

CITY OF GHENT
APPROVED MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL/EDA MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 8TH, 2025

The regularly scheduled City Council/EDA meeting for the City of Ghent was held on Tuesday, July 8th at 6:30 p.m. Council members present were Mayor Doug Anderson, Adam DeRoode, Zac Boerboom, & Tim VanKeulen. Mike Warren arrived late. Administrator/Clerk, Dawn Vlaminc

OPEN MEETING: Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order @ 6:30 p.m.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited.

APPROVE MINUTES: A motion was made by Boerboom and seconded by VanKeulen to approve the minutes of the June meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVE AGENDA: A motion was made by Boerboom and seconded by DeRoode to approve the agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: No comments were heard.

LYON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT: Sheriff Wallen was present. We are reminded to develop a contract with the City of Marshall to board dogs as we currently have a verbal agreement. We will also check to see if the verbiage of our "jake brake" ordinance has been revised to disallow the use in city limits.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: The Council agreed that a zoning variance is needed for the Esping garage. State Building Code will be enforced.

WIDSETH: WATER/ SEWER IMPROVEMENTS, IN-TOWN PORTION: Jeff Kuhn presented a draft plan for the County Road 5 portion of our project. We will be ready to work on temporary easements and meet with residents later this month.

BOLTON & MENK: The planning grant to plan the flood protection berm has been secured. Jordan Albrecht & John Graupman presented the next steps. Meetings with BWSR, SWCD, & DNR have been scheduled to discuss requirements for the project. We also discussed possible wastewater pond sites. The next step would be to set up meetings with the property owners to see if they are open to selling land for this purpose. John agreed to meet with landowners with us. We also have the opportunity to apply for additional PFA funds through a Point Source Implementation Grant (PSIG). This grant would cover the additional costs related to MPCA requirements that are more stringent when a pond is updated. In our case, this primarily would relate to compliance with phosphorous limits.

CD's MATURING: The Council reviewed the CD's that are coming mature. Dawn also made recommendations on increasing the amount of funds that we invest in CD's. A motion was made by Boerboom and seconded by VanKeulen to reinvest the original amounts, the interested earned & to purchase additional equaling approximately 970,000 in CD's according to the recommendations. All in favor, motion carried.

WATER/SEWER/GARBAGE RATES: Council agreed to wait until we receive our funding packet before we made decisions on rates for 2026.

2026 PRELIMINARY BUDGET: The Council reviewed the 2026 first draft budget. A few items that need to be included are street signs for the Bluebird Development, Tuckpointing for the City Hall Building, & Christmas Decorations. Dawn will bring a second draft to the August Meeting.

PICKUP PURCHASE: After shopping for a replacement pickup, Jesse has requested that we purchase new tires, save for a couple more years and purchase a "new" truck. Council approved this purchase and we will consider ourselves in the market for a new pickup and will keep our eyes open for a good deal.

GWORKS ONBOARDING: Waiting for onboarding.

DEROODE METER: DeRoode asked the other council members if they would approve him purchasing a 1" water meter. The primary reason is to support a fire suppression system in his home. No one is opposed.

ADJOURN: A motion was made by VanKeulen and seconded by Warren to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Vlaminc
Administrator/Clerk