

City of Carter Lake  
Regular City Council Meeting  
November 17, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Ronald Cumberledge at 7:05pm.

Present – Mayor Ronald Cumberledge, Jason Gundersen, Council members Aaron Grell, Jacob Hanika, Victor Skinner and Jackie Wahl. Also, present Attorney Clint Fichter, City Administrator Gales and City Clerk Jackie Carl.

Mayor Cumberledge initiates the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a call for a public hearing regarding the designation of the Urban Renewal Area described in the preamble hereof and on the Urban Renewal Plan. The plan amendment includes adding new territory to the Area, including all the property described as shown below: The entire corporate limits of the City of Carter Lake. The proposed amendment to the urban renewal plan brings the property described above under the plan and includes the authorization of a new urban renewal project. There were no written or verbal comments received at this time. Gundersen moved to close hearing and Hanika seconded the motion, unanimously approved.

Gundersen moved for approval of the agenda seconded by Grell, unanimously approved and Gundersen moved to approve consent items, seconded by Skinner; unanimously approved. Carter Lake Elementary School Update Teresa Hamilton and Jacqueline McCloud present updates from Carter Lake Elementary School. Students Blake Christianson, Nora Cooley, Austin, and Fletcher are recognized for their achievements. Teresa Hamilton discusses the school's focus on clear instruction and reduced behavior referrals. The school has improved from a priority school to an acceptable status on the state report card.

Fire Chief Dave Huey discussed the proposed retirement program for volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel. Attorney Fichter provides guidance on filling Jason's vacant seat, including options for a special election or appointment. Gundersen discussed the timing of his resignation and the council's composition. Clerk clarifies after 1/2/26 the four remaining council members will have the option to appoint. Attorney confirms the council has 60 days to make the appointment after Jason's resignation. Wahl motions to approve Cody Walker for the fire department, which is seconded by Grell and approved unanimously.

City Administrator Cameron Gales requests approval to move forward with an on-call RFP for plumbers and snowplow drivers. Grell expresses concerns about subcontracting snow plowing, but he did motion to approve the RFP with the removal of the snowplow contractors, seconded by is approved; Quote of \$53,036 for the splash pad, including tear-out and re-running of pipe work. Gundersen motions to approve the splash pad project, which is seconded by Grell, unanimously approved. An update on the meal program, stating it will continue until a new provider is found. The council confirms the senior meal program will not be stopped. Gundersen provides an update on the valve project, stating all holes will be filled and concreted by the end of the week.

Gundersen, moves to approve the annual road tax report, seconded by Hanika; Clerk Carl presents proposals for future administration software updates, recommending Tyler Technologies, Hanika moved to approve, seconded by Gundersen; Skinner moved to approve wages for Elizabeth Sanders, seconded by Grell; Grell moved to approve wages for Kaitlin Watson, seconded by Wahl, back dated 30 days, and Grell moved to approve wage increase for Nicholas Dargy, seconded by Skinner; All motion carried and unanimously approved.

Skinner moved to approves an ordinance for tax increment financing for the new apartment building on Ninth Street and Avenue K, seconded by Hanika; Gundersen moved to approve an Urban Renewal Plan as presented, which goes along with the tax increment financing ordinance; seconded by Grell and Grell moved to approve a development agreement with Overland Group for the public improvements seconded by Hanika; all motions are unanimously approved.

Public comments include thanks from Lisa Fujii for the Thanksgiving dinner and Janette Banks for the craft show. Tim Mandolfo thanks the council and community for their support during his campaign. The meeting concludes with a reminder of the annual winter festival and a comment on the valve project from Aaron Grell.

7:40 p.m. Grell moved for the council to move into a closed session for real estate transaction Iowa Code 21.5(j), seconded by Hanika. At 8:35 p.m. the council returned to open session and Gundersen moved to adjourn, seconded by Hanika. Unanimously approve.