



## CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 06, 2026 at 6:30 PM

7701 County Road 110 West Minnetrista, MN 55364

*Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.02, one or more council members may participate remotely.*

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### 1) CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Whalen called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

- a) Pledge of Allegiance
- b) Introductions: City Council: Mayor Lisa Whalen, Cathleen Reffkin, Claudia Lacy, Brian Govern  
Staff: City Administrator Jasper Kruggel, Finance Director Brian Grimm, Community Development Director David Abel, Director of Public Safety Craig Squires, Assistant City Administrator Paula Bauman, Director of Public Works Gary Peters and City Clerk Ann Meyerhoff (Remote) Consultants: City Attorney Sarah Sonsalla, Kennedy & Graven (Remote) and City Engineer Alyson Fauske, WSB Engineering.  
Absent: Councilmember Vickery.
- c) Approval of Agenda  
Motion made by Councilmember Reffkin, Seconded by Councilmember Lacy.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Whalen, Councilmember Reffkin, Councilmember Lacy, Councilmember Govern

### 2) SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

### 3) PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Jim Theisen, 1295 Elmwood Ave, shared opposition to a Lake Improvement District.

Paul Lang, 6700 Woodedge Road, addressed the council regarding road conditions, noting that their street is the only one in the immediate area that remains unpaved despite being surrounded by paved roads, sidewalks, and infrastructure. He expressed concern about the disparity and requested that Wood Edge Road be added to the city's paving or resurfacing schedule. He referenced recent communication from the City of Minnetrista indicating upcoming paving and resurfacing work on nearby West Edge, and urged the council to consider including the road in future plans.

Mayor Whalen explained that to add this project would incur assessments to the residents and would require a complete redo of the road.

Chris Carlson, 5950 West Branch Road, spoke in support of local entrepreneurs but raised concerns about the proliferation of business advertising signs at intersections throughout the city. The resident described recurring issues with cluttered intersections, particularly from repeat offenders such as seasonal service providers, and noted that abandoned or damaged signs can create maintenance hazards for city or county equipment. They suggested the city consider implementing fines or stronger enforcement measures to discourage repeated violations, emphasizing that the goal would be to promote compliance rather than punish businesses. Council members discussed current practices, including complaint-based removal and limited enforcement by staff, and indicated that further review may be needed to determine whether fines could be adopted.

#### **4) CONSENT AGENDA**

- a) Approve Work Session Meeting Minutes from March 16, 2026
- b) Approve City Council Regular Meeting Minutes from March 16, 2026
- c) Res. No. 35-26 Approve Claims
- d) Res. No. 36-26 Approve Setback Variances at 7041 Halstead Drive
- e) Res. No. 37-26 Approve Text Amendment to Comprehensive Plan
- f) Res. No. 38-26 Authorize Distribution of EAW
- g) Res. No. 39-40 Award Equipment CIP Purchase - Truck #2 Replacement
- h) Res. No. 40-26 Award Equipment CIP Purchase - Truck #5 Replacement

Motion made by Councilmember Lacy, Seconded by Councilmember Reffkin.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Whalen, Councilmember Reffkin, Councilmember Lacy,  
Councilmember Govern

#### **5) PUBLIC HEARINGS**

#### **6) BUSINESS ITEMS**

#### **7) ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

- a) Staff Reports

City Administrator Kruggel reminded Council that Trista Day is on May 13<sup>th</sup> which is a Wednesday this year.

- b) Council Reports

- i) Mayor Lisa Whalen

Mayor Whalen reported that her and City Administrator Kruggel will testify at the State Capitol at the request of Representative Andrew Myers regarding safety improvements along the Highway 7 corridor. They expressed support for MnDOT's proposed funding request, estimated at \$11 million, but emphasized the importance of directing those funds specifically toward roundabouts rather than raised medians, citing concerns about impacts on development and existing neighborhoods. Residents were also reminded that multiple "open book" dates are available for residents to discuss property valuations with assessors, with details posted on the city website. Additional updates included attendance at a recent Northwest League meeting and the city's support for fully funding the Hennepin County Sheriff's Department, highlighting the importance of services such as the crime lab and drug task force. The council member noted concerns about past staffing shortages and budget challenges but indicated confidence that core services would continue. Upcoming events were also announced, including a town hall meeting hosted by Commissioner Kevin Anderson on June 16 at Gale Woods, the State of the City address on May 5 at Burl Oaks (Crooked Water Golf Course), and encouragement for residents to attend and participate.

- ii) Cathleen Reffkin

- iii) Claudia Lacy

- iv) Peter Vickery

v) Brian Govern

**8) ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Councilmember Reffkin, Seconded by Councilmember Govern to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Voting Yea: Mayor Whalen, Councilmember Reffkin, Councilmember Lacy, Councilmember Govern

ADOPTED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026 by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ Ayes and \_\_\_\_\_ Nays.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Whalen, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ann Meyerhoff, City Clerk