City of Medicine Lake

June 1, 2026
City of Medicine Lake
Council Minutes

Present: Mayor Chris Heim, Councilor Bill McNaughton, Ron Tomczik, Ruth Hovey, Nina Zelazny; Clerk Therese Polum, Fire Chief Mike Fox, BCWMC TAC Susan Wiese, BCWMC Commissioner Clint Carlson

Council and Staff Absent: TAC Shaun Kennedy, Fire Chief Rich Halvorson, Treasurer Gary Englert, Planning Commission Jesse Swanson

Other attendees: Kera Messinger, Kirstin Nielsen

Mayor Heim called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes and Agenda

- **Motion to approve the agenda forwarded by Councilmember McNaughton and seconded by Councilmember Hovey. Yea – Heim, Hovey, McNaughton, Zelazny, Tomczik. Motion passed.**
- **Motion to approve the May 4, 2026 city council minutes forwarded by councilmember McNaughton and seconded by Councilmember Tomczik and to approve the May 4, 2026 special city council meeting forwarded by councilmember Hovey and councilmember Zelazny. Yea – Heim, Hovey, McNaughton, Tomczik, Zelazny, Tomczik. Motion passed.**

Hennepin County Sheriff – absent

- No report

Open Forum

- Kirstin Nielsen
  - Reported on Jevne Park donor sign ideas and updates and discussion pursued
  - Council discussed that this is summer is a good time to plan to put a close to the Klar Pavillion and Klar memorial and those donations
- Kera Messinger: 30-year resident on 15th Ave
  - Reported on the lake condition in her area and the deterioration of the lake and algae that is preventing her and the neighboring residents from using their boats and lakefront
  - Reported it is only May 2026 and it is already very bad in her area and it was very bad last summer (2025)
  - Provided some suggestions for remediation: lakeweedharvester.com; sonicpure.com, lakeweedremoval.co, Flocculation Plant in Robbinsdale and other ideas
  - Messinger and neighbors hired a person to skim the algae in her lake area
  - Clint Carlson and Susan Wiese shared their perspective and history in lake water quality and actions and the efforts of the BCWMC
  - Is hopeful for some immediate action from the city
  - Council provided thoughts and concluded there is no clear answer

- Mike Fox shared the DNR has specifications stating lake shore owners are allowed to maintain a 15-foot clear corridor for lake access

Fire Department Report – Mike Fox

- Reported 5 fire calls for the year, boat and lift fully operational
- Reported on ongoing training
- Reported on expense to pay MJ Zappa consulting compensation for past contributions
  - Council continued discussion with many objecting to this expense due to laws and setting precedent
  - Council concluded that a vote is not required for this expense and does not need approval from council however Ast. Fire Chief Fox would like an email of support from the Mayor Heim to proceed

Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission Report – Shawn Kennedy/Clint Carlson/Susan Wiese

- Reported our city has been very generous in the past in dedicating money for lake quality work which hasn't always come to fruition due to other reasons
- Reported the proposed alum treatment is not approved, hopeful that this will be included in the 2027 Hennepin County budget, however alum costs have substantially increased
- Reported always an open invitation for citizens to get involved

Planning Commission Report – Jesse Swanson

- Absent
- Council discussed letter from Brad Scheib dated June 1, 2026
  - 233 Peninsula Road
  - 239.5 Peninsula Road
  - 176 Peninsula Road water hook up
  - Reported comprehensive plan in process
  - Discussed ongoing water connection upon sale

Public Works – Councilor McNaughton and Ruth Hovey

- No report

Treasurer's Report – Gary Englert - absent

- Receipts in reporting period: $8,577
- Receipts year to date: $205,290
- Disbursements in reporting period: $47,101
- Disbursements year to date: $236,613

Treasurer absent for today's meeting. Summary check will be held at July meeting.

Motion to approve the summary spending, receipts and cash balances through May 31, 2026 forwarded by Councilmember McNaughton and seconded by Councilmember Zelazny. Yea -Heim, Hovey, McNaughton, Zelazny, Tomczik. Motion passed.

Officer Reports:

Councilmember Hovey

- Reported on NNO
- Reported on the .gov website domain, goal to transition January 2027

Councilmember Tomczik

- Reported boats are going near his dock and wake boats are now active on the lake
- Council discussed hiring the Sheriff to patrol the lake on a more regular basis

Councilmember Zelazny

- Reported on snow plow specifications
    - This is a draft version and asking for input
    - Council discussed options and thoughts to get bids and past plowing costs
    - Council will vote to approve the snow plowing specifications at July meeting
- Reported on voting and election training and posting in the laker and bulletin board
- Reported on rental licenses
- Reported on creating a position for a Public Works Administration Position
    - Concept is a part time position providing residents with a designation first person contact for residents along with the other items as listed in the document
    - See document for items proposed and discussed
    - Discussion continued

Councilmember McNaughton

- Reported on manhole 24, it is repaired
- Reported on park inspections, Plymouth has agreed to take on our initial park inspection and will complete a monthly inspection for the season
- Reported the luce line is still delayed
- Reported plaques installed at Jevne and Memorial Park
- Reported sprinklers on line
- Reported on thoughts on the current picnic tables and ideas to replace
- Reported on mowing city property, discussed fertilizer and weed killer, historically city does not apply fertilizer and weed killer
- Reported Plymouth completed street sweeping

Mayor Heim

- Reviewed action item list

New Business:

- Items that are listed on the agenda
- Council Tomczik discussed the right-of-way and garages that protrude into the right-of-way

Motion to adjourn at 8:40 pm by councilmember Tomczik seconded by councilmember McNaughton. Yea – Heim, Hovey, McNaughton, Zelazny, Tomczik. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Polum

Therese Polum
City Clerk

Approved on: July 6, 2026