

Meeting Overview: Committee as a Whole 7/31/2025 6:30 PM

Present were multiple council members, the Chief Officer, and Fiscal Officer Jeffrey Wilcheck. The session covered fiscal updates, legislation, infrastructure projects, parks and recreation maintenance, and facility concerns.

Key Agenda Items and Discussions

1. Pay and Compensation Ordinances (2025-14 & 2025-15)

- **Ordinance 2025-14:**
 - Focused on fixing a **pay discrepancy** affecting second and third shift **sergeants**.
 - The sergeant was mistakenly excluded from prior shift differentials.
 - The correction was recommended by the **mayor and police chief**.
 - Council agreed to pass this as an **emergency ordinance** so the sergeant receives corrected pay starting with the **August pay period**.
 - **Ordinance 2025-15:**
 - Related to **infrastructure costs** for **Northland Plaza and 161 intersection** improvements.
 - Approximately **\$63,000** in expenses can now be charged to the **state highway fund**, which has accumulated over a decade and remained largely unused.
 - Discussion included whether this fund could be used for aesthetic improvements like lighting, but it was clarified that **state law limits usage strictly to highway-related expenses**.
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2. Tabling of Resolution 2025-17

- Concerns a **fee structure change** and **deposit refund policies**.
 - Council opted to **table** the resolution to allow more internal discussion, particularly on:
 - How to evaluate damages (e.g., carpet stains)
 - Who assesses them
 - Ensuring transparency in how deposits are returned.
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Infrastructure & Maintenance Topics

3. Water Main Breaks and Street Repairs

- Another water main break was reported.
- If it's at a previously repaired location, the council may dispute paying again.
- Trees in the **right-of-way** were discussed — council agreed **not to reimburse** residents for removal to avoid setting a precedent.
- Some flooding concerns persist on **Park Lane Court**

4. Street Lighting

- Meeting planned with **engineer Mike Flickinger** to explore placing **intersection-only lights** (rather than full-street coverage) to improve pedestrian safety.

- Discussion included **billing confusion with AEP** and legacy lights still being charged to the village or residents.
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Recreation & Parks: Facilities Concerns

5. Restroom Issues at the Pool

- Ongoing complaints about **unpleasant odors** and **standing water** in the women's restroom.
- Possible **broken pipe** suspected.
- Staff will **follow up with John**.

6. Pool Maintenance Concerns

- **Rusting ladders, structural deterioration, and aging infrastructure** were discussed at length.
 - A ladder with **broken steps** was flagged as a safety risk.
 - Council acknowledged the **bathhouse is in visible decline** and that 2026 may be its last season.
 - RFP for **pool and recreation area renovation** is underway, with proposals expected by **late August**.
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Themes and Recommendations

- **Proactive maintenance** is needed to avoid costly replacements.
 - **Communication and transparency** with the community are important, especially around compensation and infrastructure plans.
 - There's a growing push to **invest in long-term upgrades** to the pool and recreation areas rather than continual patchwork fixes.
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Final Notes

- The meeting concluded with a call to **adjourn the work session**.
- There was general agreement across the council that **reactive maintenance needs to shift to proactive planning** as aging infrastructure becomes a pressing issue.