City of Eden Valley
City Council Minutes - Regular Meeting
March 18, 2026
7:00 p.m.

With due call and notice thereof, the March 18, 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,
Council Absent: Schueller

Also present: Cindy Anderson, City Clerk; Janelle Kendall, Stearns County Attorney; Heather Husted; Shawn Reinke; Taylor BC; Nick Rothstein.

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

PUBLIC FORUM: Heather Husted stated she had a complaint to make about a situation involving her son. She stated that he son has been harassed by an adult male, he has been messaging her minor child. She also stated that she did not feel the Chief managed her concerns well. Anderson stated that if she wanted to make a complaint about an employee she would need to put that in writing and get that to City Hall to be given to appropriate person to handle. Mayor Bengtson then stated that, if possible Janelle Kendall may be able to address this with her. Kendal stated she would meet with them after she had finished her presentation.

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 Fischhaber; and motion carried.

2. Stearns County Attorney Janelle Kendall
   Kendal gave the 2025-year end report. She stated that in the diversion program there were 0 Eden Valley residents involved. She also reported that there were a total of 6 adult and juvenile prosecutions involving Eden Valley persons.
   She explained that the number of drug and gun prosecutions was down significantly since the legalization of marijuana. Law enforcement is no longer able to search a vehicle when they smell or see smoke from marijuana. She did report that work is being done to come up with effective testing methods for marijuana.

3. Letter on behalf of Glory Days to Schoenecker Foundation
   Mayor Bengtson reported that he had been asked if the city would join the School and the Glory Days committee in signing the letter to the Schoenecker Foundation. This is a request for a donation to the school stadium.
   Council agreed that the City would want to support this endeavor.

A motion to approve the Mayor signing the grant request to the Schoenecker Foundation on behalf of the city, was made by Bengtson, seconded by Huschle, and motion carried..

4. Contingency plan for the Clerk Treasurer position
   Bengtson reported that we are not any closer to finding someone to fill this position.
   Anderson stated that she would move her retirement date to June 30, however she may go to a 4-day work week in May and June.
   Anderson also discussed with the Council the possibility of changing the Job to a Clerk/development position. She stated that if the focus for the Council is on growth and development they really need someone who has the time to work on such matters. She also presented the idea of changing the deputy clerk's job to a Finance/Treasurer utility billing clerk.
   Council stated they liked the idea and would like to discuss this further. They would like to see budget numbers, and job descriptions for each position. This will be brought to the April 15 workshop.

5. Central Community Transit (CCT) Joint Powers Board Member – Anderson stated that Eden Valley has had someone on the board for some time and that the Council should look to having someone take over from the Clerk. Anderson stated, with council permission, she would stay on the Board for the remainder of 2026. Council thanked her for agreeing to do this.

6. Upcoming Meetings:
   a. Council Meeting and Local Board of Appeals April 1 6:00 PM
   b. Council Meeting: April 15th – Audit
   c. Waterboard Meeting April 23 3:30 pm
   d. EDA April 27 6:30 pm

7. Other
   a. Council Huschle asked about the façade grant program and what is eligible, Bengtson explained that labor is not included in the grant funds.
   b. Council Huschle asked if non-residents or non-business owners can address the council. Anderson explained that the forum is a public forum, not only for residents.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm

Brent Bengtson, Mayor

Attest:

Cindy Anderson, Clerk/Treasurer