



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, MAY 26, 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, Royal Ross, John Rowan, Peter van Sluis and Chuck Thiele. Councilor Adama Doumbouya was absent. Also in attendance were Deputy City Administrator Mark DuChene, City Clerk Heather Slechta, Community and Economic Development Director Dave Wanberg, Police Chief John Sherwin, Public Works Director Travis Block, Human Resources Director Kevin Bushard and Fire and Code Services Director Dustin Dienst.

Approve Agenda

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

Presentations/Introductions

Recognition of Values In Action Honorees

Mayor Spooner recognized the Values in Action Honorees by reading the following:

HONESTY:

Emily Braun, Records Specialist (Police) - During a front desk interaction with an elderly female who was actively speaking to a “bank employee” on the phone, Emily took control of the situation by speaking to the “bank employee” herself, and becoming confident the person on the phone was a scammer. After hanging up, Emily learned the elderly female had \$9,000 of just-withdrawn cash in her purse and was headed to a Cryptocurrency ATM to “rectify an account shortage.” Emily exemplified her customer service duties by going above and beyond and demonstrating the City’s values of respect and honesty for others.

RESPECT:

Danielle Radtke, Administrative Coordinator - Danielle has gone to great lengths to provide Finance with a better understanding of Public Works invoice allocations. Rather than simply providing information, she’s detailed the reasoning behind invoices and why it matters for their department and its budgeting process. This was instrumental in strengthening a better understanding between departments. Danielle’s willingness to share her knowledge and assist others builds strong working relationships and reflects a team-first mindset, and her respectful, collaborative approach helps create a positive workplace culture.

DEDICATED:

Jamie Walburn, HR Assistant - A recent house fire in Faribault displaced a family with little to no belongings left after much of the house and everything within it were destroyed. Jamie, after finding out the ages of the individuals impacted, stepped up and provided bags for the individuals, including coats, clothes, toys and more. Jamie is not only dedicated to her work in the Human Resources Department, but to the greater community of Faribault. While this could fit in many categories, Jamie's dedication to the community is exemplary and was clearly put on display with her recent, heartfelt efforts.

VISIONARY:

David Johnson, GIS Coordinator (Engineering) - The Police Department recently implemented proximity-based dispatch protocols that assign officers based on incident type, staffing levels, and geographic location. To make this possible, the Department needed clearly defined patrol zones supported by accurate geographic and call data. David stepped in and went above and beyond his regular responsibilities within Engineering to assist. David's work exemplifies our visionary value by helping modernize and streamline a critical City process through use of technology and data.

ACCOUNTABILITY:

Hunter Houdek, Property Maintenance & Fire Code Inspector - Hunter has exemplified accountability by stepping into the role of permit technician to cover a coworker's vital position while out on leave. Hunter has also embraced learning the new Tyler system at the same time as ensuring the Department keeps moving forward with plan review and scheduling inspections. The nature of his position is to engage in difficult conversations with sometimes confrontational individuals, yet he goes above and beyond showing he is willing to listen, learn, follow up and follow through with compliance measures to make our community a be

Approve minutes of May 12, 2026, City Council Meeting and May 19, 2026, Special City Council Meeting

Motion by Barnes, seconded by Thiele to approve minutes of May 12, 2026, City Council Meeting and May 19, 2026, Special City Council Meeting and carried unanimously.

Requests to be Heard

Earl Thibodeau, 18 Frink, stated that he lives on a one-way alley by Maple Lawn Cemetery, people are driving on his lawn and his neighbors. He asked why this is allowed and why nothing is happening. Staff took down his phone number and will be reaching out to him.

Karen Zeller, 1901 Crystal Lane, played an Insta-gram video of the noise created by data centers and spoke out against the future building of data centers.

Shodo Spring, 16922 Cabot Ave, spoke out against the future building of data centers. She questioned what good they bring.

Consent Agenda

- A. Claims List
- B. Resolution 2026-143 Accept Donations to the Police Department
- C. Resolution 2026-144 Authorize the Fire Department to Apply for the Compeer Financial Emergency First Responder Grant
- D. Resolution 2026-145 Approve Budget Amendment for Lodging Tax Expenses
- E. Resolution 2026-146 Approve Heritage Celebration Events, Parking Restrictions and Street Closures
- F. Resolution 2026-147 Accept Donation to the Parks and Recreation Department
- G. Resolution 2026-149 Approve Limited Use Agreement at 1910 5th St. NW
- H. Resolution 2026-151 Accept Donations to Buckham Memorial Library
- I. Resolution 2026-153 Approve Continued Participation in the Council on Local Results and Innovation's Performance Measurement Program
- J. Resolution 2026-154 Approve 2026-2027 Garbage and Refuse Hauler Licenses
- K. Resolution 2026-155 Authorize Payment as Recommended by the Charitable Gambling Board to Canine Service Partners Inc
- L. Resolution 2026-156 Authorize Payment as Recommended by the Charitable Gambling Board to the Rice County Historical Society
- M. Resolution 2026-157 Authorize Payment as Recommended by the Charitable Gambling Board to the Rice County Agricultural Society
- N. Resolution 2026-158 Authorize Payment as Recommended by the Charitable Gambling Board to Three Rivers Community Action Inc
- O. Resolution 2026-159 Approve Budget Closing and Transferring the Communications Budget to the Administrative Budget
- P. Approve Resolution 2026-152 Budget Adjustment for MSA Maintenance Funding
- Q. Approve 2026 Fourth of July Fireworks Display
- R. Approve 1-4 Day Temporary Liquor License for the Rice County Fair
- S. Resolution 2026-160 Approve Renewal of Sensus Contract for Water Consumption Metering
- T. Approve a Letter of Support for South Central College's Grant Application

Motion by Ross, seconded by Thiele to approve the City Council meeting and carried unanimously with Councilor van Sluis abstaining from Consent Agenda Items Resolution 2026-157 Authorize Payment as Recommended by the Charitable Gambling Board to the Rice County Agricultural Society and Approve 1-4 Day Temporary Liquor License for the Rice County Fair

Public Hearings – None

Items for Discussion

Ordinance 2026-08 Vacate a Portion of Storm Sewer Easement at 105 Riverchase Ct (Second Reading) and Ordinance 2026-08 Summary Publication

Community and Economic Development Director David Wanberg stated that on May 19, 2026, the Faribault City Council approved the first reading of Ordinance 2026-08, which vacated a portion of an unnecessary stormwater easement at 105 Riverchase Court. City

Staff did not receive any public comments related to the ordinance and did not make any changes to the ordinance.

Motion by Thiele, seconded by Rowan to approve Ordinance 2026-08 Vacate a Portion of Storm Sewer Easement at 105 Riverchase Ct (Second Reading)

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nay:

Motion carried 6:0

Motion by van Sluis, seconded by Barnes to approve Ordinance 2026-08 Summary Publication and carried unanimously.

Approve Third Amendment To The Purchase And Development Agreement For Lot 1, Block 2, Riverchase Addition

Deputy City Administrator Mark DuChene informed the Council that last-minute developments have necessitated another amendment to the Riverchase II agreement.

Motion by Ross, seconded by Barnes to approve Third Amendment To The Purchase And Development Agreement For Lot 1, Block 2, Riverchase Addition and carried unanimously.

Bids - None

Boards and Commissions Reports, Announcements and Project Updates

Councilor Barnes stated that the Straight River Art Fest is on Saturday, Safe Summer Kick-off is on June 4, the Farmers Market and Aquatic Center are opening June 6. Councilor van Sluis stated that the Chamber Mixer on Thursday at The Faribault Transportation Company.

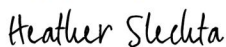
Adjournment

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

The City Council meeting was adjourned at 6:21 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

DocuSigned by:



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Heather Slechta

City Clerk