



**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
July 15, 2025**

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

Absent: Council: Todd Newcomer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mayor Miner mentioned that Long Lake had been busy with area 4th of July celebrations as well as Buckhorn Days. He thanked the Long Lake Area Chamber of Commerce and Marty Schneider for their work on the Buckhorn Days events, as well as the Long Lake Waters Association, Orono Lions Club, Wayzata Police, and the Long Lake Fire Department. One of the new things at Buckhorn Days this year was hosting the Long Lake Fire Department's Red Hot Run 5K in conjunction with the event.

Mayor Miner reported that issues with blue-green algae were continuing at Nelson Lakeside Park as well as some other lakes in the area. The City's beach remains closed, but water levels on the lake had subsided and the no wake restriction was no longer in effect.

He also shared that an event the City had just learned about would be held on July 29, 2025 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm on the beach in Wayzata. The Wayzata Police Department is sponsoring a new event called 'Sandcastles & Squads'.

APPROVE AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- A. Approve Minutes of July 1, 2025 City Council Work Session
- B. Approve Minutes of July 1, 2025 City Council Meeting
- C. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll
- D. Adopt Resolution No. 2025-21 Approving a Wage Step Increase for Public Works Maintenance Worker I Matt Fahrman Due to a Satisfactory Performance Review
- E. Adopt Resolution No. 2025-22 Approving Issuance of a Special Event Permit for the Corn Days 5K Run/Walk on August 9, 2025

Councilmember Kvale asked about the letter of credit payment to Ecumen.

Finance Director Nowezki replied that she'd been intending to discuss that in greater detail during her regular agenda item presentation.

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

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

Bryan Miller, 295 Lakeview Avenue – Mr. Miller stated that he wanted to draw the City's attention to County Road 6, which had recently been repaved by the County and looked good. He recalled that a few weeks ago, the Council had voted to move forward with a project to sealcoat the industrial park streets, but he believed that those streets are in fine shape do not need any maintenance. He displayed a map of the area he lives in and commented that the condition of the streets in his area are worse than a cattle trail and have been neglected for a long time. A friend from MnDOT had told him that the same small stone and oil that Hennepin County had just used for County Road 6 could be used on the roads near his home successfully to buy them a bit more time. He appreciated the time Mayor Miner had put in at the Capitol trying to obtain funding to improve roadways, but this has been a longstanding issue that has been neglected. He has lived in the City for 26 years and voiced his feeling that there had been severe neglect in the Long Lake Heights area since Marv Wurzer retired. He indicated that kicking the can down the road on Lakeview Avenue until 2030 would be unacceptable and suggested that the Council take a drive down the road to see for themselves. He reiterated his suggestion to use the oil and stone treatment to buy time for a future planned road project in 2030. He displayed a picture of a culvert that was half covered and no longer draining properly, as well as a picture of the pond that forms in his backyard where ducks have now been coming to swim for the past few years because the water isn't draining. He observed that the City used to pay attention to these kinds of things in Long Lake Heights, and all of the issues he had mentioned were things that should be the City's responsibility. He encouraged Public Works to go back to paying attention to these kinds of issues and maintenance needs around town.

Councilmember Kvale asked about Lakeview Avenue and Upper Lee Lane and where they were in the City's plans.

Nowezki confirmed that those streets were mentioned during the Council's recent budget discussions, and the Council had asked that they be included as priorities.

Mr. Miller stated that on Wurzer's watch, the City had come and done an oil and small stone overlay project.

City Clerk Moeller noted that part of the issue on Lakeview Avenue was not just the surface, but also the roadbed itself, which was in terrible shape underneath.

Mr. Miller explained that he did not care about the roadbed and suggested that the City move ahead with the oil and stone overlay in order to fill in the gaps on the surface. He expressed his frustration with the lack of caring he has seen from Public Works since Wurzer's departure. He noted that he was comfortable saying that he can speak for everyone who lives on Lakeview Avenue on this issue.

Marty Schneider, Long Lake Area Chamber of Commerce - Moeller indicated that one public comment had been submitted via email from Marty Schneider that he'd asked to be read aloud during the

meeting. She read aloud the statement from Mr. Schneider related to Buckhorn Days and expressing his appreciation to the Council and City staff for their partnership in making it a successful event.

REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Receive 2nd Quarter 2025 Revenues and Expenditures

Nowezki clarified that the item Councilmember Kvale had asked about during the Consent Agenda approval was not included in the 2nd quarter financial information. To answer Councilmember Kvale's earlier question, she stated that Zvago had posted a cash letter of credit deposit when the development began. Staff had worked with the City Engineer to determine what amount of money should remain withheld as collateral until repairs were completed and for the warranty maintenance bond. With that determination made, the City was able to refund the difference in the amount of \$62,000, with \$192,000 retained for completion of repairs and the maintenance bond.

Nowezki moved on to review the 2nd quarter revenues and expenditures reports and summarized that most of the City's funds were currently on budget and ranged between 43% to 56% as of mid-year. She highlighted that two exceptions were the Sewer Fund which is currently at 72.6%, and the Surface Water Fund which is currently at 68.7%. She reviewed details of the 2nd quarter revenues and expenditures reports as of June 30, 2025; and answered Council questions regarding details within the funds, engineering consulting procedures and some proposed changes, future project plans, receipt of the advanced property tax settlement deposit, and how these factors would affect the budget. She encouraged the Council to contact her if they ended up having additional questions once they reviewed this information more thoroughly.

Councilmember Kvale noted that she has walked on Upper Lee Lane and Lakeview Avenue and agreed with Mr. Miller that those roads were a mess.

Nowezki recalled that when Council and staff had discussed the budget at the last Council work session, Upper Lee Lane, Lakeview Avenue, and Central Avenue were identified as priorities and added to the 2026 budget plans.

Councilmember Dyvik stated that the City used to have a map that showed the condition of the City streets.

Moeller indicated that she had been copied on a quote prepared by WSB back in April for updating the Pavement Management Plan (PMP), and had asked City Administrator Weske if the City should spend money to update the PMP or rather prioritize the roads they knew were problems.

Councilmember Dyvik added that he did not think the City needed to update the PMP at this time because they can use their own eyes and observe priority areas. He suggested the PMP be reviewed and prioritization be given to all the roads that were red when the map was put together in 2023. He noted that what was done to County Road 6 was not the oil and rock treatment that Mr. Miller had described, but appeared to asphalt. He stated that doing some type of treatment to the road may make sense if they weren't going to prioritize the streets in red from the PMP.

Councilmember Kvale pointed out that she felt the City also needed to address the culvert issues that Mr. Miller had previously brought to the Council's attention.

Weske mentioned that people need to understand that the road will be wider and will have curb and gutter, which means residents will lose some of their perceived front yard area.

Councilmember Dyvik asked if the roadway had to be wider and have curb and gutter.

Weske replied stated that if the road wasn't widened, it would not meet City standards.

The Council listed off various streets throughout the City that did not meet City standards.

Councilmember Dyvik commented that he would like to know the price difference between putting in curb and gutter versus not doing so, because if the price difference was double, he felt the City should consider moving forward with the lower cost option.

Councilmember Kvale suggested that the Council may want to take a field trip to this area to take a look at the existing conditions and how things may change with the road specifications as described by Administrator Weske.

Councilmember Dyvik questioned when the City may be able to realistically tackle this road project.

Weske answered that it would depend on their priorities and whether the City would tackle I/I projects or road replacement, because they will both cost a lot of money.

Council and staff discussed budget implications of projects, full street reconstruction needs, the City's assessment policy, franchise fees, cell tower revenue, and the possibility of bonding for whole projects to be able to do things right the first time. They discussed what staff had learned from televising the sewer lines in Sanitary Sewer District 4 and what was needed for lining the City lines, as well as how residents could be encouraged to line their portion of the lines as well.

Nowezki noted that the plan was for sewer televising information to be on the next Council agenda for more detailed discussion.

Moeller added that staff would like to show the Council a few of the videos that had been captured from the recent televising project to help highlight the importance of televising the other districts.

Councilmember Kvale asked how much it would cost for residents to line their private lines.

Moeller noted that the City had just issued a permit for the lining of a private sewer line and offered to take a moment and obtain that information for the Council.

Mayor Miner stated that he felt the Council was supportive of staff moving forward with some of the ideas that have been raised and bringing more information back to the Council. He reflected that if staff felt it would be beneficial to schedule a 'walking' work session for some of the projects, he was open to that idea.

A motion was made by Feldmann, seconded by Kvale, to receive the 2nd Quarter 2025 Revenues and Expenditures as of June 30, 2025. Ayes: all.

Moeller returned to the meeting and stated that the permit recent issued had been for 76 feet of sewer lining, and the project quote listed on the permit application was \$7,445.

Nowezki mentioned that staff had discussed exploring ways to perhaps get residents a better deal if they agree to do their lining as part of the City's project.

Weske noted that there was some discussion about putting a package together with information about grants that are available for private residential services.

B. Lease Between the City and the Lake Minnetonka Communications Commission for Use of Office Space in the City's Public Works Building

Weske reminded the Council that they had initially approved a lease between the LMCC and the City for rental of office space at the Public Works building in January of 2024, but plans to sell their existing building had fallen through. Progress has been made now with the sale of their building, so they were once again looking to lease this space.

Jim Lundberg, Lake Minnetonka Communications Commission (LMCC), reviewed the background on their previous building sale negotiations that had fallen through. He indicated that the LMCC is in the process of reviewing and signing purchase agreement paperwork, and which should be completed by early next week. He stated that he would like to get things squared away with the City regarding the office space lease so they could get the construction crew to the Public Works building to begin making the necessary changes to the space. He shared that they would like to be able to move into the space between November 1 and 15, and briefly described the changes that the LMCC had made to their business model that will go into effect at the end of 2025.

The Council discussed the rent amount agreed to in 2024, whether it should begin at the same rate, the built-in 5% escalation fee, and the value being added to the building from the work LMCC would be doing.

Councilmember Kvale noted that she would be abstaining from voting on this agenda item because she also currently serves on the LMCC Executive Committee.

A motion was made by Feldmann, seconded by Dyvik, to approve a contract lease between the City of Long Lake and the Lake Minnetonka Communications Commission (LMCC) to allow the LMCC to rent office space in the Public Works building located at 2145 Daniels Street, and to authorize the City Administrator to execute said contract. Ayes: Feldmann, Dyvik, and Miner. Abstained: Kvale. Motion carried.

Mayor Miner asked if Mr. Lundberg had any updates regarding Midco.

Mr. Lundberg shared a brief Powerpoint presentation about the LMCC and what they do for the communities that are part of the Joint Powers Agreement. He gave an update on when Midco would be coming into different areas throughout the member cities. He reviewed the effect that cord-cutting has had on the LMCC's funding over the last 10 years and shared more details of changes they'd be making to their business model to address the decrease in funding, including his own retirement later in the year.

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

Mayor Miner indicated that there was nothing significant to report other than that they were continuing to have good dialogue with the City of Orono regarding a proposed Joint Powers Agreement. He stated that the two Fire Departments were working well together.

Councilmember Dyvik recalled that the Fire Advisory Board had met last week, and Chief Heiland had also communicated that the two departments were working well together.

OTHER BUSINESS

Corn Days Parade Contact - Moeller asked the Council if a member would be willing to be the primary contact name for the entry form that will be turned in for the Corn Days Parade. Councilmember Dyvik volunteered to be the primary contact for the Corn Days parade. Moeller advised that she would post a quorum notice for the Corn Days Parade to enable Councilmembers to participate.

Food Truck(s) at City Property - Mayor Miner asked about the food truck that had been planning to set up on the former BP site. Moeller responded that the food truck operator had paid for their permit but appeared to have gone elsewhere, possibly because the site did not have readily accessible electricity for them to plug into. Councilmember Dyvik questioned how difficult it would be to make electricity available on the site. Moeller stated that staff had found out that it would be upwards of \$5,000 to install electricity at the property. She reflected that what she found in her research was that the things that attract food trucks were available electricity, tables for people to sit and eat, parking, and refuse containers that the food truck would not have to haul in and out. Mayor Miner wondered if EDA funds could be used to run the electric service to the site. Moeller believed that the idea was not a closed door, but staff had been weighing the cost of improvements against the interest level in the site. Councilmember Dyvik noted that if the City builds it, he thinks trucks would come. He stated that he liked the idea of having a few picnic tables there for people to use. Nowezki added that they would also need to consider where the electricity would be so the install location would make sense even when a food truck was not there; and observed that if the plan was to use the space for something temporary, it should look temporary to avoid the perception later that the City was taking it away for development.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule - Mayor Miner reminded the Council that their next meeting would be on Monday, August 4, and Night to Unite would be on Tuesday, August 5.

ADJOURN

Hearing no objection, Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting by general consent at 8:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Weske
City Administrator