 Pine Tree Park Income Statement
- i. June 2026 Lakeview Cemetery Income Statement
- j. June 2026 Golf Course Income Statement
- k. June 2026 Liquor Store Income Statement
- l. June 2026 Blackduck DMV Income Statement
- m. Q2 2026 Blackduck General Fund Income Statement
- n. May 2026 LG216 Lawful Gambling Monthly Rent Report - Blackduck Fire Relief Association
- o. Final Approval - June 2026 Business Credit Card Payment
- p. Final Approval - June 2026 EFT Disbursements for City of Blackduck payrolls supporting MN Statute §471.38 subd. 3 (3a)
- q. Final Approval - May 2026 Supplemental Bills
- r. Final Approval - Local Option Sales Tax Report - April 2026
- s. Final Approval - Delay of Issuance City of Blackduck 2025 Financial Audit letter to OSA - CLA Troy Gabler
- t.

Laurie Hamilton moved to approve the consent agenda as presented Ronald Fredrickson seconded the motion.

Carried 3 to 0

Maxwell Gullette	For
Laurie Hamilton	For
Ronald Fredrickson	For

4. **BLACKDUCK FORUM**

Visitors may share their concerns with Council on any issue, which is not already on the agenda. Each person will have 3 minutes to speak. The Mayor reserves the right to limit an individual's presentation if it becomes redundant. The Mayor may also limit the number of individual presentations on any issue to accommodate the scheduled agenda items. All comments will be taken under advisement by the Council. No action will be taken at the time.

- a. There was no one to speak for the Blackduck Forum.

5. **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND CITY STAFF**

5.1. **PUBLIC WORKS REPORT - MIKE SCHWANKE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

5.1.1. Report -

Schwanke reports the street light panel for downtown is repaired but there are issues with another section of lights out on the other side of Summit Ave. and TH71. Schwanke states his staff have been working on repairs to mowers this month; and has ordered tires for the irrigators. Schwanke states the fields have been cut and now the guns on the irrigators can be turned back on. Schwanke states his is working on the replacement of the Pine Tree Park

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entrance sign. Mayor Gullette asks if there has been any wash outs from the recent rains. Schwanke states gravel roads are in good shape and new gutters on the beach pavillion have improved the erosion on the beach.

5.1.2. Widseth Report -
Lift Station Project -

Ramerth and Pelawa provided a preliminary construction costs for the four lift stations with cost for generators requesting feedback from the city if the project is still feasible. Pelawa states that if the city can afford the new estimates then the next step will be to go out for bids but with the new estimates and soft costs the total project will be close to \$1 million. Pelawa states most of the increase is from the Drake Lift Station and is recommending the city move ahead. Regas recommends getting new schedules from Ehler's to see the increase in payments as soon as possible to receive council feedback at the July work session. Schwanke asked the city council after seeing the new estimates is the city still leaning to move forward. Councilor Fredrickson states he would like to see new payment schedules and hear how the city would repay the debt. Councilor Hamilton asks what would happen if the Drake Lift Station fails. Schwanke states if the Drake Lift Station fails then all the connections on Frontage road will have to shut down until updated and running. Regas states because the project is on wastewater the city has the ability to levy and use wastewater revenue to repay debt. Pelawa states that all the lift stations in the project have used up their life and they should be updated soon.

SWCD update

Pelawa states he met with the council last week and they have one water sample that raises suspicions for Widseth. Pelawa recommended additional water samples to rule out any mistakes as the one sample taken has fecal coliform in it and the sample was taken from a location in the outlay area of the park. Pelawa wants to ensure the suspicious sample brings up questions because what SWCD is suggesting to install will not work. Pelawa states when benchmark samples are taken and better conversations moving forward can be discussed. Councilor Hamilton asked what does a sample with that in it come from. Pelawa states it could be from dog feces, bird feces, etc.

Soil Borings at The Pond Parking Lot

Ramerth reports the reports just came back and will provide at the work session. Ramerth states there was a lot of silt in the samples which was expected.

5.2. LIQUOR STORE REPORT - SHAWNDA LAHR, DIRECTOR OF LIQUOR OPERATIONS

5.2.1. No report provided.

5.3. GOLF COURSE REPORT - MISTY FRENZEL, GOLF COURSE DIRECTOR

5.3.1. No report provided.

5.4. LIBRARY REPORT - KELLY HANKS, HEAD LIBRARIAN

5.4.1. July 16, 2026 - KRLS Board Meeting

Councilor Hamilton reports not able to attend this meeting in July and the local library is gearing up for Woodcarvers getting baskets ready. Hamilton asked for updates on shelving. Regas states there are mis-shipped shelves being sent this month and we have to ship back over shipped up-rights.

Regas states there will be no additional shipping cost to the city on the errors.

6. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

a. Donation Request - Blackduck GFWC Tri Sigma - Blackduck Area Walk to End Alzheimers -Connie Moen

Moen presented on behalf of the Blackduck GFWC Tri Sigma the organization plan to host the first Alzheimers Walk in September.

Laurie Hamilton moved to approve a donation from the liquor rent fund for \$500 Ronald Fredrickson seconded the motion.

Carried 3 to 0

Maxwell Gullette	For
Laurie Hamilton	For
Ronald Fredrickson	For

b. Council Information - City of Blackduck 2025 Financial Audit Deadline Extension Request to State Auditor

Regas reports the City 2025 Financial Audit presentation from CLA has been delayed and an extension for submission to the OSA has been approved for 45 days.

Councilor Fredrickson asked why the Mayor and Administrator was provided information and can the council be provided those details. Regas stated during her leave CLA discovered a staff person stated they completed work on the single-audit work but was not completed and that delayed the final audit completion.

c. Council Information - City of Blackduck Notice of Filing - 2026 General Election for City of Blackduck Council seats

Regas outlined the seats open at the general election in November and states candidate filing is now July 14- July 28, 2026. Councilor Fredrickson asked if the vacated seat could be appointed prior to the general election. Regas states yes, an appointment can be made but that candidate must also file for the special seat.

d. July 7, 2026 - August 10, 2026 - Minnesota Primary Absentee Balloting Open

e. July 14, 2026 - July 28, 2026 - City of Blackduck Candidate Filing for General Election

f. July 15, 2026 @ 2pm - Blackduck Planning Commission Meeting

g. July 16, 2026 - Blackduck City Hall Closed Early @ Noon - Election Judge Training

h. July 27, 2026 @ 6pm - City Council Work Session

i. August 10, 2026 @ 6pm - Blackduck City Council Meeting

j. August 11, 2026 - Minnesota State Primary Election - Polls Open 7am - 8pm

7. MAYOR AND/OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

8. COMMUNITY EVENTS/GOOD THINGS HAPPENING

9. ADJOURNMENT

a.

Ronald Fredrickson moved to adjourn the council meeting at 6:55pm Laurie Hamilton seconded the motion.

Carried 3 to 0

Maxwell Gullette	For
Laurie Hamilton	For
Ronald Fredrickson	For

City Administrator, Christina Regas

Maxwell Gullette, Mayor