



**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
July 1, 2025**

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 (via interactive technology)

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

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mayor Miner offered the following comments and updates:

The Council had held a work session prior to the regular meeting at which they had discussed preliminary City budget information for 2026.

He reported that a slow-no wake restriction was currently in effect for Long Lake.

Last week, Mayor Miner shared that he had participated in the Long Lake Fire Department's mass casualty drill exercise, which is something that they conduct on an annual basis. He also had attended the League of Minnesota Cities annual conference in Duluth.

Lastly, he reminded the community of upcoming event dates.

APPROVE AGENDA

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

Mayor Miner mentioned that because Councilmember Newcomer was participating in the meeting remotely, all voting action would be completed by roll call.

Ayes: all by roll call.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- A. Approve Minutes of June 17, City Council Work Session
- B. Approve Minutes of June 17, 2025 City Council Meeting
- C. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll
- D. Rescind the Conditional Appointment/Employment of Candidate Nikolas Lopez to the Position of Paid On-Call Firefighter for the Long Lake Fire Department

- E. Adopt Resolution No. 2025-20 Approving a Minnesota Lawful Gambling Premises Permit Application for the Holy Family Catholic High School Organization to Conduct Lawful Gambling at San Pancho Restaurant

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

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

No one was in attendance to address the City Council during Open Correspondence.

BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Reschedule August 5, 2025, City Council Work Session and Regular Meetings due to 'Night to Unite'

City Clerk Moeller indicated that Night to Unite occurs every year on the first Tuesday in August, and in order to allow the Council to be out and about participating in neighborhood gatherings, the Council has typically rescheduled their meeting to an alternate date in the same week.

A motion was made by Miner, seconded by Dyvik, to reschedule the August 5, 2025 City Council work session and regular meetings due to Night to Unite to be held on Monday, August 4, 2025. Ayes: all by roll call.

B. Fire Department Transition/Future Fire Services News & Updates

Mayor Miner reported that the City has continued to have good dialogue with the City of Orono, and the cities are currently reviewing some draft agreements. He added that the goal for both cities was to have the JPA signed by July 1, 2025, which had been a bit of wishful thinking, but he believed everything was on track for the creation of a good contract and agreement.

OTHER BUSINESS

Slow-No Wake Concerns - Councilmember Feldmann highlighted the slow-no wake advisory, recalled that the City had signage posted, and shared that he had approached someone on the lake who had been violating the no wake restriction. The individual had stopped what they had been doing right away, but he suggested that the City may want to reexamine how that information was communicated to the public because he did not think people were getting the message.

City Clerk Moeller added that she had also received some comments over the last few days regarding no wake violations, and what she has been hearing is the assumption that the continued wake activity has been less about people not seeing signage and more about the boaters not being interested in following it.

Councilmember Dyvik observed that may be the case, and he had seen plenty of boaters on the lake over the weekend who were disregarding the no-wake messaging. He suggested that the City may want to install an additional sign that has large letters that make it clear 'No Wake'. He noted that the current sign the City has says 'Please No Wake', and he didn't think it should use the word 'please' because it was not a request and was an ordinance. He stated that he would be in favor of adding an additional sign. He asked if he was remembering correctly that HCSO Water Patrol had previously told the City that people could call 911 in a lake situation, like someone violating the no-wake orders.

Moeller confirmed HCSO Water Patrol had indeed communicated the use of 911, and noted that information was also posted near the lake. She shared that she had been told by lake users that the word is out that Long Lake is a non-enforcement lake and Water Patrol is not as visible or present as they are on Lake Minnetonka.

Councilmember Dyvik noted that he has seen Water Patrol on the lake at times and added that if enough people called them, it may make a difference in how Long Lake is prioritized.

Moeller clarified that Birch's had held an event showcasing wake boats over the weekend, but to her knowledge, they adhered to the 'no wake' requirement and she believed the wake activity issues came from other users on the lake.

Mayor Miner indicated that on the same date as the event, he was advised of an incident where someone who lived on the lake had their dock obliterated by boat wakes. The resident had called Water Patrol who responded quickly and ticketed three different boaters for this violation.

Finance Director Nowezki asked if the number for Water Patrol was posted at the lake for ease of use.

Moeller replied that there was signage with direction to call 911 in order to reach Water Patrol for enforcement. She added that Water Patrol was a division of the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office.

Mayor Miner asked what mechanism was used to communicate with Orono residents who live on the north side of the lake.

Moeller responded that when Long Lake put the advisory into effect, she reached out to her communications counterpart at the City of Orono and had asked her to share it, which she had done. She mentioned that this had been the first time that there was a slow-no wake restriction imposed and both Long Lake and Orono disseminated the information together.

Mayor Miner noted that he assumed that most of the violators were not local residents and were visitors to the area.

Finance Director Nowezki suggested that the Council keep the current situation in mind for future discussions related to parking, because while lake users may want more parking, it is important to remember that the City just does not have the lake for increasing the volume of outside users through additional parking availability.

Councilmember Dyvik mentioned that the sign that says Long Lake would be a no-wake zone when it was above a certain level may be confusing for people.

Moeller noted that she did not personally find the sign content to be confusing, but pointed out that people tend to focus on the largest letters and don't necessarily read full sign content.

Councilmember Feldmann suggested that staff may want to consider adding a 2' x 4' sandwich board sign that says 'No Wake'.

Councilmember Dyvik encouraged staff to put some bold 'No Wake' signage out by the dock so it would be more visible. He noted that he was amazed at how quickly the lake had risen and he did not recall ever seeing it happen so fast in the past.

Gambling Requirements - Councilmember Dyvik indicated that he had neglected to ask a question during Council approval of the Consent Agenda. He inquired about the Premises Permit application and whether it was for pull tabs. Moeller confirmed that the permit would allow pull tab activity at San Pancho. Councilmember Dyvik referenced the language regarding the requirement for the gambling organization to spend money in Long Lake and the surrounding areas. He questioned whether that defeated the purpose of the fundraising efforts. Finance Director Nowezki explained that the requirement was for a certain percentage of their profits to be spent in the City trade area, so the organization would still be able to retain a good amount of money for their fundraiser. This was the standard requirement with an overall goal of trying to keep the money benefiting the community in which the money was spent. Moeller shared examples of some of the things that have been funded throughout the City from pull tabs in the area. Nowezki noted that the City also receives 10% of the profits on a monthly basis, but use of the funds was restricted to certain eligible expense categories.

Road Conditions - Mayor Miner recalled some discussion that took place during the work session meeting about roads that were rated in 'poor' condition. He asked staff to pursue updating the pavement management map information since the last map was completed in 2023, and felt it would be helpful to have one current to 2025 through an update by Public Works and WSB.

LMCC Office Update - Councilmember Kvale reported that there may be a purchaser for the LMCC's office building, which may bring up the possibility of a rental agreement for them with the City again. Moeller stated that staff would revisit the lease to ensure that nothing needs to be tweaked and noted that they would also have to move forward with permitting. She added that she had spoken with Jim Lundberg at the LMCC, and the contractor's estimate for the improvements necessary to the Public Works building had been around \$80,000. Councilmember Kvale reminded the Council that the LMCC working model would be changing beginning January 1, 2026.

Remote Attendance - Councilmember Newcomer expressed his appreciation for being able to participate in the meeting remotely.

ADJOURN

Hearing no objection, Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting by general consent at 7:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Weske
City Administrator