LITTLE FALLS COMMON COUNCIL
Minutes of the Tuesday, August 4, 2026 Regular Session

Present: Mayor Deborah Kaufman
City *Clerk* Kira Miller
Alderman Jonathan Shaffer
Alderman Michael Masi
Alderwoman Sally Casler
Alderman Mark Ruffing
Alderwoman Laura Eysaman
Alderman Dan Carter
Alderman Aaron Smith
Others Present: City Treasurer
City Engineer
City Attorney

Minutes:
The minutes of the July, 2026 were approved as printed and placed on file in the City Clerk's office on motion of Alderwoman Eysaman and seconded by Alderman Ruffing.

Ayes all

Bills:

Bills for the period of July 7, 2026 through August 4, 2026 in the amount of **$183,534.41 Regular $77,981.35 Prepaid $105,553.06,** were approved as audited on motion of Alderman Shaffer and seconded by Alderman Smith.

Ayes all

Monthly Report:

The report of the City Clerk and Court Clerk, City Treasurer for the month of June, 2026 was accepted and placed on file on motion by Alderman Smith and seconded by Alderman Ruffing.

Ayes all

Local Law #8
Amending Chapter 70 of the City Code
August 4, 2026

PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 8 OF 2026

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 70 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF LITTLE FALLS RELATING TO NOISE CONTROL

BE IT ENACTED by the Common Council of the City of Little Falls as follows:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Local Law is to protect the public health, safety, and welfare by regulating excessive, unnecessary, and unreasonable noise while preserving the City's ability to conduct community events, festivals, parades, concerts, and other authorized activities.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT TO QUIET HOURS

Section 0-4(A) shall be amended to read as follows:

The operation or playing of any radio, television, phonograph, loudspeaker, sound amplification system, musical instrument, outdoor speaker, advertising device, or similar sound-producing device in such a manner as to be plainly audible beyond the property line between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. is prohibited.

SECTION 3. BARKING DOGS AND ANIMAL NOISE.

Section 70-4 shall be amended by adding the following subsection:

K. Barking, Howling, and Similar Animal Noise.

No person owning, harboring, possessing, or having custody or control of any dog or other animal shall permit such animal to bark, howl, yelp, whine, or otherwise create fre2quent, repetitive, or continuous noise for a period exceeding fifteen (15) consecutive minutes, or intermittently for a cumulative period of thirty (30) minutes or within any one-hour period, in such a manner as to disturb the peace, comfort, repose, health, safety, or quiet enjoyment of neighboring persons or occupants of properties.

SECTION 4. FIREWORKS AND SIMILAR DEVICES

Section 70-4 shall be amended by adding the following subsection:

L. Fireworks and Similar Devices.

The discharge, ignition, or use of consumer fireworks, display fireworks, firecrackers, pyrotechnic devices, explosives, or similar devices creating loud impulsive noises shall be prohibited between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., except where specifically authorized by permit, municipal approval, or otherwise permitted by applicable law.

SECTION 5. OUTDOOR SOUND AMPLIFICATION

Section 70-4 shall be amended by adding the following subsection:

M. Outdoor Sound Amplification Devices.

No person or business shall operate or permit the operation of any outdoor loudspeaker, public address system, advertising speaker, broadcast speaker, or similar sound amplification device in such a manner as to create a noise disturbance across a property line or public right-of-way.

SECTION 6. GENERAL NOISE DISTURBANCE

Section 70-4 shall be amended by adding the following subsection:

N. General Noise Disturbance.

No person shall make, continue, cause, or permit any excessive, unnecessary, or unreasonable noise that disturbs the peace, comfort, repose, health, safety, or quiet enjoyment of neighboring properties or the public.

SECTION 7. EXEMPTIONS

Section 70-5 shall be amended by adding the following exemption:

E. Municipal Events and Permitted Activities.

The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to activities conducted pursuant to a permit or authorization issued by the City of Little Falls, including but not limited to festivals, holiday celebrations, concerts, parades, community celebrations, municipal events, charitable events, public ceremonies, and fireworks displays. The City may impose reasonable conditions concerning hours of operation, duration, and sound levels as part of such authorization.

The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to construction, excavation, demolition, or repair activities conducted pursuant to a valid building permit or otherwise authorized by law during the hours permitted by the City Code.

The provisions of this chapter shall likewise not apply to emergency response activities, emergency utility repairs, snow removal operations, or other activities necessary to protect public health, safety, and welfare.

SECTION 8. SAVINGS

Any and all provisions of Chapter 70 of the Code of the City of Little Falls relating to noise control not amended herein or heretofore shall remain in full force & effect.

SECTION 9. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Local Law is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such determination shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Local Law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Motion by Alderman Shaffer
Seconded by Alderman Ruffing
Roll Call: Shaffer, Masi, Casler, Ruffing, Smith, Carter, Eysaman

Kira M. Miller, City of Little Falls City Clerk

Deborah A. Kaufman, Mayor of City of Little Falls

Resolution #52
Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Engagement Letter with Bonadio & Co., LLP for Outsourced Accounting Services
August 4, 2026

CITY OF LITTLE FALLS
Common Council
RESOLUTION NO. 52 - 2026
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH BONADIO & CO., LLP FOR OUTSOURCED ACCOUNTING SERVICES

WHEREAS, the City of Little Falls requires professional outsourced accounting services to support its financial operations, including monthly reconciliations, journal entries, budget assistance, reporting requirements, and year-end procedures; and

WHEREAS, Bonadio & Co., LLP has submitted an engagement letter dated July 15, 2026, outlining the terms and conditions for providing such services for the period beginning August 1, 2026, and ending July 31, 2027; and

WHEREAS, the proposed monthly fee for these services is $7,650, with prior period clean-up billed at $150 per hour and out-of-scope/project work at standard hourly rates, as detailed in the engagement letter; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council has reviewed the engagement letter and finds it to be in the best interest of the City to engage Bonadio & Co., LLP for these essential accounting services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Common Council of the City of Little Falls hereby authorizes the Mayor, Deborah Kaufman, to execute the Engagement Letter with Bonadio & Co., LLP, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, along with any necessary related documents, for the provision of outsourced accounting services for the period August 1, 2026 through July 31, 2027; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor is authorized to take any and all actions necessary to effectuate the intent of this resolution.

Adopted this 4th day of August, 2026.
Motion by Alderman Masi
Seconded by Alderman Shaffer
Roll Call: Shaffer, Masi, Casler, Ruffing, Smith, Carter, Eysaman

Deborah Kaufman, Mayor

Kira M. Miller, City Clerk

Resolution #53
Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Nomination and Corridor Management Plan Adoption
August 4, 2026

RESOLUTION # 53
COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF LITTLE FALLS
August 4, 2026

Resolution for Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Nomination and Corridor Management Plan Adoption

WHEREAS, the historic qualities of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, as described in the corridor management plan, and the surrounding areas have been appreciated and celebrated for over a century by the residents of New York State, as well as tourists, historians, artists, authors, and other visitors to the region; and it is this unique combination of the journeys of Harriet Tubman and those Freedom Seekers who traveled on the Underground Railroad that create the special sense of place that is vital in telling the New York story of the human desire for freedom and the historic sites they utilized during their journey to emancipation; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, composed of representatives of 22 municipalities along the proposed scenic byway route, committed to working cooperatively to protect and promote the historic, scenic, recreational, and economic well-being of the 550-mile Corridor throughout the state and agreed to pursue the nomination of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Steering Committee, each of the 22 counties contributed to the development of this corridor management plan by encouraging public participation, confirming the vision and goals, and leading individual meetings of the Collaborative; and

WHEREAS, the Steering Committee of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway, consisting of relatives of Harriet Tubman, descendants of Freedom Seekers, Harriet Tubman and/or Underground Railroad historians, representatives from state and federal agencies, has strengthened the historic integrity, representation, and the principles of the corridor management plan; and

WHEREAS, in the process of developing this corridor management plan, the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway Steering Committee has strengthened the bonds of inter-municipal cooperation, and the involved entities envision further benefit through scenic byway designation including sustained collaborative progress, increased funding opportunities for recommendations identified in the plan, enhanced partnerships with agencies responsible for the stewardship of resources along and adjacent to the byway route, and an improved visitor experience that interprets and promotes the corridor's intrinsic qualities and resources; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Little Falls supports the designation of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway which includes programs for stewardship and enhancement of the historic scenic byway and guidance to manage future activities along its corridor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Little Falls confirms that they will not approve any requests for new off-premise outdoor advertising signs along the designated Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway route; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Little Falls will work in partnership with the other municipalities along the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad New York Scenic Byway and local and regional stakeholders in order to support future Byway programs, economic development, marketing, and collaborate with these interested entities to explore opportunities for cooperation to realize the Scenic Byway goals.

This resolution shall take effecting upon approval of the Common Council.

Motion by: Alderwoman Eysaman
Seconded by Alderman Ruffing
Roll Call: Shaffer, Masi, Casler, Ruffing, Smith, Carter, Eysaman

Deborah A. Kaufman, Mayor

Kira M. Miller, City Clerk

A spoke person from the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad was present to answer any questions.

Resolution #54
Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Subgrant Agreement with the Erie Canalway Heritage Fund, INC. for the Mohawk Valley Historic Rural Revitalization Grant Program
August 4, 2026

CITY OF LITTLE FALLS
COMMON COUNCIL
LITTEL FALLS, NEW YORK
RESOLUTION NO. 54 – 2026

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A SUBGRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE ERIE CANALWAY HERITAGE FUND, INC. FOR THE MOHAWK VALLEY HISTORIC RURAL REVITALIZATION GRANT PROGRAM – CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS WALL PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Erie Canalway Heritage Fund, Inc., the not-for-profit partner of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor ("Erie Canalway" or "Grantor"), has been awarded a Historic Preservation Fund Grants-In-Aid grant by the U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service in the amount of $750,000 (Federal Award Identification Number P23AP02100); and

WHEREAS, under said federal grant, Erie Canalway has offered a Subgrant to the City of Little Falls ("Subgrantee") in an amount up to Fifty-Six Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Five and 00/100 Dollars ($56,175.00) to support interior plaster repairs and painting of the Common Council chambers of the City Hall building located at 659 East Main Street, Little Falls, New York 13365; and

WHEREAS, the Subgrant will be used in conjunction with a minimum of Eighteen Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty-Five and 00/100 Dollars ($18,725.00) in other resources to accomplish the Project Scope of Work as set forth in the Subgrant Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Little Falls finds that acceptance of said Subgrant and execution of the related Subgrant Agreement is in the best interests of the City and its residents for the preservation and revitalization of the historic City Hall; and

WHEREAS, a copy of the proposed Subgrant Agreement has been presented to and reviewed by the Common Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Little Falls, New York, as follows:

1. That the Mayor of the City of Little Falls is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Subgrant Agreement by and between the Erie Canalway Heritage Fund, Inc. and the City of Little Falls for the Mohawk Valley Historic Rural Revitalization Grant Program – City Hall Project, in substantially the form presented to this Common

Council, together with any non-material amendments, modifications, or related documents as may be approved by the City Attorney.

2. That the Mayor, City Treasurer, and Urban Renewal Director are hereby authorized to take all actions necessary or appropriate to effectuate the terms of this Resolution and the Subgrant Agreement, including but not limited to the submission of required reports, documentation, and the execution of any required preservation agreement or covenant.

3. That this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted by the Common Council of the City of Little Falls on this 4th day of August, 2026.

Motion by Alderman Shaffer
Seconded by Alderwoman Eysaman
Roll Call: Shaffer, Masi, Casler, Ruffing, Smith, Carter, Eysaman

Mayor - Deborah A. Kaufman

City Clerk-Kira M. Miller

Resolution #55
CITY OF LITTLE FALLS AND THE LITTLE FALLS PAID FIREFIGHTERS
August 4, 2026

RESOLUTION #55 - 2026
Common Council
City of Little Falls
August 4, 2026

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE RESOLUTION AND MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LITTLE FALLS AND THE LITTLE FALLS PAID FIREFIGHTERS FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2026 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2028

WHEREAS, the City of Little Falls and the Little Falls Paid Firefighters, I.A.F.F. Local 2966, have negotiated a collective bargaining agreement covering the terms and conditions of public employment for the period commencing January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2028 (the "Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, a complete copy of said Agreement has been presented to this Common Council for review and consideration; and

WHEREAS, this Common Council has reviewed the terms of the Agreement and finds it to be in the best interests of the City of Little Falls and its Fire Department employees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Little Falls, New York, as follows:

1. The Common Council hereby approves the Resolution and Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Terms and Conditions of Public Employment between the City of Little Falls and the Little Falls Paid Firefighters for the period January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028, in the form presented to this meeting.
2. The Mayor of the City of Little Falls is hereby authorized and directed to execute said Agreement on behalf of the City, and to take any and all further actions necessary to effectuate the terms thereof.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Little Falls, New York, this 4th day of August, 2026.
Motion by Alderman Masi
Seconded by Alderman Ruffing
Roll Call Shaffer, Masi, Casler, Ruffing, Smtih, Carter, Eysaman

City Clerk

Mayor

City Engineer:

City Engineer went over his report and answered all questions

Mayor's Comments

MAYOR'S REPORT AUGUST 4, 2026

Mayor's Comments August 4, 2026

Financial Report:

Cash Position:
1. $3,158,665 all funds
2. General: $2,608,705 (GF YTD $6,506,445, 81% of budgeted)
3. Water & Sewer: $474,177 (Water YTD is $782,046, 44% of budgeted and Sewer YTD is $897,172, 52% of budgeted)
4. Golf: (YTD $93,526, 68% of Budgeted 2026)

Other Financial Notes from July:

- CHIPS Ban has been paid off in the amount of $2,466.090
- $351,353 in other debt payments
- Collected $107,051 in Taxes during July

- Non-Water/Sewer Revenue for July was $502,465 including:

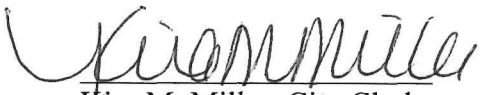
- $326,051 in Sales & Use Tax,
- $13,298 in Clerk Fees,
- $29,742 in Ambulance Charges and
- $16,524 in Vets Park Revenue.
- Payables are current
- Audit with Drescher (Annual AFR Audit) has begun
- ADP payroll is expected to go live in October with improved functionality and roughly $3,000 less a year than the previous system. Grants:
- City has been awarded a $75,000 SECURE grant for a water and wastewater cybersecurity assessment yesterday.
- Grant application for Moreland Park and Skinner pool has been submitted. Each are $75,000 grants with an $18,750 match. New Businesses: We have 6 new businesses moving into Main Street since the first of the year.
- Black Dog Pet Grooming on September 1st.
- Oscar's Picture Framing/A Mirror with a Memory
- Second Chance Thrift Store
- Fun and Games Candy
- Grippe Little Falls Carpet
- Sage the Day Apothecary Fox Tale Bakery is doing their 1-year anniversary grand opening ribbon cutting on August 29th.

39TH LITTLE FALLS CANAL CELEBRATION THIS WEEKEND (AUGUST 6TH-9TH) Activities are throughout the city starting at Rotary Park with adult fishing derby and Cruise Inn by Mike

car show from 5PM to 8PM. There's a library annual book sale also on Thursday from 10 am to 7pm. The parade is scheduled Friday at 6PM with Grand Marshall, Mike Bulger, Rotary Duck Dash (former CVS at 7pm, Girl Scout popcorn sale, Laser light show at 9:20PM and music on main from 7:30PM to 9:30Pm, etc. There are so many great events every day that you'll want to check out the Event's section of the Daily Post for details. https://thedailypost.digital/series/canal-celebration-aug-5-9-2026/

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:48pm with the motion made by Alderman Ruffing and seconded by Alderman Eysaman with all in favor. Next meeting will be September 1, 2026. **Any questions please contact City Clerk.** Thank you

Submitted by:



Kira M. Miller, City Clerk