



APRIL 7, 2025 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 07, 2025 at 7:00 PM

7701 County Road 110 West Minnetrista, MN 55364

1) CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Whalen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

- a) Pledge of Allegiance
- b) Introductions: City Council: Mayor Lisa Whalen, Cathleen Reffkin, Peter Vickery, Brian Govern and Claudia Lacy Staff: City Administrator Jasper Kruggel, Finance Director Brian Grimm, Community Development Director David Abel, Sergeant Josh Brown, Director of Administration Allie Polsfuss, Director of Public Works Gary Peters and City Clerk Ann Meyerhoff Consultants: City Attorney Sarah Sonsalla, Kennedy & Graven and City Engineer Alyson Fauske, WSB Engineering
- c) Approval of Agenda

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

2) SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- a) Kevin Anderson - Hennepin County Commissioner, gave an update on the roles that Hennepin County plays and the different ways they show up in the community.

He shared that there are a lot of things happening both at the state level and at the national level that is going to very likely have a direct impact to counties and therefore the cities.

This would mean that the county would have to find some other ways of dealing with the cost increases that would be shifted out of the county or we would have to accept lower levels of service that residents have come to the county for.

He encouraged residents to contact their state representatives.

- b) Rain Barrel Update

Angela Savstrom, Harrison Bay Association, gave an update on the Rain Barrel project. Goals of the project include:

- Reduce Stormwater run-off from entering lakes and waterways
- Provide community education about landscaping for clean water and water conservation
- Promote rain barrel use as one solution that reduces run-off, is cost effective and reduces dependency on city water

This is the 3rd year for rain barrel sales. Supplies are limited to 72 total (with 45 still available) for \$100 or a resident rate of \$70. Pick up will be Saturday, May 31st from

10am -12pm at the downtown Mound parking garage. At pick up there will be a rain barrel setup demo.

3) PERSONS TO BE HEARD

4) CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Approve Work Session Meeting Minutes from March 17, 2025
- b) Approve City Council Regular Meeting Minutes from March 17, 2025
- c) Approve AE2S Task Order No. 2 for Consulting Services for Replacing Sanitary Lift Station Controls at LS #4 and LS #6
- d) Res. No. 33-25 Approve Claims
- e) Res. No. 34-25 Approve 2025 Arbitrage Services Consulting Agreement
- f) Res. No. 35-25 2025 Pavement Maintenance Project. Approve Plans & Specifications and Authorize Advertisement for Bids
- g) Res. No. 36-25 Approve Purchase of New Confined Space Entry Multi-Gas Detector
- h) Res. No. 37-25 Award Agreement for Sanitary Sewer Lift Station Cleaning, Sanitary Sewer Line Jet Cleaning and Sanitary Sewer Line Televising with Overline & Son, Inc.
- i) Res. No. 39-25 Approval of City Policy for the Disposal of Obsolete or Excess City Personal Property
- j) Res. No. 40-25 Authorizing Sale/Disposal of Surplus City Equipment

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

5) PUBLIC HEARINGS

6) BUSINESS ITEMS

- a) Res. No. 41-25 Declare Game Farm Road and Blair Road as Municipal State Aid Routes

City Engineer Fauske stated that at the March 17th Work Session City Council discussed designating Game Farm Road and Blair Road as MSAS with the MN Department of Transportation. This designation would allow the city to request MSAS construction funds for eligible resurfacing/rehabilitation costs to Game Farm Road in 2026.

MSAS must connect to trunk highways, county roads, or other state aid routes. Sunnyfield Road is a state aid route, so adding Blair Road and Game Farm Road would satisfy this requirement.

MSAS must be designated as a collector road. The City's comprehensive plan identifies Game Farm Road as a minor collector. Classifying Blair Road as a collector is consistent with the Transportation Strategies, which states that Blair Road should be designated as MSAS.

At the Work Session Council asked what would change if Blair Road becomes a collector road. Staff searched city code and found the minimum right-of-way width for collector roads is 80 feet. According to Hennepin County GIS mapping the current

right-of-way width of Blair Road is 66 feet. Any subdivision along Blair Road would be required to dedicate additional right-of-way or get a variance from the City Council to keep the right-of-way width at 66 feet.

Fauske shared a letter from MNDOT State Aid staff supporting the designation of Game Farm Road and Blair Road as MSAS. A City Council resolution for MSAS revisions must be submitted by May 1, 2025 in order for the designation to take effect this year.

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

b) Res. No. 38-25 Approval of Resolution Supporting Retention of City Zoning Authority

City Administrator Kruggel shared that there have been a series of bills circulating this Minnesota Legislative Session related to the State preempting local zoning authority and issuing State mandated zoning standards.

The various bills being circulated this legislative session are a threat to Minnetrista and essentially eliminate local zoning authority related to housing. Such measures would change the landscape of Minnetrista, supersede the decades of planning, and potentially cause major hardships related to infrastructure costs to the community.

Kruggel presented a resolution that expresses strong opposition to these bills, demanding that zoning authority continues to be locally controlled versus State mandated.

Mayor Whalen expressed that everyone needs to be aware of this. If it passes developers can come in and we would not have any authority as to what goes in. It is very important for residents to contact local legislators.

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

7) ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

a) Staff Reports

i) City Administrator

- Town Hall Event on April 14th 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Bonding Update

b) Council Reports

i) Mayor Lisa Whalen

- Fire Partnership Update
- Recap of Chief Fall retirement event

ii) Cathleen Reffkin

iii) Brian Govern

iv) Peter Vickery

v) Claudia Lacy

8) ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Councilmember Reffkin, Seconded by Councilmember Vickery.

Voting Yea: Mayor Whalen, Councilmember Vickery, Councilmember Govern Adjourn at 7:51 p.m.

DRAFT