

## **Meeting Overview-Committee as a Whole 5/22/25**

The Committee as a Whole convened for a work session prior to the regular council meeting. Council members and staff, including the council president and police chief, were present. Topics spanned committee updates, street improvement bids, landscaping contracts, pool season preparations, and community concerns about tree removals.

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### **1. Streets and Infrastructure**

- **2025 Roadway Improvements Project:**
    - Three bids were submitted:
      - **Strausser Paving:** ~\$1.79M (apparent low bid)
      - **Decker Construction:** ~\$1.82M
      - **JLD Construction:** ~\$1.85M
    - Engineer's estimate was ~\$1.76M.
    - Low bid is within acceptable 10% variance, so Strausser is eligible.
    - **Next Steps:** A formal recommendation letter is due next Friday. Final bid acceptance requires a vote.
  - **Project Details:**
    - Reconstruction of **Minerva Lake Road** and **Northland Plaza Drive**.
    - Improvements include drainage, signage, and site restoration.
  - **Funding Clarification:**
    - Previously communicated grant/loan figures (~\$1M grant + \$100k loan) were incorrect.
    - Actual numbers are reversed: under \$500k in grants, over \$500k in loans.
    - Accurate funding figures to be discussed in the next work session.
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### **2. Services (Landscaping & Contracts)**

- **Leaf and Landscaping Services:**
    - Two bids received:
      - **Brad at Brown National Landscaping:** \$36,000 over 3 years; high satisfaction; proven track record.
      - **Five Seasons Landscaping:** Slightly higher cost with annual increases unless immediate action taken.
    - Discussion centered around balancing cost and quality. Brad's reliability and community involvement were key factors.
  - **Weeding and Cleanup Projects:**
    - Greenline/Minerva Lake cleanup planned.
    - Waiting on updated invoice and PO for go-ahead.
    - Concerns raised about poor communication from contractors.
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### **3. Parks & Recreation**

- **Pool Opening Guidelines:**
  - Pool opening depends on weather (65°F minimum).

- Real-time decisions to be made daily at 11:00 AM.
  - Communications will be posted on websites and possibly social media.
  - **Concessions** will open mid-week due to low temperatures and anticipated low attendance.
  - Staff aims to optimize budget and avoid unnecessary operational costs.
  - **Discount Policy:**
    - No pool discounts (employee or otherwise) currently active.
    - Legislation required each year to activate discounts.
    - Will be addressed in June work session.
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#### 4. Community Concern – Tree Removal

- **Context:**
    - Phantom Fireworks removed several pine trees believed to be diseased or hazardous.
    - Some residents expressed concerns; issue discussed carefully.
    - Phantom reportedly plans to **re-landscape and contribute native plantings** elsewhere in the village.
  - **Transparency:**
    - Council agreed it's best to review and share the landscape plan publicly.
    - Noted this is an exception due to community sensitivity around Phantom Fireworks.
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#### 5. Additional Notes

- Cracked sealing on roads and pothole repairs scheduled for completion within a month.
- Meeting ended with acknowledgment of ongoing efforts and adjournment.

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Jeffrey Wilcheck, Fiscal Officer

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Tiffany Southard, Mayor