RUGBY CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2026 – 7:00 PM
ARMORY COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND MICROSOFT TEAMS

Mayor St.Michel called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Council members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken by St.Michel.

Council Members present: Lotvedt, Kraft, Reinke, Santjer, Radomski, Zachmeier, Larson, and Nelson.

Also, present were Chief Bommersbach, Troy Munyer, Public Works Director, Attorney Mickelson Hendrickson (by Teams), and Auditor Stewart.

The council considered the agenda. There were no additions or deletions to the agenda. There was a motion by Nelson to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Lotvedt, all voting yes, motion carried.

The council considered the regular council minutes of August 3, 2026. There was a motion by Lotvedt to approve the August 3, 2026, regular council minutes as presented. Second by Reinke, all voting yes, motion carried.

Chief Bommersbach presented the July 2026 Police Report. He explained that the department had 71 calls for service, 61 citations, 5 arrests, 3 vehicle accidents and 15 medical assist calls in the month. There was a motion by Radomski to approve the Police Report. Second by Kraft, all voting yes, motion carried.

Laurie Odden, Executive Director Convention and Visitors Buruea, addressed the council regarding the car show, which planning is underway for next year. She explained that the Chamber and CVB softball tournament was a success. She thanked Travis and Corinne Risovi for all the help with the tournament. The Downtown Market, held on Thursday evenings, has been successful in bringing people downtown. Odden was contacted about Rugby being a stop on a 2027 Mystery Bus Tour. Odden thanked the Public Works department and Police Department for all their help with events this summer. There was a motion by Larson to approve the CVB minutes and financials. Second by Zachmeier. All voting yes, motion carried.

Brian Hoffart, JDA Executive Director, reported to the council that BDO Zone grant application has been approved for $77,500. There was another sale of a Chalmers Addition lot. The Talent Fly In is scheduled for October 1-4. Hoffart is working with local businesses to make this successful. There was a motion by Lotvedt to approve the JDA minutes and financials. Second by Nelson, all voting yes, motion carried.

Buildings: Portfolio Holder Lotvedt explained that the council needs to determine where the sewer for the new ambulance building should be. There was a motion by Lotvedt to contact Interstate Engineering regarding the ambulance building sanitary sewer line. Second by Larson. St.Michel

clarified that Interstate Engineering would provide the council with the options and the cost associated with it. Roll call vote, all voting yes, motion carried.

Lotvedt explained that Blue Cube Partners has requested a bond for $11,000,000 for improvements to the trailer courts that include new mobile homes. Lotvedt explained the reasons given by the bond attorneys and city attorney, why the proposed bond is not an eligible use. Mickelson Hendrickson explained that the petition should be denied. There was a motion by Lotvedt to reject the petition for the bond as presented by Blue Cube Partners LLC. Second by Larson, all voting yes, motion carried.

Finance: Portfolio Holder Nelson had nothing to report.

Ordinance: Portfolio Holder Zachmeier had nothing to report.

Personnel: Portfolio Holder Radomski explained that she sent out the employee survey she had spoken about earlier. She hopes to have results to share at the next meeting.

Public Safety: Portfolio Holder Kraft had nothing to report.

Public Works: Portfolio Holder Larson explained that the city has finished the dura patcher work. They have been making pavement repairs and trimming branches that overhang the streets. The council considered an estimate for mud jacking curbs and valley gutters.

Recreation: Portfolio Holder Santjer thanked Travis and Corinne and Pool Manager Bonnie Berginski for all they have done this summer for our youth. The lights at the ball diamonds are still a work in progress. Bartsch Electric is going to order some lights, and one pole does not have power to it. They are determining if it is an Otter Tail issue or a city issue.

Library: Reinke explained The American Conversation Project as well as the Smithsonian Association. The food bank served 74 families this month.

Larson explained the Findings of Fact for Lot 2 Block 6, School Addition for a variance to build three feet from the property line. There was a motion by Larson to approve the Finding of Fact for Lot 2 Bock 6, School Addition. Second by Lotvedt, all voting yes, motion carried.

Larson explained the Findings of Fact for E ½ of Lots 1 & 2 Block 1, Little Flower Addition, for a variance to build a garage to be entered into from the side yard. There was a motion by Larson to approve the Finding of Fact for E ½ of Lots 1 & 2 Block 1, Little Flower Addition, roll call vote, Lotvedt – yes, Nelson – yes, Kraft – yes, Radomski – yes, Reinke – abstain, Larson – yes, Santjer – yes, Zachmeier – yes, motion carried.

The council conducted the First Reading of Ordinance 479- Repeal of 5.04 & 5.08. There was a motion by Zachmeier to approve the first reading of Ordinance 479- Repeal of 5.04 & 5.08. Second by Kraft, all voting yes, motion carried.

New Business

The council considered abatements for Angeline Busch, GeoCenter, Lexi Vetsch, and Brad Wangler. There was a motion by Lotvedt to approve the abatements as presented. Second by Larson, all voting yes, motion carried.

Nelson invited the council to the International Peace Garden Gala, happening this weekend.

There was no public comment.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 7:00p.m.

There being no further business to transact or come before the council at this time there was a motion by Reinke to adjourn the meeting. Second by Radomski, all voting yes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:57pm.

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Robert St.Michel, Mayor Attest: Jennifer Stewart, City Auditor