



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

April 20, 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.

1) CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Whalen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

- c) Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Councilmember Govern, Seconded by Councilmember Reffkin to approve the agenda as presented.

Voting Yea: Mayor Whalen, Councilmember Reffkin, Councilmember Govern

2) SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- a) Senator Ann Johnson Stewart

Senator Stewart gave a quick legislative update to Council.

- b) 1st Quarter 2026 Financial Update

Finance Director Grimm presented Council with an overview of the City of Minnetrista's 2026 1st quarter financials.

3) PERSONS TO BE HEARD

4) CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Approve Work Session Meeting Minutes from April 6, 2026
- b) Approve City Council Regular Meeting Minutes from April 6, 2026
- c) Res. No. 41-26 Approve Claims
- d) Res. No. 42-26 Approve 2026 Arbitrage Services Consulting Agreement
- e) Res. No. 43-26 Approve Early Termination of Ag Preserve for 9500 County Road 15 as Requested by Craig Schmidt
- f) Res. No. 44-26 Award Equipment CIP Purchase - Asphalt Roller Replacement
- g) Res. No. 45-26 Accept and Award Quote for Spray Lining Two Stormwater Catch Basin Structures

- h) Res. No. 46-26 Accept and Award Quote for Spray Lining Seven Sanitary Sewer Manhole Structures
- i) Res. No. 47-26 Approve Plans & Specs; Authorize Ad For Bid - 2026 Pavement Maintenance
- j) Approve Replacement of Police Squads 70 and 79

Motion made by Councilmember Reffkin, Seconded by Councilmember Govern to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Voting Yea: Mayor Whalen, Councilmember Reffkin, Councilmember Govern

5) PUBLIC HEARINGS

6) BUSINESS ITEMS

- a) Res. No. 48-26 Resolution Awarding the Sale of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2026A, in the Original Aggregate Principal Amount of \$14,840,000; Fixing Their Form and Specifications; Directing Their Execution and Delivery; and Providing for Their Payment

Todd Hagan of Ehlers & Associates presented the day-of-sale report for the City's bond issuance related to street reconstruction, water projects, and equipment financing. He reported that the City received a strong AA+ rating with a stable outlook from S&P Global Ratings, citing the City's solid economic profile, disciplined financial management, healthy reserves, and ongoing development. The bond sale performed very well, with 88 bids received from multiple underwriters, resulting in a winning bid from TD Securities at an interest rate of approximately 3.7%, significantly below projections. Due to favorable market conditions and a premium generated from investor demand, the total bond amount was reduced by approximately \$1.025 million, lowering overall borrowing costs. The bonds are scheduled to close on May 7, with proceeds to be invested until needed. Council members expressed appreciation for the strong outcome, and no further questions were raised.

Motion made by Councilmember Govern, Seconded by Councilmember Reffkin to approve Res. No. 48-26 Awarding the Sale of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2026A in the Aggregate Principal Amount of \$13,815,000; Fixing Their Form and Specification; Directing Their Execution and Delivery; and Providing for Their Payment. Voting Yea: Mayor Whalen, Councilmember Reffkin, Councilmember Govern

- b) Trunk Highway 7 Traffic Management Organization Grant Writing Expenditure Request

The City Council considered a request from the local Traffic Management Organization (TMO) to contribute \$600 toward a shared cost of approximately \$15,300 for professional grant writing services. The funding would support applications to the Metropolitan Council regional solicitation program and the Highway Safety Improvement Program, with potential awards of up to \$25 million per application. These grants are intended to supplement a proposed \$11 million bonding request for local transportation improvements. Staff explained that the consultant, SRF Consulting Group, was selected through a qualifications process and has expertise in transportation-related grant writing. Council discussion included concerns about the cost of grant writing services, uncertainty about project control, and whether proposed improvements align with City preferences. Other members emphasized the relatively low cost compared to the potential funding benefit and the opportunity to influence project outcomes through additional resources.

Motion made by Mayor Whalen, Seconded by Councilmember Govern to Approve TH7 TMO Grant Writing Fee Request.

Voting Yea: Mayor Whalen, Councilmember Govern

Voting Nay: Councilmember Reffkin

7) ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

a) Staff Reports

- Clean Up Day – May 2nd
- State of the City – May 5th
- Trista Day – May 13th
- Bus Tour – June 2nd

b) Council Reports

i) Mayor Lisa Whalen

- Fire Talks with St Bonifacius
- Public Safety Meeting
- Northwest League of Municipalities

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 7:38 p.m.

Voting Yea: Mayor Whalen, Councilmember Reffkin, Councilmember Govern

Lisa Whalen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ann Meyerhoff, City Clerk