

Regular Spencer Historic Preservation Meeting

Tuesday, June 23, 2026

4:00 PM

Main Conference Room, City Hall

101 W. 5th Street

Spencer, Iowa

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Roll Call
3. Motion Adoption
 - A. Approve May 26, 2026 Minutes
4. Old Business
 - A. US 250th Celebration
 - a. Cemetery event - Review Event – Van Gorp
 - b. Photography Contest at Clay County Fair – Harmon
 - i. Exhibitor handbooks were released in late May 2026
 - ii. Details for participation in judging will be shared in August.
 - B. Clay County Heritage Center – Spencer History
 1. Flag Fest report – Oechslin
 - C. Historic Walking Tour of Spencer - Harmon
 - a. Review Comments from Facebook and user responses
 - b. Postcards – need / want more
 - D. Facebook – Roskens / Johannsen
 - a. Items for future posts
 - i. Photography Contest at Clay Co Fair – share photography handbook

E. Preserve Iowa Summit – June 2-3, 2026 – Ankeny

a. Comments from attendees – Oechslin & Gude

5. New Business

A. SPACE/Art Alliance Update;

B. Cemetery Walking Tour – Fall 2026?

6. Items for Future Agendas

7. Adjourn

A. Adjourn for Summer Season

- Next Meeting: September 22, 2026 @ 4:00 P.M.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

May 26, 2026

SPENCER, IOWA

The Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Spencer met on the 26th day of May 2026, at 4:00 P.M., pursuant to law, adjournment and to the rules of said Commission. The meeting was held in the City Hall Main Conference Room. Chairperson Gude called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. The following Commission Members were present:

Present: Gude, Oechslin, Roskens
Absent: Johannsen, Van Gorp, Rose, Howe

No quorum

Also in attendance: Building Official Anna Harmon & Cemetery Superintendent Ed Lawver.

Minutes from the April 28 meeting were reviewed and no corrections noted. Approval will be delayed to next meeting with quorum.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Riverside Cemetery Open House - US 250th celebration
 - a. Sunday, June 14 from 2-4pm. Gathering to begin North of the Mausoleum.
 - b. Kalei Roskens will provide a tent for the initial gathering spot.
 - c. City Sanitation will provide dumpsters for garbage. Lawver's cemetery staff will distribute the containers as needed.
 - d. Confirmation of details will be reviewed with Adam Van Gorp (follow up 5-27-2026)
 - i. Lawver & Van Gorp will meet to review setup on Monday, June 8 at 1:30pm at Riverside Cemetery
 - ii. Kevin Robinson has agreed to join the welcome at 2pm.
 - iii. The soccer club has agreed to provide concessions for the afternoon.
- B. Clay County Heritage Center – Celebrating 175 years Clay County
 - a. Oechslin conveyed that the Heritage Center has an abundance of information on the city of Spencer and so no additional information or materials will be needed for this display.
 - b. Oechslin will be a docent at the Heritage Center / Parker Museum on Sunday, June 14.
- C. Walking Tour
 - a. Harmon will review the current digital tours and produce QR codes for distribution ahead of Flag Fest weekend via Facebook and printed.
 - b. Mary Jean Montgomery reached out to HPC members to request a digital tour of the North Grand residential neighborhood. Montgomery will be compiling information later this summer and into fall. Harmon indicated that this may be a winter project for staff.
- D. Preserve Iowa Summit 2026 – June 2-3, 2026 in Ankeny
 - a. Oechslin & Gude will be in attendance.
 - b. Harmon confirmed reimbursement guidelines (5-27-26) with the Finance Department to include: registration fee, hotel, non-conference meals, and mileage. Receipts and requested documentation must be turned in for reimbursement.
- E. Facebook
 - a. Kalei will draft a post for the Riverside Cemetery Open house for board review prior to posting.
 - b. Kalei will post the QR codes for the walking tour ahead of Flag Fest weekend.

NEW BUSINESS

A. SPACE / Art Alliance Update

a. None

B. Other comments:

a. None

Next Meeting: June 23 at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Chris Gude, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Adam Severson, Recording Secretary