



City Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 20, 2026 7:00 PM

Cologne Community Center, 1211 Village Parkway

Vision Statement

The City of Cologne is a vibrant small town that respects its heritage, embraces its future and offers a high quality of life for all who live, work and visit our community.

Mayor: Matt Lein
Councilmember: Sarah Bruss
Councilmember: Jeri Bowers
Councilmember: Selmer Olson
Councilmember: Carol Szaroletta

NOTE: AGENDA ITEMS ARE APPROXIMATE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE ACCORDING TO LENGTH OF DISCUSSION. TO ENSURE THAT YOU ARE PRESENT FOR ITEMS OF INTEREST, PLEASE ARRIVE AT 7:00 PM.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Lein called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Councilmembers Bowers, Olson and Szaroletta were present. Also present was City Administrator Morrison. Councilmember Bruss was absent.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ADOPT AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Bowers to adopt the agenda, second by Councilmember Olson. Motion carried 4-0.

4. VISITOR'S PRESENTATIONS, PETITIONS, CORRESPONDENCE

a. Roger Storms – Benton Lake Gardens Update

Roger Storms informed the council that after 23 years of building and maintaining the Benton Creek Gardens, he would be closing the garden at the end of the season. The property is owned by St Bernard's church. He had tried to get volunteers to help with the maintenance, but no one had come forward.

b. Mayor Proclamation Honoring Glad Day Founders

5. ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed below are considered routine and non-controversial by the Council. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a Councilmember, Staff or Citizen. If removed, the item will be discussed at the end of the regular agenda.

- a. June 15th, 2026 City Council Minutes**
- b. Accounts Payable from June 16th, 2026**
- c. June 30th and July 14th 2026 Payroll Summaries**
- d. Q2 CFD Payroll**
- e. Res No 26-12 Accepting Donation**
- f. Res No 26-13 Approving a Reduction of Letter of Credit**
- g. Res No 26-14 Appointing Election Judges**
- h. Approve Gambling License for St. Bernards Raffle**

After discussion, Councilmember Bowers made a motion to adopt the consent agenda, second by Councilmember Olson. Motion carried 4-0.

6. NEW COUNCIL BUSINESS

a. Cologne Fire Department New Hire Request – Brian Loscheider

Assistant Fire Chief Loscheider updated the council on current staffing at the fire department (32) and a new candidate who has been interviewed and the committee would like to recommend his hiring. Next steps after hiring would be training as a probationary fire fighter until successful completion of the training. After discussion Councilmember Bowers made a motion approving the hiring of Carter Wally, second by Councilmember Szaroletta. Motion carried 4-0.

b. Security Upgrade Cologne Community Center

Administrator Morrison reviewed her memo to the council outlining a proposal to add 3 more security cameras to the community center which would provide complete coverage of the facility along with real time access to the cameras. The need for the upgrade is driven by the fact the facility is unstaffed during events when the public has open access to the facility. After answering questions, Councilmember Szaroletta made a motion to approve the security upgrade quote from Per Mar at a cost not to exceed \$7,489. Second by Councilmember Bowers. Motion carried 4-0.

7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

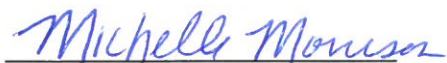
- a. Administrator Update**
- b. Mayor / Council / Committees Reports**

8. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

9. ADJOURN

Motion by Councilmember Szaroletta to adjourn at 7:20 PM, second by Councilmember Olson. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted:


Michelle Morrison

City Administrator/City Clerk

Attest:


Matt Lein

Mayor