



**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
March 17, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm.

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

Staff Present: City Administrator: Amanda Nowezki; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mayor Miner wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day, and noted that the Council had just finished a work session during which they'd discussed the City's contracted engineering services, a grant application/award and preparations for a sewer lining project, and preliminary project designs for a Grand Avenue road project.

He reported that he'd attended the League of Minnesota Cities' annual City Day on the Hill last week and provided an overview of some of the things he learned. He noted that the legislature had equal numbers on both sides of the aisle, so it was unlikely that many bills would pass this year.

He also recently attended the Wayzata West Metro Chamber event to give his annual State of the City address along with the area mayors.

APPROVE AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- A. Approve Minutes of March 3, 2026 City Council Work Session Minutes
- B. Approve Minutes of March 3, 2026 City Council Meeting
- C. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll
- D. Approve a Temporary On Sale Liquor License and an Application for Exempt Permit for a Cinco de Mayo Celebration at the Church of St. George

Councilmember Kvale mentioned that in the claims paid, she'd noticed the City had a watermain break repair listed at \$22,000.

City Administrator Nowezki confirmed that there had been a watermain break at the Southwood Shores townhomes on Wayzata Boulevard W and it had cost \$22,000 to repair because it hadn't been caught right away.

*A motion was made by Feldmann, seconded by Miner, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
Ayes: all.*

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

Bryan Miller, 295 Lakeview Avenue – Mr. Miller stated that he had lived on Lakeview Avenue for 27 years. He displayed some pieces of the crumbling roadway that he had brought with him to the meeting. He recalled that he has frequently spoken before the Council about the road and had essentially been speaking for the entire area, but he had also circulated a petition asking the City to repair Lakeview Avenue that a little over 80% of the street's residents had signed. He presented the petition to City Clerk Moeller. Councilmember Kvale asked if there were any signatures from residents on Upper Lea Lane. Mr. Miller clarified that he had not asked for signatures from residents on Upper Lea Lane, even though he had been before the Council advocating for them. He indicated that he was looking forward to hearing what the City had planned for Lakeview Avenue and shared that, from his discussions with the neighbors, none of them want the street to include curb and gutter. He briefly showed a series of photos to the Council that depicted the road conditions and the history of the housing in the area. He expressed a desire to see his neighborhood area of the City become some type of historic district. He also mentioned that people he has talked to were thrilled that Amanda Nowezcki had been hired to be the City Administrator. Lastly, he suggested that the City fix the culvert issues on Lakeview Avenue, and particularly lower them at a certain address.

REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Receive 4th Quarter 2025 Revenues and Expenditures

Nowezki presented the unaudited and unadjusted 4th quarter 2025 revenues and expenditures as of December 31, 2025. She noted that the auditors would be attending the next City Council meeting to present the final audit information. She answered Council questions and reviewed cash balances; line items of note within the General Fund; interest earnings; and areas that came in under budget including Public Works administration, and Fire Department legal expenses.

Councilmember Dyvik questioned how many home sales the City has each year.

Nowezki estimated that, on average, the City saw home sales of around 40 per year.

City Clerk Moeller noted that the City had seen a lot of remodel-related building permit activity in 2025.

Nowezki added that she had adjusted budgeted permit values and interest for 2026, but cautioned the Council that because those were uncontrolled variables, she was careful not to over-budget for those line items. Overall she was pleased with the status of the City's General Fund at year end. She reviewed the status of the City's Enterprise Funds; and with regard to the Fire Department, she explained that she expected some of the final numbers to change during the audit process due to the formation of the new Shoreline Fire Department and the necessary reimbursements that had occurred. She reiterated that the auditors will present the final audit information to the Council at the April 7, 2026, meeting, and she also intended to prepare the financial report update for first quarter 2026 at one of the Council meetings in April.

A motion was made by Kvale, seconded by Dyvik, to receive the 4th quarter 2025 revenues and expenditures as presented. Ayes: all.

B. Discuss Draft Ordinance Amending City Code Chapter 2 – Administration, Article II. City Council to Establish City Council Salaries and Include Council Guidelines; and Amending Article III. Officers and Employees

Moeller highlighted past Council discussions regarding potential amendments to City Code Chapters 2 and 3. She indicated that the proposed ordinance amendments are still in draft form and she has questions that will need to be addressed with the City Attorney before the Council takes any action on the proposed amendments.

Council and staff discussed the process for Council appointments when an unexpected vacancy occurs, term length for the Mayor position, maintaining staggered Council terms, and the costs of holding a Special Election.

Moeller also called Council's attention to their previous direction to utilize the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as an escalator for calculating salary increases. She noted that her goal is to work towards having a final ordinance ready for adoption at the second meeting in April, if possible.

Mayor Miner referenced the salary amounts included in the packet and compared the proposed salaries for Long Lake with those of Maple Plain. He asked if the Council felt a difference of \$600/month between the Mayor and the City Council salaries was sufficient and reminded them that he was not planning to run for re-election, so he was asking for the future Council.

Moeller commented that the amount was derived from maintaining the current salary difference of \$600, but they could also modify the gap between the positions if desired by Council.

Councilmember Feldmann suggested dropping the proposed Council salary to \$4,000.

Moeller confirmed that would bring the proposed salaries for the Mayor to \$4,800 and \$4,000 for the Council and stated that she felt that would be a reasonable leap from the current salaries.

The Council discussed whether clarifications were needed regarding waiving/pausing salary adjustments for a year, and continued discussions of possible ways to calculate salary increases with the intent to keep things simple.

Moeller reflected that she had been with the City for 20 years and believed that the current Council salary structure had not changed, and no matter the outcome, she would view this change positively. She encouraged the Council to consider implementing a salary structure that would make sense for the next 20 years, rather than thinking of it as something that would be forever.

The Council discussed the options of keeping the Council salaries set at the CPI rounded to the nearest \$100, with the Mayor being 25% above that amount; or perhaps setting the escalator for Mayor and Council to be consistent with the COLA amounts approved for City staff each year.

Moeller agreed that including the Mayor and Council within whatever COLA is approved for staff every year was a great idea and she would look into that possibility. She noted that she had a question about

the order of business for Council meetings and asked if the Council would like to change the order of the agenda so that Open Correspondence would occur prior to the Council approving the Consent Agenda.

Mayor and Council fully supported changing the agenda order and moving Open Correspondence immediately following approval of the agenda to allow the opportunity for public comment prior to approval of any agenda business items.

Moeller briefly reviewed some of the proposed changes and language updates within Chapter 3, Officers and Employees.

Councilmember Kvale referenced page 51 of the packet regarding using criminal background checks and asked if someone had been convicted of fraud, if that would be considered to be directly related to employment. She noted that this may be a question for City Attorney Thames because she would like to know how they determine if something was directly related to their position, and noted that the wording seemed subjective.

Moeller replied that the standard language can often be subjective, but is also taken directly from statutes or the League of Minnesota Cities handbook, and was perhaps intentionally so. She added that she would make a note about Councilmember Kvale's question so she can discuss it with City Attorney Thames.

Mayor Miner suggested that staff may also want to consider updating the pronouns to be 'they/their' rather than 'he/she'.

OTHER BUSINESS

Highway 12 Safety Coalition - Councilmember Newcomer reported that he attended the Highway 12 Safety Coalition meeting at which they reviewed recent accidents, upcoming projects, and their funding.

Shoreline Fire Board Meeting - Councilmember Feldmann indicated that he had attended a Shoreline Fire Board meeting the previous week, and he provided a brief review of the topics of discussion, particularly related to contracting for IT services.

Northwest Hennepin League of Municipalities Meeting - Mayor Miner had attended a Northwest Hennepin League of Municipalities meeting last week, and the Hennepin County Assessor was in attendance to present an update on property values for 2026. Mayor Miner referenced the map that showed data for assessed market valuations, which had been presented at the meeting, and gave a summary of what the color coding on the map showed, including highlighting some areas which had overall experienced some decreases.

Winter Seasonal Banners - Moeller shared that staff had been brainstorming possible design options for holiday banners and displayed some of the options for consideration that were more winter-themed than holiday-themed. Council and staff discussed wording options that would be appropriate for the whole winter season, whether wording was needed, how the colors would hold up for fading, past banners that have been used in the City, ways to identify the City on some of the banners to welcome people to the City, and the importance of making sure they were the right size for the City's poles. Council members were in favor of the banner ideas proposed by staff. Councilmember Dyvik asked if there were plans to do something different in 2026 for the summer banners. Moeller mentioned that

she could work with the same salesperson on possible ideas for summer banners and potentially bring options back to the Council for consideration.

Mailing Address Change – Moeller advised that staff is considering making a change to the City’s mailing address from a PO Box to a locked mailbox located at City Hall and shared some of the reasons why it may be a ‘work smarter’ solution for the City. The idea was suggested by the postal carrier who serves the area, and staff had met with the Postmaster and the mail carrier to discuss this possibility.

Hiring Updates – Moeller reported that background and reference checks were currently underway for a strong candidate for the Public Works position, and she shared a bit of his background and experience. Additionally, the City was receiving many applications for the Administrative Assistant position, a number of which appeared well-qualified. Nowezki added that she and Moeller would be meeting on Friday to review the applications and begin scheduling interviews.

ADJOURN

Hearing no objection, Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting by general consent at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Moeller
City Clerk