

## City of Minden

P.O. Box 239, 325 N. Colorado  
Minden, Nebraska 68959

phone 308.832.1820  
fax 308.832.1949  
www.MindenNebraska.org



### Minutes of Council Meeting City of Minden, Nebraska August 27, 2025

The City Council of the City of Minden, Nebraska, met on this day at 6:00 p.m. in special session in the Council Chambers, pursuant to advance notice of said meeting simultaneously transmitted to all members of the Council and to the public as shown by the copy thereof posted in the Minden City Hall, Outside the Minden City Hall, First Bank & Trust Co., Minden Exchange Bank & Trust Co., and the Post Office. A copy of the notice is on file in the office of the City Clerk.

Mayor Evans called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The following City Council members were present: David Bunger, Teresa Sumstine, Jack Yant, and Alyssa Schneider. The following City Officials were present: Mayor Larry Mayor Evans, City Administrator Michael Krings, and City Clerk Abbey Jordan. Absent: City Attorney Andrew Olson.

All proceedings hereinafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

After roll was called, Mayor Evans led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Then Mayor Evans made the following statement:

“Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act and Public Records Law Requirements a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted for public inspection on the east wall of the Council Chambers. In addition, for public inspection, there is located on the table to the south of the chairs in the Council Chambers, a copy of the Council packet that was distributed to the members of the Council prior to this meeting.

The council will take comments on an agenda item, not related to a public hearing, during the public forum only. Please state your name and address prior to commenting.”

**Agenda Item #3**, Council Announcements. None were made.

**Agenda Item #4**, Public Forum. No comments were made.

**Agenda item #5**, Insurance Discussion

Krings started the discussion by stating the three bids received and their annual amounts.

Nate Fox, Fox Insurance, reviewed the quote from LARM that he provided. Fox is the LARM agent for the central and western parts. There are 220 communities that are a part of LARM. LARM is the insurance pool for municipalities in NE. All policies are October through September to coincide with fiscal years. Renewal letters come out in July for budgeting purposes.

Work comp and liability are similar across all quotes. LARM has \$5 million per line. With Travelers and CWG, they have \$1 million coverage plus a \$4 million umbrella to get to the total of \$5 million which is Nebraska’s tort claims maximum limit for municipalities. The biggest difference in liability is higher deductibles with the other two. LARM’s sewer backup liability is lower.

## City of Minden

P.O. Box 239, 325 N. Colorado  
Minden, Nebraska 68959

phone 308.832.1820  
fax 308.832.1949  
www.MindenNebraska.org



LARM provides a \$5,000 deductible per occurrence which covers all vehicles, buildings, equipment, etc. Travelers has a 3% wind and hail deductible with a \$100,000 minimum. There is an option to buy down the wind and hail deductible to \$10,000. CWG has a 100% co-insurance requirement and the others do not.

Cody Krull, is with Jones Group in Minden. Travelers doesn't have a co-insurance and CWG has a 90% co-insurance requirement. LARM does a \$5,000 property deductible while both Travelers and CWG are \$10,000. Travelers has a \$15,000 limit on employee theft vs. \$300,000 with LARM. LARM has a lower deductible on employment practices.

Jones Group is the state director for CWG. The Firepak offered by CWG has replacement cost of vehicles for the fire department only. The other two have actual cash value on all vehicles. Travelers provides a volunteer accident plan coverages.

Yant confirmed that CWG is replacement costs for roofs. C. Krull confirmed and added that metal roofs have a cosmetic exclusion. Evans confirmed that mobile equipment coverage is at 80%. C. Krull confirmed it is all mobile equipment. Evans also asked about leased equipment coverage? Fox stated LARM has automatic \$250,000 coverage for non-owned equipment and can increase if needed. LARM equipment coverage is actual cash value coverage.

Sumstine asked about the reinsurance and how payments to the City would work with LARM. Krings replied it is similar to our health insurance as LARM self-insures. When a similar dollar amount of loss is met, then the reinsurance company takes over and pays the remainder.

Fox stated that LARM is governed by a 15-member board that are all members of the insurance pool. There is no profit incentive and this helps keep rates low. C. Krull also informed the council that both Travelers and CWG use a reinsurance carrier. This is typical in the insurance industry.

Evans asked about the three-year discount and commitment and the process for leaving LARM. Fox stated the discount of a three-year commitment creates stability in the insurance pool. The three-year commitment does not lock in the proposed rate for all three years. There is a notice requirement to leave LARM of 180 days and can only leave on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Department of Insurance has to approve the leaving of LARM too. Fox did mention that LARM is not covered by NE Guaranteed Fund which covers any outstanding claims if a company goes bankrupt. If LARM went bankrupt, then there would be an assessment on the members to cover a shortfall.

Evans asked for clarification on the Travelers wind and hail deductible buydown. Kevin Krull, Jones Group, stated Travelers wind and hail deductible is \$100,000 and the City had chosen to buy it down to \$10,000. The City will only have a \$10,000 deductible in the event of a wind and hail storm damage. K. Krull stated all carriers will have differences. Since the City has worked with Jones Group, all claims have been paid. Jones promotes staying local and it has helped them stay on top of our account. They see things going on throughout town and has notified the City when coverages need adjusted for any reason.

Evans asked if the fire department could be pulled out of the LARM package? Fox stated LARM offers a similar package for fire departments based on an agreed amount per vehicle, but was not included in the provided quote. It can be added, but would increase the LARM quote. Krings asked again if the LARM quote could be revised to exclude the fire department? Fox believes it could be done.

C. Krull stated the advantage to the CWG Firepak means there's not shared liability. The fire department would have \$5 million liability coverage and the City would also have \$5 million liability coverage. K. Krull wants to reiterate that LARM's additional fire package means the City would have to set the values and if a vehicle is undervalued, the City would have to cover the difference when it needs

## City of Minden

P.O. Box 239, 325 N. Colorado  
Minden, Nebraska 68959

phone 308.832.1820  
fax 308.832.1949  
www.MindenNebraska.org



replaced in an accident. Whereas, CWG covers total replacement costs. Fox stated there is flexibility to select replacement values and the City only pays for the selected coverage. C. Krull added the CWG quote includes the Firepak.

No action taken.

### **Agenda Item #6, Budget Workshop**

Krings stated the provided budget is just a draft. The City is meeting with our accountant and will provide recommendations. Krings reviewed the departmental budgets and the proposed capital items.

No action taken.

### **Agenda Item #7, Adjournment**

Schneider motioned to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. and Bunger seconded. On roll call, the following voted aye: Bunger, Sumstine, Yant, and Schneider. Meeting adjourned.

/s/ Larry Evans  
Larry Mayor Evans, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Abbey Jordan  
Abbey Jordan, City Clerk  
(SEAL)