

# **COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**Tuesday, July 7, 2026**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

This meeting is officially called to order at 5:30 pm on July 7, 2026. this meeting is being presided over by Mayor Mike Lorenson.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **ROLL CALL**

The following Councilmembers were present: Aarestad, Pream, McCraw, Arlt, Lorenson, Narverud and Langness. Absent: Bolduc. Mayor Lorenson chaired the meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. : ☐ Mike Lorenson, Mayor                      ☐ Megan Arlt, Ward 1  
☐ Julie Bolduc, Ward 2                      ☐ Kelly Langness, Ward 3  
☐ Michele McCraw, Ward 4                      ☐ Scott Pream, Ward 5  
☐ Jason Aarestad, At-Large 1                      ☐ Steve Narverud, At-Large 2

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

## **PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/PUBLIC INFORMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

RESOLUTION NO. : Hoffman, Philipp, & Martell PLLC - 2025 Audit Review Presentation

Crystelle Philipp and Marit Martell presented the 2025 audit to the council. Crystelle noted the City's report came back very good with minor process changes to address for the next year for efficiency.

## **APPROVE AGENDA**

Councilmember Jason Aarestad motioned being seconded by Councilmember Scott Pream to approve the agenda with the addition of addendum items 8.5, 8.6, and 8.7.

Council member Michele McCraw motioned being seconded by Councilmember Steve Narveurd to approve the addition of addendum item 8.8.

On vote being taken the resolution was unanimously passed.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

RESOLUTION NO. : Approval of June 16, 2026 City Council Proceedings

Presented as part of the Consent Agenda, Councilmember Scott Pream introduced RESOLUTION 07.130.26, being seconded by Councilmember Kelly Langness , that:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, to approve the June 16, 2026 Council proceedings.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. : City of Thief River Falls Bills, Disbursements and Council Per Diems

Presented as part of the Consent Agenda, Councilmember Scott Pream introduced RESOLUTION 07.131.26, being seconded by Councilmember Kelly Langness , that:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council to authorize payment of bills and disbursements in the total amount of \$2,468,840.64 and council per deims in the amount of \$3060.00. A printout of the approved payments and disbursements are attached hereto and made a part hereof.

On vote being taken, the resolution passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

RESOLUTION NO. : ESG Contract Discussion and Approval - Gavin (tabled June 16, 2026)

Following discussion, Councilmember Steve Narverud introduced Resolution 07.132.26 being seconded by Councilmember Michele McCraw that:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the contract for the City Hall roof repair with ESG.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. : Approval for Temporary Intoxicating Liquor License - Baja Races

Following discussion, Councilmember Michele McCraw introduced Resolution 07.133.26, being seconded by Councilmember Scott Pream, that:

WHEREAS, Pennington County Fair Association applies for a license each year for this event.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED approve the Temporary Intoxicating Liquor License application to the Pennington County Fair Association for the Baja Races August 1 -2, 2026 at the Pennington County Fair Grounds.

On vote being taken, the resolution was passed. Langness abstained.

RESOLUTION NO. : Vacate Utility and Drainage Easement in Lantern Addition

Following discussion, Councilmember Steve Narverud introduced Resolution 07., being seconded by Councilmember Kelly Langness , that:

WHEREAS, During the sale of the property, it was discovered that the City Council on May 21, 2019, vacated the utility easement portion of this utility and drainage easement, but inadvertently, by omission, not the coinciding drainage easement. The electrical and drainage easement is no longer required and vacating it is required for a future retail

development.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

COMMENCING AT THE WEST MOST POINT OF SAID LOT 1 AT AN IRON MONUMENT, THENCE NORTH 66 DEGREES 48 MINUTES 52 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 146.26 FEET, THIS IS THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 19 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 30 SECONDS EAST ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID 20-FOOT-WIDE DRAINAGE AND UTILITY EASEMENT, A DISTANCE OF 236.40 FEET TO THE NORTH LINE OF AN EXISTING 10-FOOT DRAINAGE AND UTILITY EASEMENT; THENCE NORTH 32 DEGREES 09 MINUTES 11 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 25.52 FEET TO THE NORTH LINE OF AN EXISTING 31.60-FOOT DRAINAGE AND UTILITY EASEMENT; THENCE NORTH 19 DEGREES 27 MINUTES 30 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 213.48 FEET ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID 20-FOOT-WIDE DRAINAGE AND UTILITY EASEMENT; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 57 MINUTES 37 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 21.22 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

SAID VACATION AREA CONTAINS 0.10 ACRES MORE OR LESS.

WHEREAS, • Based on prior application to the City of Thief River Falls for the vacation of a 20-foot drainage and utility easement. The City Council of the City of Thief River Falls, Minnesota, considered vacation and on May 21, 2019, the City Council did pass Resolution No. 5.117.19 vacating a certain utility easement located in part of Lot 1, Block 2, Lantern Addition to the City of Thief River Falls, MN.

- Inadvertently, by omission, the City Resolution No. 5.117.19 did not vacate the drainage easement located in part of Lot 1, Block 2, Lantern Addition to the City of Thief River Falls, MN, as previously requested.
- It is believed to be in the best interests of the public to vacate the drainage and utility easement.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED adopt a resolution granting vacation of the utility and drainage easement located in part of Lot 1, Block 2. Lantern Addition to the City of Thief River Falls as created or dedicated by the Plat of Lantern Addition recorded December 20 ,2016, as Document No. 209345.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. : 2026 Federal Funded Street Improvements Project

Following discussion, Councilmember Scott Pream introduced Resolution 07.135.26, being seconded by Councilmember Steve Narverud, that:

WHEREAS, The proposed work was bid as a result of meetings with department heads, Council Committees, developers, and according to items in the City's Capital Improvement Plan.

WHEREAS, Four bids for this project were received on July 22, 2026. The low bid was

received from Davidson Construction in the amount of \$2,099,017.50 The Engineer's Estimate was \$2,257,360.50. The low bid was 7% lower than the engineer's estimate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Approve the low bid of \$2,099,017.50 from Davidson Construction, and award the 2026-Federal Funded- Street Improvements Project # S.P. 170-090-003 & S.P. 170-109-012 upon clearance of bid requirements.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. : Second Reading - Food Truck Ordinance

Following discussion, Councilmember Steve Narverud introduced Resolution 07.136.26, being seconded by Councilmember Michele McCraw, that:

WHEREAS, This ordinance is for the purpose of authorizing the city to permit mobile business/food carts and mobile business/food vehicles for four (4) designated spots within park parking lots. This does not regulate locations on private property. However, does prohibit some locations within the city.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED To conduct a second reading summary to adopt a Mobile Food Cart or Mobile Food Vehicle Ordinance for the City of Thief River Falls.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed. Delray Sparby read the second reading.

RESOLUTION NO. : Approve Food Truck Ordinance

Following discussion, Councilmember Michele McCraw introduced Resolution 07.137.26, being seconded by Councilmember Steve Narverud, that:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED to approve the adoption of the Food Truck ordinance for the city of Thief River Falls.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. : Second Reading - Deer Management Ordinance

Following discussion, Councilmember Steve Narverud introduced Resolution 07.138.26, being seconded by Councilmember Scott Pream, that:

WHEREAS, The purpose of this section is to discourage high white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) densities in the City. The deer population in the City has likely exceeded natural or pre-settlement deer densities as natural predators have been displaced from the City and there are few natural restrictions on the deer population. High deer densities pose a hazard to motorists, cause a reduction in natural plant life and habitat for other animals and cause damage to landscaping installed by residents and commercial landowners. The feeding of deer in the City has been shown to attract deer

in residential areas causing increased damage to vegetation and landscaping to neighboring properties. High deer densities also contribute to the spread of chronic diseases among deer populations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED To conduct a Second Reading summary to adopt a Deer Management ordinance for the City of Thief River Falls.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed. Delray Sparby read the second reading.

**RESOLUTION NO. : Approve Deer Management Ordinance**

Following discussion, Councilmember Megan Arlt introduced Resolution 07.139.26, being seconded by Councilmember Michele McCraw, that:

WHEREAS, This ordinance is for the purpose of authorizing the city to permit mobile business/food carts and mobile business/food vehicles for four (4) designated spots within park parking lots. This does not regulate locations on private property. However, does prohibit some locations within the city.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED To approve a Mobile Food Cart or Mobile Food Vehicle Ordinance for the City of Thief River Falls.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

**COUNCIL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REPORTS**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**RESOLUTION NO. :**

- 7/8 Planning & Zoning Commission at 5 pm in Council Chambers
- 7/13 Public Utility Committee at 7 am in Room 101
- 7/13 Public Safety Committee at 4:30 pm in Room 101
- 7/14 Administrative Committee at 4:30 pm in Room 101
- 7/15 Public Works Committee at 4:30 pm in Room 101
- 7/21 City Council Meeting at 5:30 pm in Council Chambers

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**RESOLUTION NO. :**

- Mayoral Update

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, Councilmember Scott Pream motioned being seconded by Councilmember Kelly Langness to adjourn at 6:31 pm. On vote being taken, the chair declared the motion unanimously carried.

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Mayor Mike Lorenson

Attest: Angela Philipp, City Administrator

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