



**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
July 7, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

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

Staff Present: City Administrator: Amanda Nowezki; City Clerk/Zoning Administrator: Jeanette Moeller; and City Engineer: Rachel Scheu (attended remotely)

Absent: Council: Todd Newcomer (with prior notice)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mayor Miner stated that since the last Council meeting, he and City Administrator Nowezki had attended the League of Minnesota Cities annual conference in Rochester.

He reported that an email had been sent by City staff earlier in the day regarding a beach closure at Nelson Lakeside Park, and Orono had done the same for one of their beaches.

APPROVE AGENDA

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

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

Bryan Miller, 295 Lakeview Avenue – Mr. Miller shared some history about the City, the Lakeview Avenue area neighborhood, unique features about the homes, and explained that he was a big believer in preserving history. He stated that the current roads have been there for about 60 years. He recalled that the City's engineers had previously said that without curb and gutter, the edge of the roads would rot away, which he didn't feel would happen because it hadn't happened over the last 60 years. He gave examples of how the ditches had functioned well during the large rainfall event last weekend. He distributed handouts with more detailed information on the history and some of the points he made in his comments on why he didn't feel a curb and gutter was needed in the area.

Rachel Lewandowski, 200 Lakeview Avenue – Ms. Lewandowski inquired whether anyone knew why the power goes out so frequently in Long Lake.

City Clerk Moeller replied that the City has also been trying to obtain an answer to that question. She had approached Xcel Energy about the issue and was advised they would not provide detailed outage history for properties without having permission from property owners to do so. She had just submitted a request for detailed outage history to Xcel Energy earlier in the day accompanied by written

permissions from property owners, and had asked Xcel to look into the outages, trends, and indicate whether Xcel would have any pending projects to address the situation.

Ms. Lewandowski added that she supported comments shared by Mr. Miller with regard to Lakeview Avenue not needing new curb and gutter, but she definitely agreed a new roadway is needed.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- A. Approve Minutes of June 16, 2026 City Council Work Session
- B. Approve Minutes of June 16, 2026 City Council Meeting
- C. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll
- D. Accept the Resignation of Jeff Wikman From the Position of Public Works Maintenance Worker I
- E. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-30 Approving Issuance of a Special Event Permit for the Corn Days Parade on August 8, 2026
- F. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-32 Approving Issuance of a Special Event Permit for the Buckhorn Days One-Day Festival on July 25, 2026; Approve Issuance of a 1 to 4 Day Temporary On Sale Liquor License and a Noise Variance Permit for the Event
- G. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-31 Appointing Election Judges for the 2026 State Primary and General Elections

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

REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Reject Bids for the 2026 Sanitary Lining Project Contract

City Engineer Scheu reported that the City had only received one bid for the City's 2026 sanitary lining project. She indicated that WSB had followed up with some plan holders to ask why they hadn't bid and learned that they had been interested in doing so but had been unable to due to staffing and other project timelines. She concluded that staff was recommending rejecting the bid and rebidding the project at a later date.

Councilmember Kvale asked if Scheu had a recommendation for when the later date would be for the project and what WSB had anticipated the project to cost.

Scheu stated that they would still like to rebid the project this fall, but she needed to touch base with City staff further on that. She added that the engineer's cost estimate for the project was close to \$800,000 and they would take another look at the numbers, but she believed the reason that the one bid received by the City was so much higher was due to the timing. She believed the bids would be more favorable if the project was scheduled for later in the construction season.

A motion was made by Feldmann, seconded by Miner, to reject the bid for the 2026 Sanitary Lining Project Contract and not award the contract. Ayes: all.

OTHER BUSINESS

Appreciation for Public Works, Well Updates - Nowezki expressed appreciation to the Public Works Department for working throughout the recent holiday weekend. The City had experienced issues with both of the City's wellhouse pumps and Public Works Director Diercks had come in every day over the

weekend to conduct testing to ensure that the drinking water was safe. She noted that the 2027 capital improvement program had included a line item for the replacement of Well 1, but she anticipated that it would likely have to happen in 2026. Alternatively, Well 2 was recently replaced, and Diercks was looking into that to see what happened. As of right now, everything is working the way it should because Public Works Director Diercks did so much work over the weekend.

Internet Change - Moeller reported that in addition to preparing for upcoming elections, she was working on a transition from Mediacom to Midco for internet service at City Hall and Public Works. She was hopeful that the change would provide some additional speed and stability for both buildings and at a lower cost than their original contract with Mediacom.

Recognizing Employee Performance - Councilmember Dyvik observed that at his place of work, they have a program where they can nominate people who have gone above and beyond for various awards. He realized that Public Works Director Diercks is a salaried employee, but he would like the City to consider implementing something to offer some added recognition for this type of situation. Nowezki responded that the Human Resources Subcommittee had met about a month ago, and one of the things they talked about was looking at ways performance can be rewarded. She added that she could check into Councilmember Dyvik's suggestion and whether something similar could be offered in a municipal setting.

Fire Board Updates - Councilmember Dyvik mentioned that the Fire Board would be meeting tomorrow and noted that the Board has been working on plans for interviewing for a Fire Chief to be in place effective January 2027. Nowezki clarified that the process of hiring a Fire Chief had been outlined within the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA), and a Fire Chief would be employed by November 1, 2026. If the new Chief was not the existing Fire Chief, the new Chief would have the opportunity to work closely with him to make sure there was overlap for a seamless transition. She commented that in accordance with the terms of the JPA, the Council will be tasked with approving the 2027 Fire Department budget at their July 21 meeting.

ADJOURN

Hearing no objection, Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting by general consent at 7:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Moeller
City Clerk