



**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
April 7, 2026**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm.

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

**Staff Present:** City Administrator: Amanda Nowezki; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

**Absent:** None

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

Mayor Miner reported that the Council met in a work session prior to the regular meeting during which they discussed the special assessment policy regarding street improvement projects and preparing for an upcoming street improvement project. The Council had given staff direction to work on possible updates to the City's assessment policy.

Mayor Miner also reminded residents that the Shoreline Fire Department would be holding their annual pancake breakfast on April 19, 2026 from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

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

**OPEN CORRESPONDENCE**

City Clerk Moeller noted that in the upcoming Consent Agenda, Item 6E would be recommending approval of appointing Julie Bjorklund as the City's new Administrative Assistant. She provided an overview of Ms. Bjorklund's background and experience and shared that one of her references had referred to her as the 'house mother' of their office, which she felt was a quality that would be a good fit for Long Lake and the position.

Ms. Bjorklund introduced herself to the Council. She indicated that she had worked in the construction industry for the last 30 years and was excited to transition to working for Long Lake.

Moeller added that there was also an item on the Consent Agenda regarding hiring Jeff Wikman for Public Works, but he was unable to attend tonight's meeting to be introduced to the Council due to a prior commitment.

## CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- A. Approve Minutes of March 17, 2026 City Council Work Session
- B. Approve Minutes of March 17, 2026 City Council Meeting
- C. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll
- D. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-17 Appointing Jeffrey Wikman to the Position of Public Works Maintenance Worker I
- E. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-18 Appointing Julie Bjorklund to the Position of Administrative Assistant
- F. Approve Issuance of a 1 to 4 Day Temporary On Sale Liquor License for the PEO Chapter BW Non-Profit Organization's Summer Social Event at Zvago Long Lake on Tuesday, June 2, 2026
- G. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-19 Approving Issuance of a Special Event Permit for the Temporary Outdoor Patio at the Red Rooster Bar & Restaurant Effective May 1 through October 1, 2026
- H. Receive 1st Quarter 2026 Revenues and Expenditures as of March 31, 2026
- I. Appoint Park Board Members Erika Leachman as Chair and Mark Preissing as Secretary of the Park Board for 2026
- J. Appoint Planning Commissioners Judd Axelson as Chair and Lori Goodsell as Chair Pro-Tempore of the Planning Commission for 2026

*A motion was made by Feldmann, seconded by Dyvik, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.*

*Ayes: all.*

## REGULAR BUSINESS

### A. Receive and Accept the 2025 Audited Financial Report

City Administrator Nowezki introduced Tyler See from Abdo, LLP to present the City's 2025 Audited Financial Report.

Tyler See presented a high-level summary of the audit results. The City had received an unmodified 'clean' audit opinion with no instances of non-compliance. There were two audit findings for internal controls related to the preparation of financial statements and limited segregation of duties, which are common findings for cities the size of Long Lake. See reviewed the fund balances for the General Fund, budget to actuals, revenues and expenditures by type; Special Revenue Fund balances, a Fire Department Fund comparison of budget to actual, Capital Projects Fund balances, Debt Service Funds, cash flows from operations; and cash balances for the Water Fund, Sewer Fund, Surface Water Fund, and Recycling Fund. He also reviewed the overall cash and investment balances by fund type, and highlighted tax rate histories, comparison, and compared expenditures per capita data against Hennepin County cities.

Councilmember Dyvik noted that the City's current expenditures per capita were higher than those of other cities within the County and other Class 4 cities, and asked if that was driven by population.

See confirmed that he felt that was part of what was driving the expenditures per capita percentage, but mentioned that the City's public safety costs were also relatively high. He pointed out that the data reflected the City's costs before any revenues came in.

Councilmember Dyvik noted that in the presentation, he mentioned that public safety costs had decreased and questioned why that wasn't reflected in this information.

See clarified that the public safety information was only looking at the General Fund expenditures for public safety costs and not the total current costs.

Councilmember Feldmann questioned whether smaller Hennepin County cities like Long Lake that were more rural relied on contracted services for their public safety needs.

See agreed that it was common in the more rural areas where cities utilized contracted services.

Nowezki answered that in addition to the City's share of the Fire Department, they were also paying about \$300,000 for legal fees. She expected that number to change quite a bit moving into 2026.

Councilmember Kvale inquired whether the City had received payment for attorney fees when the case was settled.

Nowezki responded that everything had been settled and paid.

Councilmember Dyvik asked why Public Works was decreasing.

Nowezki replied that in 2026, the Council will see more costs for some vehicle maintenance that needed catching up on. The department has experienced staffing issues over the last few years, which was reflected in the decrease in the cost of payroll.

Mayor Miner referenced the debt per capita information and noted that Long Lake is lower and declining in comparison to other Class 4 cities in the County. The City only has two outstanding bonds, and one will expire in 2027. He believed that the City had been overly conservative with their choice to not bond over the last few years, but that may be changing in the future as the City takes on some road projects.

Nowezki noted that she had spoken to various entities, including the City of Maple Plain and Ehlers, about bonding options for long-term project planning.

Councilmember Dyvik commented that he thinks the Council agrees that the City's streets need attention, have been neglected for too long, and that the Council needs to take a look at ways to finance those projects.

Nowezki reminded the Council that she had started budgeting for transfers out of the General Fund to ensure the City was putting money aside for capital projects.

The Council asked questions about debt per capita, comparison with similar-sized cities in rural Minnesota versus Hennepin County, and the increased cost of items and operations due to the City's location in Hennepin County.

Council member Dyvik pointed out that it appeared the tax rate history reflected an incorrect tax rate percentage for 2025 versus what was approved by the City. Staff was able to confirm that Councilmember Dyvik's observation was correct.

See responded that he would review where his team had pulled their information from and added that it could have been a typographical error.

Councilmember Dyvik mentioned that he was pleased the City's Enterprise Funds were looking better. He noted that even though on paper the expenditures per capita looked pretty high, he felt the City was pretty careful with its spending. He mentioned that he would be curious to see a comparison with other cities that were similar in size to Long Lake for public safety costs.

*A motion was made by Feldmann, seconded by Miner, to receive and accept the Executive Governance Summary and Annual Financial Report for the year ended December 31, 2025, issued by the City's external auditors, Abdo, LLP. Ayes: all.*

**B. Approve Agreement with WSB for Professional Services for the 2026 Sanitary Sewer Lining Project**

Nowezki indicated that following previous discussions with the Council and with WSB, a decision had been made to pursue moving forward with a sewer lining project in Districts 3 and 5, with TIF funds able to be used for a portion of the project. She outlined some of the rationale behind the choice to begin the sewer lining project within Districts 3 and 5, and the inclusion of a section of offset pipe in District 1 that was in need of a spot repair.

Council and staff commented on the City's current engineering services and recent discussions regarding the level of service the City had been receiving from WSB versus what the City expected to receive.

Nowezki reviewed her recent conversations with WSB and explained that from this point forward, Rachel Scheu would be the City's primary engineer, and she would be supported by senior level engineer Heidi Hamilton at WSB when necessary. The fee for working with Scheu will be about half of what the City has been paying most recently.

Councilmember Dyvik noted that within the work plan information from WSB, it looked like someone named Erik Moberg would be doing a significant portion of work assigned, and he asked if staff had any experience or information about him.

Nowezki replied that she had not worked directly with Mr. Moberg.

Councilmember Dyvik commented on the importance of having good people working for the City at all levels within WSB, and he would like to ensure Mr. Moberg was also the right fit.

Nowezki stated that she did not recognize any of the names included in the work plan; however, she and City Engineer Scheu would be having monthly check-in meetings, and she would get more information on Mr. Moberg at their next meeting.

Moeller noted that she hoped that, based on the City's recent conversations with WSB, they have a full understanding that 2026 is a test of faith regarding their engineering services to the City.

*A motion was made by Feldmann, seconded by Dyvik, to approve a Professional Services Agreement with WSB for the preparation of plans and specifications for the 2026 Sanitary Sewer Lining Project. Ayes: all.*

## OTHER BUSINESS

**Meeting Attendance Updates** - Councilmember Newcomer advised Council and staff that he would not be at the next City Council meeting due to a work conference. Councilmember Dyvik stated that he and Councilmember Feldmann would be attending an upcoming Shoreline Fire Board meeting, but he didn't think anticipate any major issues would arise because the transition appeared to be going well.

**Water Quality Improvement Discussions** – Councilmember Dyvik reported that the Long Lake Waters Association is continuing discussions with Lake Shore Restoration about possible alum treatments for Long Lake. Jane Davidson with the Long Lake Waters Association had asked him to attend a meeting with her before the meeting with Lake Shore Restoration, and Councilmember Dyvik and City Clerk Moeller had both invited Ms. Davidson to speak to the Council and present information about possible alum treatments. He commented that he felt alum treatments were worth considering because the lake was very important to the City as its greatest natural resource, and he is hopeful that they could find funding solutions that didn't fall on just one or two cities, such as grants or fundraisers.

**Braver Angels Community Event** - Mayor Miner encouraged residents to attend an upcoming Braver Angels community event at the Orono Activity Center on April 23 at 6:30 pm.

**Rising Deer Population** – Mayor Miner shared that he had received a phone call from a resident who lived on Watertown Road that had complained about the increasing deer population and the nuisance they create.

**Wayzata Boulevard W Street Lights** - Councilmember Newcomer indicated that he had three residents reach out to him about light outages along Wayzata Boulevard W by the cemetery and Birch's because there is a dark stretch in that area. Councilmember Dyvik added that there is another light across from Martha Lane that flickers off and on and doesn't stay on. Nowezki confirmed that she was taking notes on the lighting issues and would look into them. She also reviewed the process for insurance claims relative to the two poles that had recently been struck.

**Planning Commission Update** - Councilmember Kvale reported that she had attended the March 31 Planning Commission meeting and had met the Commission's new member, Travis Michels. Moeller shared some information about Michels and stated that she thought he would be an excellent addition to the Planning Commission.

**Park Board Update** – Moeller stated that the Park Board had also met recently and they were working on a plan for a "bonfires at the beach" type of event to be held on May 30.

**Upcoming Events and Spring Cleanup Information** - Nowezki encouraged residents to keep their eyes on the City's Facebook page because there were a lot of events coming up over the next few weeks, including the Spring Cleanup Day on April 18 and the Shoreline Fire Department Pancake Breakfast on April 19. Adding to that, Moeller informed Council that the spring curbside leaf pickup dates will be Tuesday, April 28 and Tuesday, May 5.

**Organics Cart Change** – Moeller noted that Waste Management had begun swapping out the oversized 64-gallon organics carts with the more traditional sized 32-gallon carts earlier in the day. A majority of swaps were completed, and the remainder will be exchanged at a later date.

## ADJOURN

*Hearing no objection, Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting by general consent at 8:02 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Moeller

*City Clerk*