CITY OF CARLISLE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 12, 2026; 6:30 P.M.
Carlisle 100 N 1st Street, Carlisle, IA
Secondary Location for overflow at Community Building, 35 Vine Street, Carlisle, IA
Elected Officials present; Mayor Dan Carver, Councilwoman Krista Beck (joined at 6:32pm), Councilman Rudy Cataldo, Councilwoman Andrya Carter, Councilwoman Beth Sauter and Councilman Tracey McAvoy constituting a quorum. Also present; City Admin. Deven Markley, City Clerk Lauren Gardner, Atty Robert Stuyvesant, Police Chief Matt Koch, Fire Chief Corey Glover, Public Works Dir. Tony Rhinehart, Lib. Dir. Stacy Goodhue, Utility Clerk Gabby Breheny (at overflow location), Finance Manager Taheton Stephens (at overflow location). Miranda Chadwick, Warren County Emergency Management Coordinator. Mayor Carver called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

DEPARTMENT REPORTS & OTHER PRESENTATIONS

Update on 09/30/2026 Water Incident from City Administrator Deven Markley

Cody Evison with Carlisle Area Chamber of Commerce – The chamber is working with Rachel Goken of Warren County Economic Development to put together a program called Carlisle Bounce Back Bucks where citizens can buy certificates in $25 denominations and each certificate purchased will double so that the purchaser has $50 to spend for each $25 certificate purchased. These certificates will be redeemable at all participating Carlisle businesses, and the goal is to boost those businesses in Carlisle that were affected by the Water Incident.

Public Works Director Tony Rhinehart gave an update on the Water Incident and his statement and thanks to all those who assisted.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Mayor: Speakers are limited to three minutes, as always. Please Direct your comments to the Mayor and the City Council as a whole. First, due to the potential of many speakers tonight, and our desire to hear from everyone wishing to speak, we will not be engaging in questions after your statement tonight. Second, everyone please be mindful of repetitive questions or comments. Third, we expect respectful communication from everyone.

Amy Hicks 1265 Crestview Drive, Carlisle – "Question regarding, I know we are beating a dead horse with the scooters and Ebikes, but on this last council meeting, September 28th, there was a second reading on the ordinance. It was voted on. The second reading was voted on and passed. However, I do not see the third reading on this week's agenda… I don't remember hearing anything about the third reading being waived or tabled and maybe I am remembering incorrectly. So, question on the third reading and also, if the third reading or waiving of the third reading happens when would the ordinance take effect?"

Mayor Carver advised that the third reading would be at a later meting due to anticipated meeting focused on Water issue. Markley remarked that once council passes 3rd reading the ordinance will be sent to the paper and at the time of publication it will take effect.

Scott Ludwig 235 Market Street, Carlisle – Thanks to everyone for all their work on this and everyone in town who followed the do not use order it was very important. Aside from the website, can you comment on ways that you get information about emergencies to everyone in the community? And in the future are you going to address how any future infrastructure problems are going to be resolved? Like increase in taxation or funding from anywhere else, that sort of thing. My wife and I are not originally from Iowa, we are from the East coast and so to see this level of community is very impressive.

Nick Carter (no address given) Carlisle –"I wanna start, I know we are a month away from Thanksgiving, but I want to quickly thank a bunch of people. I know Tony covered a lot of them who were on my list, but I want to definitely thank Tony himself. All the people who work for him greatly appreciate that. Public safety, Matt and Cory, you guys did an amazing job when you were allowed to. I want to thank Joe Jenkins and Paige Williams for the showers. That was excellent. Amazing. I want to thank Deven. Your job is difficult on a regular day. These were not regular days. I appreciate you sticking with it. I got three minutes; sorry I am going as fast as I can. Council, I would like to recommend that you request a root cause analysis done. A true root cause analysis is not just what caused it, but a prioritized list of what we can do in the future to make sure nothing like this happens again. The second thing I want to request is that you have a retrospective done, what went well, what did not, and then use that to come up with procedures or ordinances that need to be in place so that there is a clear path forward that everybody knows what they need to do. I want to thank all five council members for being here tonight, and I want to let the mayor know how disappointed I am in the communication policy. Really felt like you were censoring the citizens. When sentiment turned negative and they were trying to voice frustration on your Facebook posts that comments were turned off and on any future posts related to the water in general were disabled but we don't feel that that is correct. So overall very disappointed. Secondly, I do believe according to your own ordinance, council determines how the meetings are run, not the mayor."

Carrie Kruse 1910 Normandy Drive, Carlisle – "I think it is a tell-tale sign tonight that there is a lot of tension with council members and the mayor. And when I had reached out to a couple of council members to ask them what is going on and they say *"we don't know, I've had no update. The mayor has cut us off."* that is upsetting for me, and it is upsetting for a lot of other people. Now, I know I made a lot of people mad on social media, and I also made a lot of people happy when I said *"let's not point fingers. Let's not put blame out there. Let's just figure out, as he said, what we need to do moving forward."* I know there is an engineer report that was given on the 23rd or in 2023-2024. I think I'd be good to know what we need to do in sense in this community moving forward, so things like this don't happen again. But more so, I think that the city council and you Mr. Mayor deserve citizens an explanation on why the communication has been so rough. So again, thank you for your time."

CONSENT AGENDA & POSSIBLE ACTION

a. Approval of bills in the amount of $134,665.51 - Pulled
b. Approval of Preauthorized bills for September 15, 2026 and September 30, 2026
c. Approval of Council Minutes for September 28, 2026 workshop, September 28, 2026 Regular Meeting, and October 3rd 2026 Special Meeting. - Pulled
d. Approval of Class "C" Retail Alcohol License for Carlisle Food & Beverage, LLC
e. Approval of Pipeline Right-of-way Easement for City-owned Sanitary Sewer Pipe with U.S. Army Corp of Engineers for Warren County Tract 2400
f. Approval of Pay Application #4 to Mainline Construction, Inc. For School Street Phase 3 Reconstruction Project in amount not to exceed $233,323.80

g. Approval of Pay Application #13 to DDVI Inc. For Public Library Renovation Project in Amount not to exceed $246,811.31

Motion by Carter to approve Consent Agenda with Item A and Item C pulled. Seconded by Cataldo. Motion approved 5-0.

Item A. Carter made motion to approve the bills in the total amount of $122,868.64. Beck seconded the Motion. Motion approved 5-0.

Item C. Carter made motion to approve the minutes for September 28, 2026, workshop, September 28, 2026, Regular meeting, and October 3rd 2026, Special meeting with updates. Beck seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS & POSSIBLE ACTION

Approval of Resolution Authorizing the Temporary Deferral of Sending Water and Sewer Bills to the City's Customers until Water Service is Restored.

Motion to approve made by Carter, seconded by Sauter. Motion approved 5-0.

CITY STAFF REPORTS

None

COUNCIL REPORTS

McAvoy – Asked when the emergency proclamation would be lifted and stated that he wants to be a part of the DOT meetings going forward.

Sauter – I would like to address the elephant in the room; there have been some definite communication barriers that have happened in the last couple of weeks. As a council member I feel that I have tried to be part of the communication and was shut out completely. I have sent emails, emails that have gone ignored, I have sent agenda requests that have been ignored. There has been a very big lack of communication that has been given to the council. There is a Wednesday deadline to add things to the agenda, that Wednesday deadline was completely and totally ignored. We have no say on how this meeting ran. This is a City Council meeting. So, I plan on adding a couple of agenda items to the next one to discuss council rules and procedures and what is reported to the council. I don't understand why we can't answer questions; we answer questions on every other meeting that we've ever had. So, I think council should be part of the decision, rather than left in the dark. So, I have two agenda items that I will give to Deven when the meeting is done. To discuss council rules and procedures for the next agenda. But in the future, I think communication should be even for everybody regardless of if its council, regardless of if its public. An emergency proclamation being placed on the City of Carlisle, that's information that people should know but nobody was told. The lack of communication and the lack of transparency has been extremely frustrating for me.

Carter - Council was not kept up to date. While I do not expect to receive hourly updates, when having a conversation and told that the updates that staff is doing is based on the news cycles… I don't love hearing that as they were receiving the updates prior to council. We found out with the citizens. And coming into this meeting tonight and not being told in advance that we would not be allowed to answer questions… I don't think it is responsible or transparent. We just had a conversation about allowing citizen participation a few weeks ago and I don't think it's fair to council, I don't think it's fair to citizens to be told that no, a decision

was made and that we are not allowed to answer questions. I will also be sending out an email after this about that.

Cataldo – We saw the community, saw people come together and there are a couple people I want to mention specifically for how much help they gave. Jobee Sauter, she was there every day, every session to make sure that people had water. As well as Tony, I can't imagine being in your shoes when this was all going on. You were doing absolutely everything you could. Your staff, everybody that chipped in. I am from the east coast as well, and this is something that was foreign to me, so it was… it was pretty emotional. I think everyone appreciated that there was only so much that could be done. And I think that everybody chipped in to do as much as they could. From members of council to staff to police officers showing up when they weren't working to make sure the city is safe, distributing water, checking on the elderly and taking them water. To the people of the public that did that was well. I work in handling emergencies my whole career, there are a lot of logistics that sometimes are difficult to maintain but people stepping up and taking some of those burdens off is something that, in my eyes, is unique. I want to thank everybody that really showed up to make sure that their neighbors were taken care of.

Beck – To be honest, I am not a real outgoing person. I have lived here twenty years, and I think I met more people in the last week than I did when I was campaigning to be on council. I appreciated that. I know everyone is frustrated; I was just as frustrated. I understand information did not flow as quickly as some of us thought it should, I also understand that there were a lot of moving parts. My own personal opinion, I am anxious to see what the after-action report pulls out, I'm anxious to see what the staff root cause analysis pulls out to see what was said and what was done that I don't know. And I know I don't know, it's not my profession. Tony is my expert. I am looking forward to that, to see what we learn from there, what we can prevent from there. It is all about prevention at this point. Thank you to everyone who jumped in whether you were known to help or not, you still made a difference just by being part of our community.

Mayor Report – It has been quite the week- weeks. Having to go through an emergency for nine days in your first ten months as mayor is probably the definition of trial by fire. Through the emergency our city was focused one hundred percent of our attention on two things, First was to get the water back on. And second was caring for the needs of our citizens and I am happy to say we accomplished both. I have many thank you cards to write and I do not have time to name the many people who helped but I want to highlight a few: Tony and our public works crew, Mike Killen and his crew. Also, thanks to Des Moines Water Works, Indianola Municipal Utilities, Iowa Rural Water Association, West Des Moines Public Works, Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities, The City of Urbandale and the City of West Des Moines for their assistance as well. A big thanks to the non public works employees of Carlisle. Our police officers, our fire fighters, the electric department, the parks department, City Hall, Librarians, absolutely everyone who is on staff was called upon to do things outside of their normal job duties. Everyone worked overtime to get the water on and to get our citizens what they needed. So, thank you for our staff. I have to thank the City of Indianola, the City or Hartford and the City of Norwalk to the support that they gave to our citizens and our staff. I need to thank Miranda Chadwick with Warren County Emergency Management; her expertise was invaluable. Thank you to Paige Williams and Family for setting up the showers for the citizens. Thank you to the Carlisle Church community for helping with setting up donations, community meals and being the outstretched hands of help that our community needed. I thank Fareway, Hy-Vee, Caseys, and Coca-Cola for their donations of drinking water. I need to thank our local businesses, you had to get creative with ways to stay open, and I need to thank you for your patience. We know what a week and a half without water is like and how tough that can be, and we hope to help you out with the upcoming program. A big thanks to citizens John Lins, Joe Jenkins, and Eric Goodhue and Jobee Sauter for going above and beyond the call of duty. There are many other thanks that need to be made but I want to take a moment and thank the citizens of

Carlisle, and the customers of Carlisle Water and in the greater Carlisle community who were affected by the shutdown of businesses and the school. It was tough, very tough, and we are so grateful for your support as we work through this crisis. On Friday, once we found the leak and we were confident in getting our water back, I saw an editorial from KCCI. Their editorial basically gave the Carlisle community a showcase for generosity and made us an example for what it means to be Iowa nice. When I saw this, I knew that we as a community had made it. I am so proud of this community for coming together and coming out stronger through adversity. We turned what could have been a story of tragedy, into one of triumph… and we did that together. You should be very proud of what you've accomplished Carlisle. You pride yourself on being a small town and you showed the state exactly what that means. Now, about our businesses… as Cody talked about earlier, this is big and we want to promote it as much as we can, as a way to get our Carlisle businesses back on their feet. The last thing I want to address with the citizens is that the city is not done, we have a lot of work to do. We will be conducting an after-action report, organized by Warren County EMA, and we will be holding meetings with other groups and stakeholders afterwards so we can learn what we can do better. We will be working through our emergency management plan and our hazard mitigation plan. Ironically, I sat through a hazard mitigation plan class on Tuesday on what the city needs to do to be prepared for an emergency and then we had an emergency on Wednesday so that moved to the top of my priority list. Lessons learned will directly impact our capital improvement plan and I hope that we will soon be able to hold a town hall meeting at some point and share with you the findings and what we learned and all of that. We will be communicating on that as well…While it might be back to normal for residents it is anything but for the city as we look to strengthen ourselves after this.

Motion to Adjourn made by Carter, seconded by McAvoy. Motion passes 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:24pm

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Dan Carver, Mayor

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Lauren Gardner, City Clerk

NOTE: Minutes are unofficial until approved by Council-final approval may include corrections as necessary.