



Approved

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**July 22, 2025**

Present: Mayor Jeremy Dresel, Council members, Marie Rivers, Nikki Battles, Mark Anderson, and Craig Meyer.

Absent: None

Staff: Associate Planner Leah Nelson and Deputy Clerk Alisa Bodell.

Public Attendance: Leilani Freeman, Robyn Vosberg-Torgerson, Jonathan Wrolstad

**1. REGULAR MEETING-CALL TO ORDER 6:30**

Mayor Dresel called the meeting to order.

**1a. "Pledge of Allegiance"**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**1b. Roll Call**

All members are present.

**2. AGENDA**

Mayor Dresel asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Associate Planner Nelson would like to add 7e. Petition for Annexation at 11839 302<sup>nd</sup> St. Council member Rivers made a motion to approve the agenda with changes; Council member Anderson seconded; all ayes; motion carried.

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

**3a. Minutes of June 24, 2025**

**3b. Payment of Bills-Finance Information**

**3c. Committee Reports**

Council member Anderson made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Council member Rivers seconded; all in favor, all ayes; motion carried.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT/AGENDA PLACEMENT**

**5. PETITIONS, REQUESTS, COMMUNICATION**

**5a. Robyn Vosberg-Torgerson for Chisago Lakes Superintendent Brian Dietz**

Robyn Vosberg-Torgerson Director of Business Services for Chisago Lakes Schools addressed the council. The school representatives are visiting local cities and townships within the district to talk about the 3P's. Producing, Planning, and Participating.

Chisago Lakes schools scores are some of the highest in the region and are outperforming the state in almost every metric. Vosberg-Torgerson touched on the early literacy program at the elementary school, and programs at the high school level including the ability to earn an AA degree and the 7 different career pathway courses. There are 3 different Planning items the schools worked on this year, strategic planning, facility planning, and fiscal planning.

Superintendent Dietz would love to answer any questions the city has and is more than willing to meet and discuss issues and set up tours. There are monthly meetings called Soup with the Sup, where Superintendent Dietz address a new topic each month and residents can have lunch and discuss issues.

Council member Rivers asked about federal funding cuts, Vosberg-Torgerson stated that the 2025/2026 school years federal budget was already approved so that money is secured. Council member Battles asked if the career pathway courses would still be offered with all the budget cuts, the district will try to do their best to keep these career and technical courses.

## **6. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

### **7a. 2024 Chisago City Fire Relief Audit**

Jonathan Wrolstad, treasurer for the CCFD Relief Association, presented the council with the 2024 audit. The pension management for the Statewide Volunteer Firefighter (SVF) was approved last fall. On January 1<sup>st</sup> the money was transferred to SVF with the state, with that the 2024 audit needed to be completed to make sure the transfer was successful. The association has been with the SVF for about 7 months and so far, they are pleased with the program. They did receive the state bonus of \$28,000 as an incentive for departments to join SVF. Wrolstad mentioned that they will save about \$17,000 each year on audit costs.

Council member Anderson made a motion to accept the Chisago City Fire Relief Audit; Council member Rivers seconded; all in favor; all ayes; motion carried.

### **7b. Memorial Donation in Honor of Former Mayor Bob Gustafson**

Associate Planner Nelson stated that Bill and Sue Mack approached the Park Commission wanting to honor former Mayor, Bob Gustafson, with the dedication of an oak tree. After talking with the Gustafson family, they came up with Surfland Park as the perfect location. The Gustafson family then reached out to Staff with the concept of purchasing a memorial bench to be dedicated at the same time. Staff worked with the family on the choice of memorial bench, and plaques. We would like to move forward with this dedication and hold a ribbon cutting on the Sunday of Ki Chi Saga Days August 17<sup>th</sup> at 11am.

Council member Anderson made a motion to approve resolution 25-07-01 and accept the donation of the memorial bench and oak tree; Council member Rivers seconded; all in favor; all ayes; motion carried.

**7c. Conduit Bond TRIO Wolf Creek School**

Associate Planner Nelson presented council with a letter request from TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School. The city was approached by Daniel Burns of Fryberger Law Firm. Daniel is requesting on behalf of the school to use conduit bond financing for the purchase of their building. The city in the past has done conduit financing for other entities (Ecumen) a few times over the years. The city has no risk related to repayment of the bonds. The city does not plan to bond for any debt for the remainder of 2025. There is adequate debt limit available for the estimated million-dollar bond being sought by TRIO Wolf Creek.

Mayor Dresel stated again that this has no obligation or risk to the city.

Council member Anderson made a motion to approve the issuance of the Conduit Revenue Bonds for TRIO Wolf Creek School; Council member Rivers seconded; all in favor, all ayes; motion carried.

**7d. Gambling Fund 29 Requests**

Associate Planner Nelson stated that staff have made annual requests to use funds from Fund 29 which is the 10% proceeds from charitable gambling by LARA and Chisago City Fire Relief. City staff would again like to request funds for the following allowed expenses. 2025 amounts city volunteer recognition \$2800. Fireworks for Ki-Chi-Saga Days \$12,000. Children’s Lighting Festival \$3000. Fire Department Volunteer Steak Fry \$1200, and the LAPD employee recognition \$1000. Total amount of request is \$20,000. Fund 29 has an adequate fund balance to cover the expected expenditure with a remaining balance of near \$65,000.

Council member Meyer stated that the Lighting Festival seems to be drawing a bigger crowd each year and asked if the amount was enough to cover the costs.

Council member Rivers made a motion to approve the Fund 29 requests; Council member Anderson seconded; all in favor, all ayes; the motion carried.

**7e. Petition for Annexation 11839 302<sup>nd</sup> Street**

Associate Planner Nelson specified that the city has received a petition for annexation for property located in Chisago Lakes Township. The petition is from Matthew Kjellberg for approximately .5 acres at 11839 302<sup>nd</sup> Street. The property owner would like to be able to hook up to city sewer and water services. If council approves, city staff will contact the Township Board Clerk regarding the petition. The petition would be placed on the next regular meeting for Chisago Lakes Township. Staff will provide a joint orderly annexation agreement to be signed by the Mayor and Administrator. The document would then be presented to Chisago Lakes Township. The City Council can accept the petition and direct staff and the mayor to execute the agreement and resolution 25-07-02. The orderly agreement needs to be

approved by the council and sent to the State Boundary Adjustments for review and approval.

Council member Meyer stated that the utilities were stubbed in that street when the South Lindstrom Shores development went in.

Council member Meyer made a motion to approve Resolution 25-07-02 for the Petition for Annexation of 11839 302<sup>nd</sup> Street; Council member Rivers seconded; all in favor, all ayes; the motion carried.

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mayor Dresel made note of the handouts that were given, the Chisago County Collaborative Initiative meeting will be held on July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm at the Chisago County Senior Center. There are also two public meetings for the Highway 8 study August 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

**9. ADJOURN**

Council member Rivers made the motion to adjourn, Council member Anderson seconded, all in favor; all ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Alisa Bodell,  
Deputy City Clerk