City of Eden Valley
City Council Minutes - Regular Meeting
March 4, 2026
7:00 p.m.

With due call and notice thereof, the March 4, 2026 Regular Council Meeting of the City of Eden Valley was held in the Civic Center meeting room.

Council Present: Mayor Bengtson, Councilors: Huschle, Kleven, Fischhaber, Schueller
Also present: Cindy Anderson, City Clerk; Brandon Stenger, Public Works Director; Evan Borscheid, Police; Kent Louwagie, City Engineer; Sue Odenthal, Nancy McNab

The Regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Bengtson at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC FORUM:
Sue Odenthal stated she had a question for the Council regarding the letter stated he signed on behalf of himself and the city and sent it to the state officials. She asked What is the policy or procedure for an elected official to communicate externally or who speaks or does something on behalf of the city? She stated that the letter was available in December, but the Mayor had not brought it to the Council until the February meeting, after he had signed the letter. She made it very clear that she was not addressing the content of the letter but rather the procedure that had occurred. The Mayor stated that he does what he feels is in the best interest of the city and felt this was something that he saw as really impacting our small rural community. Mayor stated he may have overstepped his boundaries a little bit, but he truly did it in the best interest of the city and he would not do it any differently in the future. The Mayor stated that as the public relations head he would not be able to say "on behalf of" or "welcome to the city" to a new business owner. She stated that welcoming a new business or resident is a universal statement. She asked again, is there a procedure in place? Odenthal thanked them for their time and asked that they consider having a policy or procedure for handling these types of situations.

1. Approve Agenda: Mayor Bengtson asked if there were any corrections or additions to the agenda.
A motion to approve the agenda was made by Huschle, seconded by Schueller; and carried unanimously.

2. Consent Agenda
   a) Approval of February 4, 11 and February 25 Special meeting, February 25 Emergency meeting, Council Minutes
   b) Resolution 2026-03 February Donations
   c) Approve LG 220 Application for exempt permit for the Eden Valley Fire Relief Association for valley daze bingo and raffle for June 26-28, 2026

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Bengtson, seconded by Fischhaber, and carried unanimously.

3. Approval of February Bills $130,446.25
A motion to approve the January bills of $130,446.25 was made by Kleven, seconded by Huschle, and carried unanimously.

4. SW Project: Kent Louwagie, City Engineer, Bolton & Menk
   a. Resolution 2026-07 Application to the Clean Water Revolving fund for the SW Improvement Project Collection System

A motion to approve the Resolution 2026-07 Application to the Clean Water Revolving fund for the SW Improvement Project Collection System was made by Huschle, seconded by Fischhaber, and carried unanimously.

   b. Resolution 2026-08 Application to the Drinking Water Revolving fund for the SW Improvement Project Collection System

A motion to approve the Resolution 2026-08 Application to the Drinking Water Revolving fund for the SW Improvement Project Collection System was made by Kleven, seconded by Schueller, and carried unanimously.

Louwagie reported they he has scheduled a meeting with the staff for next week and will be working through the design.

5. Boards & Commission Reports:
   Planning Commission:
   a. Request for lot split 24-029000 and request to combine A with 24-0256000

Resolution 2026-09 Approval of lot split and lot combination for parcels 24-029000 and 24-0256000

A motion to approve the Resolution 2026-09 Approval of lot split and lot combination for parcels 24-029000 and 24-0256000 as recommended by Planning Commission was made by Huschle, seconded by Fischhaber, and carried unanimously.

   b. Request for Homebased Business at 638 State St N for sale of garden and woodworking projects.

A motion to approve the request for a homebased business at 638 State St N to sell garden and woodworking projects as recommended by the Planning Commission with one addition: owner must monitor parking on street to avoid congestion was made by Kleven, seconded by Huschle, and carried unanimously.

6. Department reports:
   a. Clerk/Treasurer: Clerk Anderson
      i. February financials – Anderson reported that as of February 28 the total cash and investments is $4,860,705.35
      ii. Amend August 6, 2025 Mintues – Anderson requested adding 8.A.b. omitted from original minutes:
         - Transfer funds from 4-M to RBC financial: Council discussed interest rates and the best place for city funds. Anderson recommended $150,000.00 Motion made by Schueller to transfer $150,000.00 from 4-M to RBC Financial, seconded by Bengtson. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Bengtson to approve amending the August 6, 2025 minutes as presented, seconded by Kleven, and carried unanimously.

   b. Public Works – Brandon Stenger requested approval on some work that must be completed
      i. Sunny Meadows Update: Stenger reported that the Inselman's are now hooked back up to water and sewer. The hole is filled in, and the owner and Public Works will watch the hole for any settling.
      ii. Flow meter quote from Calibrations and Controls for $2,491.87.
      Stenger reported this must be replaced to keep all things working smoothly. The funds would come from the current expense budget 520-49450-540, which has $20,000 budgeted.

A motion was made by Huschle to approve purchase of flowmeter as presented, seconded by Bengtson, and carried unanimously.

   c. Police: Evan Borscheid, Borscheid reviewed the monthly report

   d. Other: Fischhaber reported that she had attended the Greater MN Parks & Trails at the Capital. She reported that she obtained very useful information which she will bring to the trails committee.

7. Upcoming Meetings:
   a. March 18th – Council Workshop
   b. March 24-27 City Hall Closed – staff at conference
   c. April 1 – Council meeting and Local Board of Appeal – Note time 6 pm.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Attest:

Cindy Anderson, Clerk/Treasurer

Brent Bengtson, Mayor