



**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
August 19, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm. Mayor Miner explained that there had been some technical difficulties with the audio/video equipment in the Council Chambers and the meeting would be unable to be recorded for YouTube or LMCC viewers.

Present: Mayor: Charlie Miner; Council: Mike Feldmann, Deirdre Kvale, and Todd Newcomer

Staff Present: City Administrator: Scott Weske; Finance Director: Amanda Nowezki; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

Absent: Council: Jahn Dyvik (with prior notice)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MAYOR'S COMMENTS – LONG LAKE NEWS, MEETING REVIEW AND UPDATES

Mayor Miner highlighted the recent Corn Days event and mentioned that there had been a good turnout despite weather challenges that occurred. He expressed appreciation to the Church of St. George for their work on the festival, and to the Long Lake Area Chamber of Commerce for running the parade, particularly Chamber Boardmember Marty Schneider.

Mayor Miner also congratulated Senator Ann Johnson-Stewart and Representative Andrew Myers, who were both awarded the League of Minnesota Cities Legislators of Distinction Award for 2025.

APPROVE AGENDA

A motion was made by Feldmann, seconded by Newcomer, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: all.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- A. Approve Minutes of the August 4, 2025 City Council Work Session Meeting
- B. Approve Minutes of the August 4, 2025 City Council Meeting
- C. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll
- D. Adopt Resolution No. 2025-24 Conditionally Appointing Jeremy Burke to the Position of Paid On-Call Firefighter
- E. Adopt Resolution No. 2025-23 Conditionally Appointing Gram Ims to the Position of Paid On-Call Firefighter
- F. Approve a Six-Month Probationary Status Extension for Public Works Maintenance Worker I Matt Fahrman

A motion was made by Feldmann, seconded by Newcomer, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ayes: all.

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

No one was in attendance to address the City Council during Open Correspondence.

REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Accept the Resignation of City Administrator Scott Weske

City Clerk Moeller reported that Scott Weske began his tenure with the City in January 2014 and after 11 years of service, he will be moving on to another city. His last day of employment with Long Lake would be September 19, 2025. She added that they all wished Mr. Weske well and noted that he would be missed by City staff.

Mayor Miner thanked Mr. Weske on behalf of the City and the Council for his many contributions to the community over the last 11 years.

A motion was made by Miner, seconded by Feldmann, to accept the resignation of City Administrator Scott Weske. Ayes: all.

Moeller mentioned that she was working on a gathering in honor of Mr. Weske's service to the City and had sent out a 'save the date' for a possible date. She also stated that staff was looking for direction from the Council on reaching out to search firms for filling the position. She had obtained some information from the League of Minnesota Cities on reputable search firms that were based in Minnesota. Additionally, staff had been giving thought to the need to appoint an internal Interim City Administrator or possibly dividing the duties between the City Clerk and Finance Director positions to share the workload. The advantages would of working with a search firm to fill the upcoming Administrator vacancy were briefly discussed.

It was the consensus of the Council to direct staff to reach out to search firms and request pricing to assist the City in filling the City Administrator position, and to bring back recommendations on appointing staff to take on the Interim City Administrator duties.

B. Approve the Purchase of SCBAs for the Fire Department

City Administrator Weske reviewed the request to purchase 40 sets of masks and regulators/SCBAs for the combined Long Lake and Orono Fire Department so that the firefighters would have the same equipment. He noted that the set the Long Lake Fire Department currently has is not that old. The vendor has proposed to buy them back, and those funds could be used to offset the overall purchase price. He indicated that the purchase request was being brought forward now because the joint powers purchasing agreement for this equipment was expiring in September, and it seemed advisable to make the purchase before prices increased with the new agreement.

Councilmember Newcomer asked if he should recuse himself from voting on this item since his company was a competitor of the vendor.

Mayor Miner didn't think it was necessary that Councilmember Newcomer recuse himself.

Moeller clarified that the typical reasons for recusal would be related to the potential for personal or financial gain, and she did not believe either applied in this situation.

A motion was made by Miner, seconded by Feldmann, to approve the purchase of SCBAs for \$65,685.14 and authorize staff to work with the City of Orono and Medina to determine the cost share. Ayes: all.

C. Fire Department Transition/Future Fire Services News and Updates

Mayor Miner shared that they were waiting for Orono to review the most recent draft of the JPA, and he remains hopeful that it may be ready for signature by mid-September.

Weske noted that most of what was being discussed now was the legal terminology and intent of some of the language within the agreement.

Mayor Miner reminded the Council that the Wayzata Fire Department pancake breakfast was coming up in September. He observed that he thought the Fire Department had done a great job for the Corn Days Parade and had brought a lot of vehicles.

With City Administrator Weske resigning, Mayor Miner suggested that they may want to appoint a member of the Council to attend the weekly negotiating meetings that Weske had been involved with as part of the transition.

Weske indicated that the meetings have typically been held on Mondays at 1:00 pm.

Kvale confirmed that City Administrator Weske and Chief Heiland were currently attending the biweekly meetings and asked if, instead of sending a member of Council, if it should be whoever was to be appointed as Interim City Administrator.

Mayor Miner acknowledged that may be possible, but the feedback he has received from staff was that they were concerned about not having a lot of the background information from past discussions, which members of the Council may have. He stated that he was thinking that this may be a good fit for the involvement of Councilmember Dyvik because of his history in past discussions, but he wasn't sure it would fit into his schedule.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council Chambers Streaming Issue – City Clerk Moeller apologized for the technical difficulties they were having in streaming the meeting and indicated that she would upload the audio recording to the City's website. She wondered whether it was possible that a recent power outage may have impacted the A/V system, and added that Jim Lundberg from the LMCC would be out tomorrow to take a look at the situation.

ADJOURN

Hearing no objection, Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting by general consent at 7:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Moeller
City Clerk