



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24,
2026

6:00 PM

Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

The City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Tom Spooner at 6:00 pm. Councilors in attendance included Mandy Barnes, Adama Doumbouya, Royal Ross, Peter van Sluis and Chuck Theile. Councilor John Rowan was absent. Also in attendance were City Administrator Jessica Kinser, City Clerk Heather Slechta, Community and Economic Development Director Dave Wanberg, Deputy Police Chief Matt Long, Fire and Code Services Director Dusty Dienst, Public Works Director Travis Block, City Engineer Mark DuChene and Finance Director Kindra Papenfus.

Approve Agenda

Motion by Ross, seconded by Barnes to approve the agenda as presented and carried unanimously.

Presentations/Introductions – None

Approve minutes of the February 10, 2026 City Council Meeting

Motion by Barnes, seconded by van Sluis to approve the Minutes of the February 10, 2026 City Council Meeting and carried unanimously.

Requests to be Heard

Matt Cavillier, 1000 Shumway Ave, spoke to the Council regarding funding for the Community Action Center (CAC), he stated that the CAC has no funding left for emergency housing, that they have spent all their funds already. He thanked Councilors Barnes and Thiele and Mayor Spooner for getting back to him, he requested responses from van Sluis, Rowan and Doumbouya.

Consent Agenda

- A. Claims List
- B. Approve Letter of Support for Faribault Cares Grant Application
- C. Approve Council Appointment to the Main Street Committee
- D. Resolution 2026-052 Approve Low-Potency Hemp Product Registrations
- E. Resolution 2026-055 Approve Income Contract No. 281377 with State of Minnesota for Firewood Processing at the Water Reclamation Facility Compost Site
- F. Resolution 2026-056 Amend the 2026 Adopted Budget for the Replacement of Entryway Signage

- G. Resolution 2026-058 Authorize Payment as Recommended by the Charitable Gambling Board to River Bend Nature Center
- H. Resolution 2026-059 Authorize Payment as Recommended by the Charitable Gambling Board to Faribault Art Center
- I. Resolution 2026-060 Accept Donated Equipment from the Rice County Sheriff's Office
- J. Resolution 2026-061 Approve Special Revenue Fund for Community Improvement Projects
- K. Resolution 2026-062 Authorize the Fire Department to Accept Grant from the Hannah Lips Foundation
- L. Resolution 2026-063 Accept Donation to the Fire Department
- M. Resolution 2026-064 Authorize the Purchase of a Vehicle for Building Codes
- N. Resolution 2026-065 Approve the First Amendment to the Purchase and Development Agreement for Lot 1, Block 2, Riverchase Addition
- O. Resolution 2026-067 Authorize a Grant Application to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture on Behalf of Fareway Stores Inc.

Councilor Barnes asked for clarification on 6E. Resolution 2026-055 Approve Income Contract No. 281377 with State of Minnesota for Firewood Processing at the Water Reclamation Facility Compost Site, she asked if the cost was per person or for the entire crew. Public Works Director Travis Block stated that it is for the crew.

Motion by Barnes, seconded by Ross to approve items A through O on the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearings

Resolution 2026-053 Order Improvements and Order Preparation of Plans and Specifications for 2026 Street Reconstruction Improvements - Contract 2026-03

City Engineer Mark DuChene explained that Resolution 2026-053 orders the improvements for the proposed 2026 Street Reconstruction Improvements — Contract 2026-03 project including removals, watermain replacement, sanitary sewer replacement, lot services, storm sewer construction, grading, aggregate base, sidewalk reconstruction, bituminous paving, turf restoration and related improvements.

The streets proposed to be included in this project are as follows:

2nd Street NW from 1st Avenue NW to 4th Avenue NW and 1st Avenue NW from 3rd Street NW to 4th Street NW/TH 60/

DuChene stated that the purpose of the public hearing is to take public comment as part of the consideration by the Council in ordering the improvements. If the project is ordered, plans and specifications will be finalized and brought back to the Council for approval, along with the request for authorization to advertise for public bids.

DuChene informed the Council that a virtual neighborhood meeting was held, and people were encouraged to contact the City Engineer directly with any questions after viewing

the virtual open house. No public comments were received.

Motion by Ross, seconded by van Sluis to open the public hearing and carried unanimously. The public hearing was opened at 6:13 pm.

There were no comments received from the public during this time.

Motion by Thiele, seconded by van Sluis to close the public hearing and carried unanimously. The public hearing was closed at 6:14 pm.

Councilor Barnes asked what size the parking stalls will be on 1st Avenue, DuChene stated it will be 60 degree parking and 9 feet wide.

Motion by Ross, seconded by Barnes to approve Resolution 2026-053 Order Improvements and Order Preparation of Plans and Specifications for 2026 Street Reconstruction Improvements - Contract 2026-03 and carried unanimously.

Items for Discussion

Resolution 2026-054 Approve Plans and Specifications and Establish a Bid Date for 2026 MSA Street Overlay Improvements - Contract 2026-02

City Engineer Mark DuChene informed the Council that Resolution 2026-054 approves the construction plans and specifications for the proposed 2026 MSA Street Overlay Improvements project (Contract 2026-02), including curb and gutter replacement, concrete sidewalk construction/replacement, storm sewer repairs, casting adjustment/replacement, watermain construction, pavement milling, bituminous paving, pavement markings, and related improvements on the following streets:

Lincoln Ave. NW	(TH 60 (4th Street NW) to 7th Street NW)
30th Street NW	(TH 21/Lyndale Avenue to Western Avenue)
Western Avenue	(30th Street NW to Village Drive)

The improvements were formally ordered by the City Council on February 10, 2026, upon the passage of Resolution 2026-044, following the Public Hearing. After the improvements were ordered, the Engineering Department finalized the plans and specifications in preparation of bidding for the improvements.

The preliminary total estimated cost of the improvements, including 10% contingency and 15% engineering as follows:

MSA Street Construction Fund	\$532,900.00
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Water Utility Fund (601)	\$ 2,000.00
Sanitary Sewer Utility Fund (602)	\$ 23,800.00

The total estimated project cost will be \$558,700.00. This estimated amount exceeds the approved budget amount of \$400,000.00, but the project is to be funded primarily by the

City's Municipal State Aid account which has adequate fund balance to cover the estimated costs. It was recommended to move the project forward and to complete a budget amendment if a low bid is accepted.

The resolution also establishes a bid date of March 18, 2026, for the project. Construction is scheduled to begin in June, with substantial completion by the end of August 2026.

Motion by Doumbouya, seconded by Thiele to approve Resolution 2026-054 Approve Plans and Specifications and Establish a Bid Date for 2026 MSA Street Overlay Improvements - Contract 2026-02 and carried unanimously.

Councilor Ross asked when 30th Street NW done last, as it is bad and really needs this, DuChene stated it is about 20 years old.

Ordinance 2026-02 Amend Chapter 17, Articles IV and V, of the Code of Ordinances Regarding Late Fees and Penalties - First Reading

City Administrator Jessica Kinser explained that Ordinance 2026-02 proposed changing two articles in Chapter 17 — Offenses to adjust language in two separate articles related to late fees and penalties.

Section 17-53 was being amended to remove the specific reference to a 10 percent penalty and to specify that the penalty will be set by resolution of the City Council. Should the standard penalty ever be more or less than 10 percent in the future, under the revised ordinance no amendments will need to occur, and the fee schedule alone would be updated by resolution.

Section 17-69 was being amended to remove language that compounds a 10 percent penalty more than monthly to reference when something is delinquent and that the penalty is to be set by resolution of the City Council.

These changes will aid in providing consistent late-fee structures that can be easily applied in the financial and permitting and licensing software.

Motion by van Sluis, seconded by Ross to approve Ordinance 2026-02 Amend Chapter 17, Articles IV and V, of the Code of Ordinances Regarding Late Fees and Penalties - First Reading

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Councilor Barnes, Doumbouya, Ross, van Sluis, Thiele and Mayor Spooner

Nay:

Motion carried 6:0

Ordinance 2026-03 Amend Chapter 14 Licenses and Business Regulations of the Code of Ordinances to Add Article XII- Short-Term Rentals- First Reading

City Administrator Jessica Kinser explained that changes to how we collect the lodging tax brought up the question of how we identify short-term rentals. To assist the Minnesota

Department of Revenue in the collection of lodging tax, the Ordinance 2026-03 proposed a licensing program of short-term rentals. The focus of the program will be to ensure short-term rental properties meet life-safety requirements used for the current rental licensing program and to ensure lodging tax is collected.

A fee for this license will be set by resolution of the City Council on an updated fee schedule and will be discussed at the March 3rd City Council Work Session.

Motion by Ross, seconded by Barnes to approve Ordinance 2026-03 Amend Chapter 14 Licenses and Business Regulations of the Code of Ordinances to Add Article XII- Short-Term Rentals- First Reading

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Councilor Barnes, Doumbouya, Ross, van Sluis, Thiele and Mayor Spooner

Nay:

Motion carried 6:0

Bids - None

Boards and Commissions Reports, Announcements and Project Updates

City Administrator Jessica Kinser reminded the Council of the scheduled tour of the Hill Block Development at 4:45pm on March 3, the HRA and EDA were also invited. The Council Chat will be held on March 11 at Viaduct Park to review the Housing Study that was completed. Councilor Barnes announced that the Paradise Arts Center gallery opening will be on Friday from 5pm-7pm with the premier of Kill Me Deadly starting at 7:30 pm.

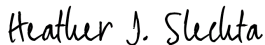
Adjournment

Motion by Ross, seconded by van Sluis to adjourn the City Council meeting and carried unanimously.

The City Council meeting was adjourned at 6:22 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Signed by:



Heather Slechta
City Clerk