

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, August 4, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

This meeting is officially called to order at 4:30 pm on August 4, 2026 at the Huck Olson Arena (prior to Night to Unite activities). 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, Bolduc and Langness. Mayor Lorenson chaired the meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/PUBLIC INFORMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

APPROVE AGENDA

Councilmember Narverud motioned being seconded Councilmember Pream to approve the agenda.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. 08.154.26: Approval of July 21, 2026 Council Proceedings

Presented as part of the Consent Agenda, Council member Michele McCraw introduced 08.154.26, being seconded by Council member Megan Arlt, that:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council to approve the July 21, 2026 Council Proceedings.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 08.155.26: Approve City of Thief River Falls Bills, Disbursements and Council Per Diems

Presented as part of the Consent Agenda, Councilmember Michele McCraw introduced RESOLUTION 08.155.26, being seconded by Councilmember Megan Arlt, that:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, to authorize payment of bills and disbursements in the total amount of \$1,163,901.41 and a total of council per diem in the amount of \$877.50. A printout of the approved payments and disbursements are attached hereto and made a part hereof.

On vote being taken, the resolution passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 08.156.26: Beer in the Park Permit - Teri Vetsch

Presented as part of the Consent Agenda, Councilmember Michele McCraw introduced RESOLUTION 08.156.26, being seconded by Councilmember Megan Arlt, that:

WHEREAS, Teri Vetsch submitted a Beer in the Park Permit for Oakland Park for a birthday gathering on August 18, 2026 from 4-8 pm.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED to approve the Beer in the Park permit submitted by Teri Vetsch for August 18th at Oakland Park.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 08.157.26: Approve Election Judges for the 2026 Primary Election

Following discussion, Councilmember Julie Bolduc introduced Resolution 08.157.26, being seconded by Councilmember Steve Narverud, that:

WHEREAS, The City Administrator shall appoint substitutions of the approved election judges as necessary

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council, to appoint the following people as election judges for the Primary elections August 11, 2026.

Head Judges

Katie Fogarty
Elna Lendobeja
Rebecca Staveness
Linda Ramsey
Mary Mugaas

Judges

Jan Strandlie
Esther Johnson
Barb Holthusen
Randi Hodney
Teresa Vanyo
Danie Packard
Kathy Langness
Jean Marquis
Deb Ernst
Annette Lian

Glen Kajewski
Deb Fulton
Marty Dopper
Michael Teubner
Tracy Nelson
Katie German
Michelle Voelker
Cathy Miramontes
Kim Hamre

Ken Olson
Cindy Vennes
Mary Dahlen
Millie Reiersen
Jaquelyn Nelson
Jeremy Purcell
Sam Jagt
Julie Peterson
Tiffany Srnsky

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

COUNCIL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REPORTS

Steve noted campers are parked on the roads for extended periods of time. He noted people cannot "live" in the campers and requested Public Safety Committee to address this and for the police to enforce the ordinance.

Mike noted a concern regarding people parking long-term (full-day during business hours) in front of businesses downtown now that it isn't monitored.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- 8/5 Planning & Zoning Commission – Council Chambers at 5 pm
- 8/10 Public Utilities Committee – Room 101 at 7 am
- 8/10 Public Safety Committee – Room 101 at 4:30 pm
- 8/11 Administrative Committee – Room 101 at 4:30 pm ***Must end by 6 pm**
- 8/12 Public Works Committee – Room 101 at 4:30 pm
- 8/18 City Council – Council Chambers at 5:30 pm
- 8/18 Committee of the Whole – Council Chambers following City Council

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- Primary Election August 11 - Voting in The Ralph Engelstad Arena Lobby from 7 am - 8 pm
- Movie-in-the-Park Thursday, August 6 at Hartz Park. Show time at Dusk
- Saint Bernard's Block Party August 19
- Mayoral Update

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Councilmember Scott Pream motioned being seconded by Councilmember Kelly Langness to adjourn at 4:45 pm. On vote being taken, the Chair declared the motion unanimously carried.

Mayor Mike Lorenson

Attest: Angela Philipp, City Administrator
