

CITY OF GHENT  
APPROVED MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL/EDA MEETING  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14TH, 2025

The regularly scheduled City Council/EDA meeting for the City of Ghent was held on Tuesday, January 14th at 6:30 p.m. Council members present were Mayor Doug Anderson, Mike Warren, Tim VanKeulen & Adam DeRoode via zoom Administrator/Clerk, Dawn Vlaminc & Public Works Director, Jesse Christianson  
Absent was Zac Boerboom.

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

**SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS:** Mayor Doug Anderson, Councilman Tim VanKeulen, & Mike Warren were sworn in.

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

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

**CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:** No comments were heard.

**LYON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT:** Sherriff Wallen was present with a yearend report. No concerns.

**Depository:** A motion was made by Warren and seconded by DeRoode to name both Bremer Bank of Marshall & Minnwest Bank of Marshall as depositories for the City of Ghent. DeRoode, Warren, & Anderson voted Yes, VanKeulen abstained. Motion carried.

**2025 APPOINTMENTS:** A motion was made by VanKeulen and seconded by DeRoode to adopt the following appointments. All in favor, motion carried.

- Official Newspaper: Minneota Mascot
- Mayor ProTem: Adam DeRoode
- City Attorneys: Engels & Larson & Quarnstrom & Doering, PA
- City Engineer: Bolton & Menk & Widseth
- Official Animal Pound: City of Marshall
- Auto-pay vendors:
  - Payroll: Direct Deposit Payroll released by Mayor
  - Frontier: Land Line for City Office, includes email
  - MN Valley Cooperative: lift station pump alert
  - Lyon Lincoln Electric: Meter House Electric
  - Gopher One Call
  - Zoom Video Meeting Communications

**FIRE PROTECTION AGREEMENTS:** A motion was made by VanKeulen and seconded by DeRoode to approve the township fire protection agreements as presented. Anderson, VanKeulen, & DeRoode voted yes, Warren abstained. Motion carried.

**FIRE RELIEF ASSOCIATION BENEFITS:** A motion was made by DeRoode and seconded by VanKeulen to approve the increase in benefits from \$1,075 to \$1,175. Anderson, VanKeulen, & DeRoode voted yes, Warren abstained. Motion carried.

**YEAR END EXPENSE REPORT:** The council reviewed the year end transfer from the general fund into the capital improvement fund. A motion was made by DeRoode and seconded by VanKeulen to transfer and allocate the year end funds and CD's to Minnwest Bank using the following approximate ratios. \$400,000 checking/ \$148,200 savings/ \$840,000 CDARS = \$1,388,200 total funds.

**RESOLUTION #01-14-25 FEE SCHEDULE:** A motion was made by DeRoode and seconded by VanKeulen to adopt the resolution with the discussed updates. All in favor, motion carried.

**WIDSETH REQUEST FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES:** Council reviewed the request for engineering services provided by Widseth Engineering. The council is requesting that the request be separated by the following phases: All work required for the in town portion of the project through bid letting, then through construction. The council would like to see a separate agreement for future projects to include the ponds and water tower.

**SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL:** A special appropriations bill for \$7,039,000 for improvements to water and sewer infrastructure was finalized today and is being supported by Dahm's office.

**AWAIR & EMPLOYEE RIGHT TO KNOW POLICY:** Staff reviewed our policy. No changes were necessary. Dawn remains our safety officer.

**GAMBLING LICENSE:** A motion was made by Warren and seconded by VanKeulen to approve the following gambling permits. All in favor, motion carried. Friends of the NRA 4/5/25 & SWMN BLAZE 6/2/25

**CODE ENFORCEMENT:** No action taken this month.

**VIERSTRAETE PARCEL PURCHASE REQUEST:** Rick & Denise Vierstraete has approached the council wanting to purchase parcel #25-100062-2. This parcel is the site of the Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water old connection located adjacent to their property. There are still water and power lines in use here. Vierstraete's are inquiring about the purchase so that they can plan an expansion of their existing shop in that direction. After much discussion, a motion was made by DeRoode and seconded by Warren that the lot is not for sale at this time due to the existence of this infrastructure. This parcel may come up for sale in the future. All in favor, motion carried.

**BERM PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION:** The council reviewed the planning grant application. Bolton & Menk wants council to consider the option of planning the berm at the elevation of 1165.25 which represents the 500-year flood. The current application is based on an elevation of 1164' which represents the current 100-year flood plus 1.5'. This option would be more costly but could allow the two-remaining homes in bluebird court to be removed from the floodplain in the future. Since this scenario would be very costly, thus not likely, a motion was made by VanKeulen and seconded by DeRoode to submit the application as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

**ADJOURN:** A motion was made by Warren and seconded by VanKeulen to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Vlaminc  
Administrator/Clerk