

City Of New Virginia
Council Meeting Minutes
July 6th, 2026

The Council met in regular session on Monday July 6th, 2026, for the July council meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Strange at 7:01 p.m. with Council Members Bailey, Chandler, Dunkin and Galivan present. Absent Truman.

Minutes from the June meeting were approved.

Old Business: Official letters to citizens regarding issues discussed at the June meeting have been either hand delivered or sent by certified mail. No return cards for the letters sent in the mail have been received to date.

The two dead trees in GAMP Park were cut down and removed before the truck pull.

A pallet of asphalt cold mix for street patching has been picked up and is being stored in the fire station.

New batteries were installed in the red flashing lights at Knotts Street & East Street. The north light is working but the south light is still not working correctly. Both solar panels for the two red flashing lights will be sent back for new replacements.

Dirt work and grass seeding for last year's storm water project on Knotts Street will be completed this summer. Grass seeding will also be done for the new trail sidewalk project on West Street.

Hollie Zajicek, candidate for Iowa Senate District 11, was present to address the Council.

Citizen Input: Chandler moved, seconded by Dunkin to approve O Shucks Sweet Corn sign and Farmers Market signs to be placed in Old Settlers Park. A roll call vote was taken: 3 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstained. Motion carried.

Fire Department Business: There is a 911/Warren County Emergency Management meeting on Tuesday July 7th to discuss merging the 911 position with the Emergency Management position. Mayor Strange will attend this meeting.

The overhead water line for filling fire trucks was discussed. The line is two-inch copper. To replace an approximate 20-foot section of the copper two-inch pipe is very expensive. A cost estimate will be obtained to fix the area of pipe where there is a very small leak with copper pipe; to replace the 20-foot area with two-inch pex pipe; and to replace the entire water line with two-inch pex pipe. This proposal will be discussed with Fire Chief Jake Zuercher.

Water Utilities discussed: The June water report was reviewed. May water usage was 804,000 gallons averaging 26,000 gallons per day. Testing is in compliance with Iowa DNR permit requirements.

Law Enforcement: – The Sheriff’s Report from the month of June was reviewed. A calls for service report for the month is not available due to a records management system vendor change. Officers spent in excess of 28 hours in the City of New Virginia in June. Officers patrolled in excess of 100 miles within the city limits for the month.

Old Settlers Update – Road closed signs used for Old Settlers that have been used for several years are owned by Warren County. We will be able to use the signs one more time for this year’s Old Settlers but will have to find another source for signs or purchase signs for future events. The water slide will be put up on Friday July 10th at 11:00 a.m. if there is anyone available to help. The Tent Fund Account bank statement is still going to the Old Settlers Association. There have been numerous attempts made to get the bank statement switched into the City’s name. The fireworks fund was discussed and the need to consider increasing the amount funded for the fireworks show.

Resolution No. 2026-15 – A RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS OF THE SOUTHERN IOWA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS was considered for passage and approval. Galivan moved, seconded by Bailey to pass and approve Resolution No. 2026-15. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Ethan Wherry with Mid-Iowa Planning Alliance For Community Development (MIPA) was present to give an overview of the services offered and to discuss grant opportunities for the City of New Virginia.

The fiscal year 2026-27 city wages were reviewed. City Clerk - \$3087.00/mth. (\$1543.50 from general fund & \$1543.50 from water utilities fund); Deputy City Clerk - \$1928.50/mth. (\$964.25 from general fund & \$964.25 from water utilities fund); Office Assistants to City Clerk & Deputy City Clerk – (20 hrs./mth. x \$27.55/hr. - \$551.00 from general fund and (20 hrs./mth. x \$27.55/hr - \$551.00 from water utilities fund); Mayor - \$100.00/mth. from general fund; City Council Members - \$50.00/per mtg. from general fund; Treasurer - \$150.00/qtr. From general fund. Bailey moved, seconded by Dunkin to approve the 2026-27 fiscal year city wages. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

The 2025-26 fiscal year expenses were reviewed. Bailey moved, seconded by Dunkin to expend and additional \$5,000.00 from the General Fund into the fire department savings account and \$7,500.00 from the Water Utilities Fund for maintenance/repair inventory items. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

The June 27th Truck Pull revenues & expenses were reviewed. There was a \$5,129.89 profit. All food was sold out except for a few bags of chips, three cases of pop and two cases of water which were sold at the end of the truck pull.

GAMP UPDATE

Dunkin moved, seconded by Chandler to pay Mary Huss \$50.00 for one extra cleaning of the GAMP Community Building. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

A written contract will be drafted for cleaning the GAMP Community Building.

Chandler moved, seconded by Bailey to approve Clanton Creek Fence & Gate bid of \$1,438.00 for repairing chain-link fence in GAMP Park damaged by a tree that fell on it. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL/HOMETOWN PRIDE UPDATE

Upcoming Events in 2026: September 20th – End Of Summer Social at Hickory Hills. Ideas discussed – Drive-thru dinner, Game nights @ Lions Hall. The Committee is looking for new avenues for getting information out to the public. New merchandise considerations include T-shirts and stickers.

ELF CLUB

No new information to present to the Council.

TRI CORNER EXPRESS

Fund balance \$19,675.97. No new information to present to the Council.

A proposal from Kinetic to bury fiber optic cable throughout New Virginia city limits was reviewed. Galivan moved, seconded by Bailey to approve the Kinetic proposal to bury fiber optic cable throughout New Virginia city limits. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Options for the Lions Hall Building were discussed. There is a grant available for renovating the Lions Hall Building. The grant application is due February 26th, 2027. There must be three bids for each project of the renovation. No renovation work can start before July 1, 2027. There is a total of \$400,000 annually available for communities seeking this grant. There will be an extra \$1,000,000 available for the next grant process. To qualify, the building must be vacant for six months prior to the grant deadline. The organizations/groups that meet in the Lions Hall have been contacted about the potential renovation project and have secured other places to hold their meetings and activities if the grant is pursued. Mayor Strange will be meeting with a person at the Lions Hall that does grant writing for this particular grant on Friday July 10th, 2026, to see if she thinks it will qualify for the grant.

Galivan moved, seconded by Chandler to close the Lions Hall Building July 15th, 2026 pending the meeting with the grant representative on Friday July 10th, 2026. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

The G76 Highway resurfacing project from New Virginia to Medora was discussed. Mayor Strange talked with a representative from the Warren County Engineers' Office and was advised the project is scheduled to start in mid-August of this year. The project will be stopping 50 feet east of the city limits. InRoads got the contract and will be doing the work. The portion of the road within the city limits needs to be assessed for resurfacing. Mayor Strange will contact an InRoads representative to do an assessment and work up a quote for the City's portion of the road from the east city limits to West Street.

Galivan moved, seconded by Chandler to pass and approved Resolution No. 2026-16 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF PUBLIC WAYS OR GROUNDS WITHIN THE CITY OF NEW VIRGINIA, IOWA for Old Settlers events. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Bailey moved, seconded by Dunkin, to approve payment of all City bills. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

With no further business to come forth, Dunkin moved, seconded by Bailey to adjourn meeting. A roll call vote was taken: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

The August council meeting is scheduled for Monday August 3rd, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
August meeting date – Monday August 3rd, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Baughman".

Jennifer Baughman, City Clerk