

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 22, 2025**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m., in City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Rick Von Holdt with the following Council Members present: Amy Woitalewicz, Mike Kuhle, Chris Kielblock, Amy Ernst, Dennis Weber.

Staff present: Steve Robsinson, City Administrator; Hyunmyeong Goo, City Engineer; Matt Selof, Community Development Director; Todd Wietzema, Public Works Director; Nate Grimmus, Deputy Chief; Cristina Adame, Community Relations & Communications; Mindy Eggers, City Clerk.

Others Present: Randy Davis, Cable 3 TV; Jim & Mary Thomson.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA APPROVED WITH ADDITIONS/CHANGES

A motion was made by Council Member Kielblock seconded by Council Member Weber and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the noted change.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Kielblock, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda with the corrected minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of December 8, 2025, and the Park & Recreation Advisory Board meeting minutes of December 3, 2025.

- Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of December 8, 2025
- Park & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes of December 3, 2025
- Water & Light Commission Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2025
- Worthington Public Arts Commission Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2025
- Municipal Liquor Store Income Statement for the Period of January 1, 2025 through November 30, 2025
- Olson Park Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - Budget and Actual for the Period of January 1, 2025 through November 30, 2025
- Field House Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - Budget and Actual for the Period of January 1, 2025 through November 30, 2025
- 2026 License Renewals
- Application from Exemption from Lawful Gambling-Worthington Area YMCA
- Application from Exemption from Lawful Gambling-Whitetails Unlimited MN Southwest Deer Camp
- Bills Payable Totaling \$4,673,523.02

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-12-94 ADOPTED ACCEPTING A DONATION OF FUNDS –

WORTHINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

Steve Robinson, City Administrator, said the Worthington Garden Club of Worthington has generously donated \$100 to the Worthington Fire Department. The donation will be applied toward the purchase of safety equipment.

The motion was made by Council Member Woitalewicz, seconded by Council Member Weber and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-12-94

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF FUNDS

(Refer to Resolution File for complete copy of Resolution)

**JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2025-12-95 AND RESOLUTION NO. 2026-01
ADOPTED CITY OF WORTHINGTON WATER & LIGHT COMMISSION AND CITY
COUNCIL JOINT RESOLUTION – TRANSFER OF EXCESS UTILITY FUNDS**

Mr. Robinson reported at the November 24, 2025 meeting, City Council requested a transfer of up to \$3.0 million from utility funds to the City's General Fund to assist in funding construction improvements to the ice arena. At its December 1, 2025 meeting, the Water & Light Commission authorized the availability of up to \$3.0 million in utility funds for transfer to the City's General Fund as requested by the City.

These actions are in accordance with Section 6.05 of the City of Worthington Charter, which authorizes the transfer of funds in excess of utility requirements to the City's General Fund upon joint resolution of the Commission and City Council.

The motion was made by Council Member Ernst, seconded by Council Member Weber and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-12-95

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF FUNDS

(Refer to Resolution File for complete copy of Resolution)

**RESOLUTION NO. 2025-12-96 ADOPTED RELATING TO THE NOBLES COUNTY
OPIOID SETTLEMENT GRANT AGREEMENT**

Nate Grimmus, Deputy Chief, said the City of Worthington Police Department has been awarded \$2,744.00 in grant funding from the Nobles County Opioid Settlement Grant. The grant funds will be combined with existing reserve funds to purchase Fatal Vision goggle kits and related equipment.

Fatal Vision goggles are an educational tool used to provide instruction on impaired driving, underage drinking, and substance abuse. The equipment will be utilized by both the Worthington Police Department and the Nobles County Sheriff's Office in D.A.R.E. programming and driver education courses.

The Worthington Police Department requested Council approval of the resolution authorizing Tyler Olson, School Resource Officer, to execute the grant agreement and any related amendments.

The motion was made by Council Member Woitalewicz, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-12-96

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF FUNDS

(Refer to Resolution File for complete copy of Resolution)

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-12-97 ADOPTED RELATING TO THE NOBLES COUNTY OPIOID SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Mr. Grimmus reported the City of Worthington Police Department has been awarded \$30,000 in grant funding from the Nobles County Opioid Settlement Grant. The grant funds will be combined with existing reserve funds to purchase fifteen tactical ballistic helmets, fifteen tactical communication headsets, one rifle-rated ballistic shield, and related equipment.

The equipment will be used primarily by the Worthington Emergency Response Unit (ERU) and is intended to enhance officer safety during responses to violent and high-risk incidents.

The Worthington Police Department is requesting Council approval of the resolution authorizing Nate Grimmus, Deputy Chief, to execute the grant agreement and any related amendments.

The motion was made by Council Member Kielblock, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-12-97

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF FUNDS

(Refer to Resolution File for complete copy of Resolution)

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-12-98 ADOPTED APPROVING STATE AIRPORT FUND GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT

Todd Wietzema, Public Works Director, reported at its November 10, 2025, meeting, City Council approved a task order with Bolton & Menk for construction management services for the South Taxi Lanes project at the Worthington Municipal Airport. The City of Worthington has since been notified that it has been awarded a Minnesota Department of Transportation grant to fund a portion of this task order.

The project funding breakdown is as follows:

- State DOT: \$10,780.00
- Local share: \$4,620.00

Total project cost: \$15,400.00

Council action is requested to adopt the resolution accepting the grant and authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute all necessary agreements.

The motion was made by Council Member Kuhle, seconded by Council Member Weber and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-12-98

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF FUNDS

(Refer to Resolution File for complete copy of Resolution)

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-12-99 ADOPTED RECEIVING REPORT AND CALLING FOR HEARING ON PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT

Hyunmyeong Goo, City Engineer, reported that on December 8, 2025, the City Council adopted a resolution ordering the preparation of a feasibility report for the Third Avenue Street Reconstruction Project. Council is now requested to receive the feasibility report and order the improvement hearing required under Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 429, in order to proceed with the assessment process.

The feasibility report for the proposed Third Avenue Street Reconstruction Project, extending from Eleventh Street to Thirteenth Street was included. The proposed improvements include road base reconstruction, regrading, curb and gutter, sidewalks, concrete driveways, permanent pavement,

water main, sanitary main, storm sewer main, and sanitary services. No assessments will be levied until the full scope of the project has been completed.

The feasibility report provides comprehensive information regarding the proposed improvements, including estimated project costs, funding sources, assessment rates, and the City's share of the costs, along with related improvements. Staff recommends that the Council accept the feasibility report and adopt the resolution, receiving the report and calling for the required public hearings on the proposed improvements. He noted the public hearings are scheduled to be held at the January 12, 2026, City Council meeting.

The motion was made by Council Member Ernst, seconded by Council Member Weber and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-12-99

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF FUNDS

(Refer to Resolution File for complete copy of Resolution)

APPROVED AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR TOWER STREET STORM LIFT STATION REHABILITATION

Mr. Goo reported the bid opening for the 2025 Tower Street Storm Lift Station Rehabilitation Project was held on Wednesday, December 17, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.

One bid was received, it was submitted by Construction Manager, LLC, in the amount of \$461,898.00. The bid amount is approximately seven percent below the engineer's estimate.

Staff recommends Council award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder.

The motion was made by Council Member Weber, seconded by Council Member Kuhle and unanimously carried to award the contract to Construction Manager, LLC.

APPROVED GRANT - JIMMY JOHN'S

Matt Selof, Community Development Director, reported that Jimmy John's, owned by Thomson JJ Developments LLC, vacated its former location at 1300 Humiston Avenue at the end of October 2025 due to lease non-renewal. After considering several relocation options, the business has entered into an agreement with Cenex to occupy a portion of the convenience store at 1710 Humiston Avenue.

The proposed interior renovation for the Jimmy John's buildout including food preparation areas, order counter, seating, drive-through, and storage is estimated at \$275,000, excluding equipment,

cabinetry, and

flooring. Due to the substantial renovation costs, staff explored potential financial assistance options to support retention of the business and associated jobs.

Staff identified a \$50,000 grant opportunity using funds from the approved spending plan funded by TIF District No. 7. The spending plan allows funding for projects that expand the City's tax base and support job creation or retention. The grant would be provided as a reimbursement upon project completion and subject to a grant agreement.

The motion was made by Council Member Woitalewicz, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to approve the \$50,000 grant from the spending plan to assist with the renovation of space at 1710 Humiston Avenue for Jimmy John's.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Rick Von Holdt - No report.
Council Member Ernst – No report.
Council Member Weber - No report.
Council Member Kuhle – No report.
Council Member Kielblock – No report.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion was made by Council Member Kielblock, seconded by Council Member Weber and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Mindy Eggers, MCMC
City Clerk