

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A work session of the City Council was held at 3:00 p.m. and the regular meeting of the Coleraine City Council was held at 4:00 p.m., **Monday, September 22nd, 2025**, in the Council Chambers of Coleraine City Hall.

WORK SESSION

3:30 p.m.

The work session discussion was predominately on the proposed 2026 budget and proposed levy. Information presented indicated rising costs in several areas and included the purchase of a new Tanker for the Joint Fire Department as well as a need for a loader. There was also discussion on the rural benefit ratio.

REGULAR MEETING

4:03 p.m.

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Antonovich at 4:03 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call was done by Clerk-Treasurer Anderson. **Members present: Councilpersons Swanson, Giving, Soltzak, and Mayor Antonovich. Councilperson Wilson was absent with notice.**

Moved by Councilperson Soltzak, supported by Giving, **to approve the consent agenda which included minutes of 9.8.25, correspondence, PU claims sent of \$26,034.46 and claims of \$21,680.01.** Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons Soltzak, Giving, Swanson, and Mayor Antonovich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Moved by Councilperson Swanson with support from Soltzak, **to approve the meeting agenda as presented.** Ayes: All. Nays: none. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Library:

A report was included in Council packets.

Clerk's Report

Clerk-Treasurer Anderson briefly went over her written report that was included in council packets. Most notable was the reminder that due to Columbus Day, the next council meeting would be held on Tuesday, October 14th, 2025.

Committee/Commission/Other

Public Utilities Commission & CBT

The Public Utilities Commission did not hold a meeting due to a lack of quorum being available. CBT minutes were included in council packets.

Trout Lake Fire Department

Minutes of the last Board meeting were included in Council packets.

Eagle Ridge Golf Course

Gary Gustason was present and gave a verbal report. Among his comments were:

- Play has been steady but starting to slow down
- The course is in good shape but took a lot of abuse this year
- Working on strategically figuring out how to do things for a better recovery
- Board looking at getting new equipment
- Some electrical work and a new roof were put on the former Baich building that were insurance driven
- They are on year 3 of the 5-year plan -- anticipating doing more work on the bunkers
- Tarring an area up near the tennis courts
- Informed of a large irrigation leak stating the entire system will need to be looked at within the next 10 years

Zoning & Planning Commission

Minutes and correspondence from Zoning Officer Lloyd Anderson were included in council packets. There is concern regarding blight, law enforcement, and blight abatement. A long conversation ensued.

Greenway Joint Recreation Board

Minutes from the last meeting were included in council packets. It was stated that Coleraine's new representative, Mark Gibeau, would probably not be able to be present until after Greenway's football season ended.

Mt. Itasca Ski Hill

Trees are being cut on city property where the biathlon trails are. They have been cutting for about a week.

Infrastructure Committee

Minutes from the last meeting were included in Council packets.

Range Association of Municipalities and Schools (RAMS)

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Vegetation in Right of Way – Public Works Supervisor Tabaka explained the MN state statute. His inquiry was whether or not Council wanted staff time spent on looking up information of property owner and notification each time they would be ready to cut or if a notice be put out in February or March indicating property owners should trim any of their vegetation overhanging the right of way by August 31st or the city would do trimming necessary to protect their equipment. Councilperson Giving, with the support of Swanson, **motioned that the policy would be to put out a blanket notice to property owners in the spring with the first year (2026) being done twice to have vegetation trimmed by August 31st or the city would do it.** Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Trout Lake Fire Department 2026 proposed budget – It was noted that the only increase to the budget was for an annual payment for the new Tanker. **Motion** by Councilperson Sobtzak, supported by Giving, **to approve the Trout Lake Fire Department 2026 budget as presented.** Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons Sobtzak, Giving, Swanson, and Mayor Antonovich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Preliminary 2026 budget and preliminary 2026 levy – Discussion on the numbers, potential options, and plan for a thorough line by line review ensued. It was noted that most of the increase is for public safety. It was also noted that the final levy could be lower but could not go up. **Motion** by Councilperson Sobtzak, with the support of Giving, **to set the preliminary 2026 levy at \$1,560,963 (General fund-\$1,405,290 and Library Fund-\$155,754) which would be an increase of 25%.** Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons Sobtzak, Giving, Swanson, and Mayor Antonovich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Councilperson Sobtzak, supported by Giving, **to increase the Rural Benefit Ratio to 75% for 2026.** Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons Sobtzak, Giving, Swanson, and Mayor Antonovich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Set special work session(s) to work on 2026 final budget and levy – Council indicated that they wanted to start work sessions early (3 pm) at the October 14th and 27th council meetings (and November 10th if necessary) for the budget review. A special work session will be set up after that if needed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Court Order – 407 Mitchell – Nothing to report.

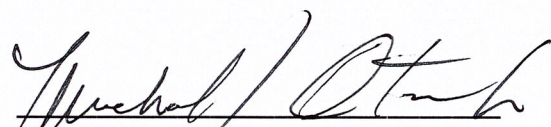
Arbitration with Bovey on TLF D Tanker payment split – Per City Attorney Shaffer, Clerk-Treasurer Anderson will be reaching out to the Board of Mediation Services to file for Arbitration. Bovey Mayor Yunk and Councilperson Robyn were notified.

Resolution No. 2025-9.08—Midco – waiting to hear when a representative can be in attendance.

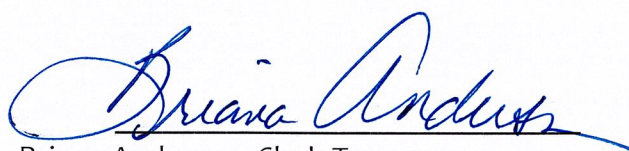
COUNCIL CONCERNS:

Sobtzak: None
Giving: None
Swanson: None
Wilson: Absent
Antonovich: None

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:56 p.m. by Mayor Antonovich with support from Councilperson Sobtzak. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion carried, meeting adjourned.



Mike Antonovich, Mayor



Briana Anderson, Clerk-Treasurer