



**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
August 4, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm.

Present: Mayor: Charlie Miner; Council: Jahn Dyvik, Deirdre Kvale, and Todd Newcomer

Staff Present: City Administrator: Scott Weske; Finance Director: Amanda Nowezki; Public Works Director: Sean Diercks; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

Absent: Council: Mike Feldmann (with prior notice)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MAYOR'S COMMENTS – LONG LAKE NEWS, MEETING REVIEW AND UPDATES

Mayor Miner stated that Nelson Lakeside Beach is still closed because bacterial issues continue, and noted that the County is testing and monitoring the situation.

He reminded the public that Night to Unite would take place on August 5, 2025, and he knew of a few neighborhood parties happening throughout the City. He noted that both the Long Lake Fire Department and the Wayzata Police Department would be visiting those get-togethers, along with members of the Council.

He stated that Corn Days events and parade would be held on August 9, 2025, and encouraged residents to come and support this event.

APPROVE AGENDA

A motion was made by Dyvik, seconded by Kvale, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: all.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- A. Approve Minutes of July 15, 2025 City Council Meeting
- B. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll

A motion was made by Newcomer, seconded by Dyvik, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ayes: all.

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

Asher, a Boy Scout from Independence (Troop 206), asked about how the City handles vacant properties and assuring they're maintained.

Mayor Miner responded that he was not aware of properties in the City that were completely vacant, but some could be mistaken for vacant. He shared an example from the past of a strip mall property near Caribou Coffee. He explained that the City had created an ordinance that instituted penalties for vacant properties that sat too long as a way to create an incentive for the properties to be in use. He mentioned that for other properties that were not vacant but may have unsightly conditions such as garbage, the City has ordinances in place to address those issues.

Councilmember Dyvik added that the former BP station property was bought by the City/EDA so the City would have a way to control what the site would be used for in the future. He mentioned that in the meantime, the City was opening up this parcel to be used by food trucks.

Asher asked how many vacant properties were currently located in the City.

City Clerk Moeller replied that she believed that most of the vacant spaces were currently occupied.

Councilmember Newcomer noted that he could think of a few private, residential properties that were vacant.

Finance Director Nowezki commented that staff tries to track this kind of information, but noted that the only information available to them is often whether there was water use. She noted that there are residents who travel for the winter months, so for a portion of the year, their home would be vacant, but it would not be considered a vacant parcel.

Jacob, a Boy Scout from Independence (Troop 206), informed Council that he attends soccer near the soccer dome and has noticed the entry road is narrow and causes traffic problems, especially when there is two-way traffic. He indicated that sometimes people park on the side of the road which makes the situation worse, particularly when it is dark. He asked if the City would be doing anything about the traffic and parking situation.

Mayor Miner stated that he had not heard about this issue and asked if traffic was getting backed up along Wayzata Boulevard W.

Jacob replied that traffic mostly backed up on the street near the dome.

Mayor Miner commented that the street was fairly modern and the City had others that were narrower. He shared that one of the more frequent things they have heard about is the parking lot at the dome.

Councilmember Dyvik agreed that the parking lot condition is an issue and stated that he understood the concern being described by Jacob, as the driveway area is kind of narrow and vehicles can get jammed up in that location. He was unsure there was anything the City could do in this situation. He asked if the width of the driveway was compliant with City rules.

Moeller concluded that it sounded like the biggest issue being described by Jacob was with the configuration of the driveway leading to problems on the road. She had recently heard that the soccer club was planning some fundraising to help assist them with some site improvements, including the parking lot; therefore, it could be a good time for the City to share with the soccer club that they had gotten some feedback about the driveway area and the potential safety issue.

Tim Uecker, Assistant Scoutmaster, Troop 206 – Mr. Uecker thanked the Council for taking the time to speak to the scouts tonight. He explained that they were working on their Citizenship in Community Merit Badge, which includes learning how local government works.

REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Review of Buckhorn Days 2025 – Long Lake Area Chamber of Commerce

Marty Schneider, Long Lake Area Chamber of Commerce, gave a brief recap of Buckhorn Days which took place on July 12. He expressed his appreciation to the Council and City staff, especially Public Works Director Diercks, the Public Works Department, City Clerk Moeller, and Administrator Weske for their assistance. He highlighted that this was the first year the Fire Department had blended in their Red Hot Run 5K event, and the Fire Department already indicated they would like to do it again next year. This year's event included seven musical acts and that number may be reduced a bit for the future because the schedule got a bit crowded. The new wrestling event proved to be well-suited for this type of town festival, and the Chamber of Commerce is in preliminary discussions with a family-friendly circus to come to Long Lake in 2027. He also mentioned the upcoming Corn Days Parade and noted that the start time for the parade would be an hour earlier than usual.

B. 2025 Cleaning and Televising of Sanitary Sewer Districts 2, 3, and 5

Mayor Miner recalled that the Council had discussed this item at their work session meeting.

Public Works Director Diercks reported that in previous discussions, the Council had indicated an interest in a cleaning and televising project for the remainder of the City's sanitary sewer lines. He asked City Clerk Moeller to display footage of some leak examples detected during the cleaning and televising completed in May 2025 for District 1, and briefly narrated what the Council was seeing in the video footage. He reminded the Council that they'd encouraged him to see what it may cost for the City to jet and televise the remaining sewer districts, and reviewed his recommendation to approve moving forward with Hydro Klean, LLC for this work.

Councilmember Kvale questioned when Hydro Klean may be able to complete the project.

Diercks responded that he had spoken with them and they indicated they would be able to come back to the City in about two to three weeks.

A motion was made by Kvale, seconded by Dyvik, to approve contracting for the 2025 Sanitary Sewer Cleaning and Televising Project for Sanitary Sewer Districts 2, 3, and 5 with Hydro Klean, LLC of Des Moines, IA at an anticipated cost of \$72,956.29.

Councilmember Dyvik inquired what fund the City would use to pay for this work.

Finance Director Nowezki confirmed that the project would be allocated to the Sewer Fund.

Councilmember Dyvik reflected that the City was undertaking this work as a first step to help reduce the City's I and I costs imposed by Metropolitan Council.

Ayes: all.

C. Review Working Draft of Ordinance Amending City Code Chapter 16 – Environment, Article IV, Trees to Update Tree Management Standards and Regulations

Moeller described deficiencies in the City's existing tree code and reviewed a draft of proposed amendments. She mentioned that she was continuing to make changes as she looked at it with fresh eyes every few days, so what was being presented tonight was a working rough draft that she was just seeking feedback from the Council on and would not be asking them to take any official action at the meeting.

Councilmember Kvale expressed concerns about listing both prohibited and acceptable plants and asked what would happen with the plants that could not be found on either list.

Moeller clarified that the acceptable plants section referenced plant types rather than specific plants.

The Council discussed some of the details within the City's tree code and amendments that should be considered; asked clarifying questions of staff related to easements and rights-of-way; differences between public and private easements; differences between hazardous and infested trees; and the authority of the City Forester. Moeller encouraged the Council to send her an email or call her after they have had time to review the draft more thoroughly with any notes or questions they may have.

Mayor Miner added that the City had been receiving some complaints about trees in City parks and within rights-of-way that have died due to Emerald Ash Borer, and explained that the City is looking at the best way to address and prioritize those issues. He observed that many cities in the area were dealing with the same problem.

D. Fire Department Transition/Future Fire Services News and Updates

Mayor Miner commented that discussion with Orono progresses as the cities work to create a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) for a joint Fire Department. Staff for both cities are working on perfecting drafts of the JPA, a lease agreement, and budget considerations for possible rebranding; and the target date they're working towards is early September.

Councilmember Dyvik added that he believed that the cities were close to signing a JPA.

OTHER BUSINESS

LMCC Office at Public Works - Diercks stated that the LMCC has taken possession of their corner of the Public Works building vacant office space and described some of the work that has taken place, though there had not been any activity by them for about a week.

Next Meeting Date - Mayor Miner stated that the next Council meeting would be held on August 19, 2025.

ADJOURN

Hearing no objection, Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting by general consent at 7:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Moeller, City Clerk