

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 22, 2026**

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, Chris Kielblock, Dennis Weber, Amy Ernst, Mike Kuhle.

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

Others Present: Chloe Farnsworth, *The Globe*; Ryan McGaughey, Radio Works.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

INTRODUCTIONS AND OPENING REMARKS

The Mayor welcomed Adam Blume as Honorary Council Member for the months of June, July August.

AGENDA APPROVED WITH ADDITIONS/CHANGES

A motion was made by Council Member Weber, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as presented.

PUBLIC HEARING AND RESOLUTION NO. 2026-06-34 ADOPTED APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY PURSUANT TO MINN. STAT. 469.1813 – PARCEL# 31-1860-025

Pursuant to published notice, this was the time and date set for a public hearing approving tax abatement for Parcel# 31-1860-025.

The motion was made by Council Member Kielblock, seconded by Council Member Kuhle and unanimously carried to open the hearing.

Matt Selof, Community Development Director, reported a City of Worthington Residential Property Tax Abatement Program application was submitted by Craig and Karen Pfiefer. The applicants are seeking approval of tax abatement for the construction of a single-family home on Aspen Drive (Glenwood Heights).

Staff reviewed the application and it meets all the parameters of the program guidelines and recommended approval of the application.

Mayor Von Holdt asked if there was any testimony. None was received.

The motion was made by Council Member Ernst, seconded by Council Member Weber and unanimously carried to close the hearing.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-06-34

A RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX ABATEMENT FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY PURSUANT TO MINN. STAT. 469.1813

(Refer to Resolution File for complete copy of Resolution)

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Weber, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda as presented.

- Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of June 8, 2026
- Park & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes of June 3, 2026
- Municipal Liquor Store Income Statement for the Period of January 1, 2026 through May 31, 2026
- Olson Park Statement of Revenue and Expenditures – Budget and Actual for the Period of January 1, 2026 through May 31, 2026
- Field House Statement of Revenue and Expenditures – Budget and Actual for the Period of January 1, 2026 through May 31, 2026
- Application for Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – Nobles County Fair Association
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- Application to Block Streets – King Turkey Day, Inc.
- 2026-2027 Club On-Sale Liquor License Renewal
- Bills Payable Totaling \$3,088,566.40

APPROVED RENEWAL OF SCHAAP SANITATION AGREEMENT

Mindy Eggers, City Clerk, presented the proposed renewal of the Residential Refuse Collection, Recycling Collection, and Yard and Tree Disposal Agreement with Waste Connections of Minnesota (Schaap Sanitation). The current five-year agreement expires on June 30, 2026. The proposed renewal would extend the agreement for an additional five-year term, effective July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2031.

The agreement maintains the existing level of service, including weekly refuse collection, biweekly recycling collection, provision of 95-gallon refuse and recycling containers to each residence, senior rates for qualifying residents, and operation of the yard waste disposal site at the Highway 59/60 Recycling Center. The City will continue to pay an annual fee of \$4,100 for use of the yard waste disposal site for debris generated from public property and \$1.50 per ton for disposal of street sweepings at the sanitary landfill.

Effective July 1, 2026, residential rates will increase by 4.2%, based on the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), with future annual adjustments determined by the same index. The monthly rates will be \$24.43 for residential refuse service (\$22.43 senior rate), \$4.89 for recycling service, and \$1.57 for yard waste service.

The motion was made by Council Member Kielblock, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to approve the five-year Residential Refuse Collection, Recycling Collection, and Yard and Tree Disposal Agreement with Waste Connections of Minnesota (Schaap Sanitation) for the term of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2031.

PUBLIC ARTS COMMISSION OUT OF STATE TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION APPROVED

Steve Robinson, City Administrator, said out of state travel for City employees or appointed committee members must be approved by the City Council. Gail Holinka, Chair of the Public Arts Commission, would like to attend the Wall Dogs Mural Event in Menomonie, WI on June 26-27 and has requested mileage reimbursement. The Wall Dogs are planning to paint fifteen murals with the Chair's intent to gain experience and connections that may be used in future local mural projects.

The Public Arts Commission forwarded the recommendation to Council to approve a travel allowance of \$360.00 paid from the current Public Arts Committee budget.

The motion was made by Council Member Weber, seconded by Council Member Woitalewicz and unanimously carried to authorize out of state travel and mileage reimbursement of up to \$360.00.

APPROVED UPDATED POLICE CHIEF/DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY POSITION DESCRIPTION

Mr. Robinson said the position description guidelines for the Police Chief/Director of Public Safety were last updated in 1999. Staff continues to review and update position descriptions as warranted.

The proposed updates do not change the salary grade for the position.

The motion was made by Council Member Weber, seconded by Council Member Kuhle and unanimously carried to approve the updated position guidelines for the Police Chief/Director of Public Safety.

CONSIDERATION OF UPDATED DISPATCH POSITION GUIDELINES APPROVED

Nate Grimmus, Deputy Chief, said the Police Department Dispatch position guidelines have been reviewed and updated. Assignment details, job requirements and other minor details were added, removed, or adjusted within the position guidelines for clarification and consistency.

The motion was made by Council Member Weber, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to approve the updated Position Guidelines for the Dispatch position.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-06-35 ADOPTED ACCEPTING A DONATION OF FUNDS

Mr. Grimmus said the New City Buffet generously donated \$500 to the Police Department to benefit public safety programs. The contribution will be utilized as part of future public safety equipment purchases.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-06-35

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF FUNDS

(Refer to Resolution File for complete copy of Resolution)

APPROVED STATE OF MINNESOTA GRANT AMENDMENT

Mr. Wietzema presented an amendment to the State DOT Aeronautics grant for the South Taxi lanes project at the Worthington Municipal Airport. He explained the original grant, accepted on December 17, 2025, funded the design and bidding phase. Following the award of the construction contract to Gee Asphalt Systems, Inc., the State amended the grant to include construction funding. The amended grant totals \$134,044.30, consisting of \$93,831.00 in State DOT funding and a \$40,213.30 local match.

The motion was made by Council Member Weber, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to approve the State of Minnesota Grant Amendment.

APPROVED AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO AE2S AGREEMENT FOR DRAINAGE FUNDING ASSISTANCE

Hyunmyeong Goo, City Engineer, said the City of Worthington has an existing agreement with AE2S from August 2023 for professional services related to drainage funding assistance. Amendment No. 2 has been submitted by AE2S to provide additional services associated with preparation of a FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant application for the City's drainage improvement project. He explained the amendment would include development of pre-application materials, completion of the FEMA GO sub-application, updates to project cost estimates and benefit-cost analyses, revisions to previously completed reports, coordination of environmental review requirements, and response to State review comments. The intention of the services is to provide support to secure additional federal funding for future drainage improvements.

Amendment No. 2 increases the agreement by an amount not to exceed \$15,000, bringing the total contract amount from \$30,000 to \$45,000.

The motion was made by Council Member Weber, seconded by Council Member Kielblock and unanimously carried to approve Amendment No. 2 to the Professional Services Agreement with AE2S for drainage funding assistance services.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Rick Von Holdt – Hosted fourteen guests from Crailsheim, Germany. The visitors enjoyed the Regatta and some tours of local businesses.

Council Member Ernst – No report.

Council Member Weber - No report.

Council Member Woitalewicz – Attended a YMCA Board meeting. Received the assessment results and some exciting new things are being put in place to aid in the turn around of the YMCA.

Council Member Kuhle – No report.

Council Member Kielblock – No report.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Robinson said a doodle poll was sent out to Council from the School District to find a date to have a joint meeting to discuss the proposed ice arena.

CLOSED SESSION UNDER MINN. STAT. § 13D.05, SUBD. 3 (C) - PURCHASE OR SALE OF REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY – PORTION OF PARCEL 31-3884-000

Mayor Von Holdt stated that Council would be going into closed session under Minn. Stat. §13D.05, Subd. 3(C) - Purchase or Sale of Real or Personal Property - regarding Parcel #31-3884-000.

The motion was made by Council Member Kuhle, seconded by Council Member Woitalewicz and unanimously carried to close the meeting at 5:55 p.m.

The motion was made by Council Member Kuhle, seconded by Council Member Kielblock and unanimously carried to re-open the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

The motion was made by Council Member Kuhle, seconded by Council Member Weber and unanimously carried to approve the proposed purchase agreement in the amount of \$120,000.00.

CLOSED SESSION UNDER MINN. STAT. § 13D.05, SUBD. 3 (A) PERFORMANCE EVALUATION - CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Mayor Von Holdt stated that Council would be going into closed session under Minn. Stat. 13D.05, Subd. 3 (A) - for the purpose of completing a performance evaluation on City Administrator, Steve Robinson.

The motion was made by Council Member Kuhle, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to close the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

The motion was made by Council Member Kuhle, seconded by Council Member Kielblock and unanimously carried to re-open the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion was made by Council Member Kielblock, seconded by Council Member Weber and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Mindy Eggers, MCMC
City Clerk