



**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
July 1, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm.

Present: Mayor: Charlie Miner; Council: Jahn Dyvik, Mike Feldmann (arrived at 5:22 pm, with prior notice), Deirdre Kvale, and Todd Newcomer (via interactive technology)

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

Absent: None

APPROVE AGENDA

A motion was made by Dyvik, seconded by Miner, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: all by roll call.

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

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

BUSINESS ITEMS

A. First Discussion of Preliminary Budget Considerations

City Administrator Weske briefly reviewed the preliminary budget information included in the packet.

The Council discussed budget considerations related to the annual Police services contract expense; fire services; beginning to save for fire capital; where it may be sensible to allocate future court ordered reimbursement of legal costs from Orono; comparisons of budget versus actual for the first six months of 2025; fire services contract details including differences between contract cities and agreement member cities; contributions of contract cities; revenues versus expenditures in the General Fund; Weske's preliminary proposed tax levy amount; the importance of planning for the General Fund reserve fund balance needing to increase in correlation to a rise in the City's budget; plans for park and trail related expenditures; the possibility of putting together a 'bare minimum' version of the budget or optional scenarios so the Council can engage in prioritizing budget factors; assumptions Weske had used in putting together the preliminary budget information; consideration of a software system to implement e-permitting; the importance of holding the tax rate flat; possible ways the City could contract for Emerald Ash Borer tree removals and provide a way for residents to also contract with the same contractor for better pricing; the possibility of holding off on City Hall renovations; staff researching options for utilizing charitable gambling contributions as a funding source; a sewer lining project to address I&I issues; resident expectations of the City for services like electronic permit filing and not having dead trees in City parks; upcoming street project needs and estimated costs; County Aid and Municipalities (CAM) program details and eligibility; issues with the roof at City Hall; Wurzer Trail and what portions were in Long Lake or Orono; hesitancy to continue kicking street projects down the

road; and the desire for an updated road condition map from WSB in order to take a closer look at possible street projects that could be planned for the more immediate future.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

ADJOURN

Hearing no objection, Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting by general consent at 6:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Weske
City Administrator