

MINUTES, REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LA CRESCENT, MINNESOTA
NOVEMBER 10, 2025

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the first meeting of the City Council of the City of La Crescent for the month of November was called to order by Mayor Mike Poellinger at 5:00 PM in the La Crescent Community Building, La Crescent, Minnesota, on Monday, November 10, 2025.

Upon a roll call taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following members were present: Members Cherryl Jostad, Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner, Dale Williams, Mayor Mike Poellinger, Members absent: Chris Langen. Also present were, Public Works Director Tyler Benish, Finance Director Kara Tarrence, City Attorney Skip Wieser, and City Clerk Angie Boettcher.

Also, in attendance were:

Executive Director of Explore La Crosse A.J. Frels

Fire Chief Josh Tarrence, Fire Department Relief Association Treasurer Todd Hase and Assistant Fire Chief Bill Kreibich.

ITEM 1 – CONSENT AGENDA

At this time, the Mayor read the following items to be considered as part of the Consent Agenda for this regular meeting:

- 1.1 MINUTES – OCTOBER 27, 2025
- 1.2 BILLS PAYABLE THROUGH NOVEMBER 7, 2025

At the conclusion of the reading of the Consent Agenda, Mayor Poellinger asked if the Council wished to have any of the items removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion. Prior to the meeting a request was made to City Clerk Angie Boettcher to include the wording “provide input” to the motion in Item 3.4, #3 of October 27, 2025, minutes.

Member Jostad made a motion, seconded by Member O'Donnell-Ebner, as follows:

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA WITH THE ADDITIONAL WORDING “PROVIDE INPUT” TO THE MOTION IN ITEM 3.4, #3 OF THE OCTOBER 27, 2025, MINUTES.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.1 – LA CRESCENT FIRE DEPARTMENT RELIEF ASSOCIATION

Fire Department Relief Association Treasurer Todd Hase reviewed with City Council a proposed increase to the Fire Relief Members annual benefit amount from \$5,400 to \$5,900 with a request that it be retro paid back to February 24, 2025. The La Crescent Fire Department Relief Association also requests approval for the City to provide a five percent (5%) annual increase to the retirement contribution. The 2026 contribution would move from \$6000 to \$6300. It was recommended that City Council approve the increases. Following discussion, Member Williams made a motion, seconded by Member Jostad as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE INCREASE TO THE FIRE RELIEF MEMBERS ANNUAL BENEFIT AMOUNT FROM \$5,400 TO \$5,900 AND THAT IT BE RETRO PAID BACK TO FEBRUARY 24, 2025.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes

and Mayor Poellinger abstained. The motion was declared duly carried by a 3-0 vote.

Following discussion, Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Jostad as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE A FIVE PERCENT (5%) INCREASE IN 2026 TO THE LA CRESCENT FIRE DEPARTMENT RELIEF ASSOCIATION RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION MOVING IT FROM \$6000 TO \$6300 IN 2026 AND TO REVISIT THE INCREASE ON A YEARLY BASIS.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes

and Mayor Poellinger abstained. The motion was declared duly carried by a 3-0 vote.

ITEM 3.2 – A.J. FRELS – EXPLORE LA CROSSE

A.J. Frels, Executive Director of Explore La Crosse, presented City Council with an update on the 2025 Explore La Crosse area campaign as well as the quarterly report. This was informational only, no action required.

ITEM 3.3 – AMEND EARNED SICK AND SAFE TIME POLICY

City Finance Director Kara Tarrence reviewed with City Council two amendments to the City’s Earned Sick and Safe Time Policy as follows:

1. Remove the language “ESST hours are to be used before regular sick leave hours” on page one.
2. Change the language on page four from “After more than **three** consecutive days to **two** consecutive days of ESST, submit a physician’s statement or other supporting documentation upon request.”

A copy of the amended policy was included in the packet. It was recommended that City Council approve the amended changes. Following discussion, Member Jostad made a motion, seconded by Member O’Donnell-Ebner as follows:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDED CHANGES TO THE CITY’S EARNED SICK AND SAFE TIME POLICY AS STATED.

Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Teresa O’Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

ITEM 3.4 – DONATION RESOLUTION

City Council reviewed a Resolution regarding the acceptance of donations to the City for the Month of October. Following review and discussion, Member Jostad introduced the following Resolution and moved its passage and adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 10-25-33

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS MADE TO THE

CITY OF LA CRESCENT IN OCTOBER 2025

WHEREAS, the following donations were made to the City of La Crescent in the month of October 2025:

1. Dennis and Jody Dorschner wish to donate \$100.00 to the La Crescent Fire Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of La Crescent hereby accepts the donations as stated above.

ADOPTED this 10th Day of November 2025.

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

The foregoing motion was duly seconded by Member Williams and upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mayor Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried.

8. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A representative from the La Crescent Chamber of Commerce was in attendance and provided an update.

6. STAFF CORRESPONDENCE/COMMITTEE UPDATES

6.1 EXPLORE LA CROSSE

City Council reviewed the Explore La Crosse Board Meeting agenda from October 21, 2025, and September 16, 2025, Board Meeting minutes.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Member O'Donnell-Ebner made a motion, seconded by Member Jostad to adjourn the meeting. Upon a roll call vote taken and tallied by the City Clerk, the following Members present voted in favor thereof, viz;

Cherryl Jostad	Yes
Teresa O'Donnell-Ebner	Yes
Dale Williams	Yes
Mike Poellinger	Yes

and none voted against the same. The motion was declared duly carried and the meeting duly adjourned at 5:19 P.M.

APPROVAL DATE: November 24, 2025

SIGNED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator