

CITY OF GHENT
APPROVED MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL/EDA MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 14TH, 2026

The regularly scheduled City Council/EDA meeting for the City of Ghent was held on Tuesday, July 14th at 6:30 p.m. Council members present were Mayor Doug Anderson, Adam DeRoode, Mike Warren, Zac Boerboom & Tim VanKeulen. Administrator/Clerk, Dawn Vlaminc & Public Works Director Jesse Christianson.

OPEN MEETING: Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order @ 6:30 p.m.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited.

APPROVE MINUTES: A motion was made by VanKeulen and seconded by DeRoode to approve the minutes of the June meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

APPROVE AGENDA: A motion was made by DeRoode and seconded by Boerboom to approve the agenda. All in favor, motion carried.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: No comments were heard.

LYON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT: Sheriff Wallen was present to review our call report. We discussed traffic regulations for scooters and electric bikes. We also discussed the use of drones within city limits. Dawn will post the regulations on facebook as a reminder to the residents.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Unit #470 was sold for \$5,000. Thank You to Dallas Mahoney for working on the FEMA grant application for turnout gear.

EMERGENCY MANAGER: Matt Norby is stepping down as Emergency Manager for our City. His backup is Steve Sussner. Matt and Steve has proposed appointing Mike Stassen as his replacement. Council agrees that Mike would be a good candidate. Dawn will communicate with him and see if he will accept the position.

CDARS: A motion was made by Boerboom and seconded by DeRoode to renew the CDARS and include additional funds per the provided spreadsheet. Dawn will split the terms between long term and short term investments as both are offering 3.46% interest. All in favor, motion carried. We will now have \$1,154,300.43 invested.

2026 ELECTIONS: The candidate filing period is July 14th – July 28th. Councilman Boerboom does not plan to file. Councilman DeRoode is on the fence. Dawn will post the openings and send a list of residents for our councilman to reach out to.

BONDING BILL \$3M GRANT: Council reviewed the correspondence that Widseth has sent to the PFA financial officer to verify how we are able to use our \$3 million grant. We want to get his answer in writing.

SEWER EXPANSION TO THE EAST: Dawn has held off contacting these residents as we hope that we can use a portion of the \$3M grant from the bonding bill to extend the water lines to service these homes.

FARMWARD DEMOLITION PERMIT: Councilman Boerboom, representing Farmward, discussed the proposal for sidewalk replacement on English Street next to the Bank Building at 200 W Burlingame Street. Council agreed to a "wait and see" approach. Farmward understands that they are responsible for any damage done to the sidewalk.

SEWER POND PARTNERSHIP WITH LYND: Letters have been sent to landowners. We have only received one response. Lynd and Ghent staff will reach out to the landowners this next week to get feedback.

BERM PROJECT: Bolton & Menk have wrapped up the planning grant. We now need to make a decision to move forward with the DNR grant for \$1 million. Our match is 25%. Council is leaning toward accepting the grant. Bolton & Menk will bring a plan to our August meeting.

BLUEBIRD COURT WARRANTY: Jesse shared with the council steps that were taken to investigate a concerning spot near the drainage area in Bluebird Court. He had Laleman Septic televiser the drainage to see if there was an issue. Nothing was found and it was decided to keep an eye on the spot.

NUISANCE ENFORCEMENT: The nuisance list was reviewed and follow-up letters will be sent out.

STREET LIGHT BRACKETS: Dawn would like to purchase street light banners for the gold sponsors for Belgian American Days this year. She is asking that the city pay for the brackets while the Belgian American Days committee will pay for the banners. A motion was made by DeRoode and seconded by Boerboom to approve the purchase. All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #07-14-26: QSEHRA AGREEMENT: A motion was made by Warren and seconded by Boerboom to approve the agreement as presented in the reimbursement amount of \$682/month. All in favor, motion carried.

FUTURE ORDINANCE DISCUSSIONS: Councilman DeRoode asked to start discussions regarding limiting data centers and surveillance cameras withing city limits.

DAMAGE TO MOWER: The hood of the mower was damaged by our part time mower. Dawn will check on our deductible amount to see if it's worth turning into insurance.

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Warren and seconded by Boerboom to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dawn Vlamincx,
Administrator/Clerk