City of Eden Valley
City Council Minutes - Regular Meeting
June 17, 2026
7:00 p.m.

With due call and notice thereof, June 17, 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, Schueller, Fischhaber

Also attending: Cindy Anderson, Clerk Treasurer; Abraham Fonanah, City Clerk; Sara Garland, Finance Clerk; Eddie Kelm; Carol Kelm; Mike Tomsche; Cindy Tomsche;

1. Approve Agenda
   Motion to approve the agenda was made by Fischhaber, seconded by Kleven, and carried unanimously.

2. Consent Agenda
   a. Approve Minutes of June 17, 2026 Council Meeting
   A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Huschle, seconded by Fischhaber, and carried unanimously.

3. Noise Ordinance for Bands at Local Bars
   Resident Comments:
   C. Tomsche – Collected signatures from residents in support of keeping the noise ordinance at 10:00 PM.
   Fofanah - For the materials presented by Cindy to be accepted as an official document we would need the individuals' names listed in print and their addresses.
   E. Kelm - Supported maintaining the ordinance as it has been in place for many years.

   Council Discussion:
   Bengtson - Emphasized that all residents should feel safe to express their opinions and feel comfortable attending City Council meetings. Shared that the city received correspondence from a local business requesting extending hours to 11:00 PM but is willing to comply with the current ordinance. He has concern about consistent enforcement, including how it applies to events like Valley Days, and supported exploring a special event permit option.
   Huschle - Encouraged by the business's willingness to comply with the current ordinance. Supported keeping the 10:00 PM limit and noted community events like Valley Days are important but distinct. He raised concern that a permit system could create a loophole.
   Kleven - Commended public engagement and encouraged businesses to follow due diligence with city ordinances. He supported aligning with surrounding communities.
   Schueller - Noted that strict decibel enforcement could limit live music and suggested the option of a Special Event or Amplified Sound Permit.
   Fischhaber - Appreciated Cindy Tomsche for gathering community input. She emphasized the importance of businesses understanding ordinances before operating and has concerns about changing ordinances broadly versus handling exceptions. She reiterated council's responsibility to all residents.
   Bengtson - Confirmed ordinance will remain unchanged for now and directed Fofanah research policy updates for special event permits.

4. Resolution 2026-15 Appointing Election Judges
   A motion to approve Resolution 2026-15, Appointing Election Judges, was made by Huschle, seconded by Fischhaber, and carried unanimously.

5. Start Fund 380: Southwest Improvement
   A motion to approve the establishment of Fund 380 for the Southwest Improvement project was made by Huschle, seconded by Bengtson, and carried unanimously.

6. Workshop

Mayor Adjourns to Workshop

a. Budget

General, Police, Fire, Rescue

Bengtson - Appreciated that the proposed General Budget starts below last year's level. He noted improvement projects should continue to be considered but highlighted high costs. Questions whether the city should shift funds to ensure it is in a good position should the police squad need more mechanical work. Wants to involve Chief Evan to evaluate staffing needs (full-time vs. part-time) based on operational requirements.

Fischhaber - Supported more planning for the Street and Alley Fund, including considering additional earmarked funds and potential paving near Fredrichs Park. The budget for the department of public works will be discussed at the July 15 meeting. The rationale for maintaining two officers versus one questioned and whether that need still exists. What was the reason and if that reason is still there then we would still need two? If we did not need two then, then we would not need two now. Also, questioned the last time the city looked into the council pay rate. Fofanah will research and bring data to a future meeting.

Huschle – Wants the council to consider wants versus needs. Costs are rising rapidly. He questioned the necessity of certain expenditures in the police budget and shared that challenges in filling positions is being experienced across the entire county.

Mayor Resumes Regular Meeting

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Meeting - Public Hearing June 23, 2026

Council Meeting July 1, 2026

Council Meeting July 15, 2026

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM.

Brent Bengtson, Mayor

Attest:

Abraham Fofanah, City Clerk