

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 21, 2025
7:00 P.M., CITY HALL

Pursuant to due call and notice, the City Council of the City of Eagle Bend, MN met in regular session on Monday, July 21, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., in the City Hall. Mayor Scott Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Council Members present were Jessica Olson, Jason Nelson, Jaculyn Lorentz, and Jim Kimball; absent: none. Also present was Ashlee Nordlund, Clay Sandmeyer, Nick Stoecker, Andrea Voller, Lori Johnson, Bryan Drown, John and Laura Dempsey, Joey Beach, Leila Oliver, John Rachuy, Stacie Kimball, Debra Meyer-Myrum, and Joey Beach.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Johnson opened the abatement hearing for Bobby and Mandy Berndt, Joseph Davidson, Jonathan Dulas & Rebecca Breun, Jeremiah Kern Sr., Charles & Joyce Larson, James Schuett, and Kerdell Wittmier, Jr. at 7:00 p.m. Present for this hearing was Clay Sandmeyer, Nick Stoecker, Andrea Voller, Lori Johnson, Bryan Drown, Joey Beach, John and Laura Dempsey, Stacie Kimball.

Starting with Bobby and Mandy Berndt, the Council reviewed the pictures that were taken on July 21, 2025, compared to the pictures taken on April 26, 2025. After reviewing all the pictures and discussing what needs to be done, (Action 25-07-94) Council Member Lorentz presented Resolution #25-14-746 "City of Eagle Bend Notice of Order to Abate Public Nuisance at 430 3rd Avenue NW. and moved for its adoption, seconded by Council Member Kimball. Put to a vote, the following members voted in favor of this resolution; Lorentz, Olson, Nelson, and Kimball; against, none. Resolution # 25-14-746 was duly adopted. Bobby and Mandy Berndt will have twenty-one (21) days from July 22, 2025, to comply with the conditions set forth in the resolution.

Next on the abatement list, Joseph Davidson; the Council reviewed the pictures that were taken on July 21, 2025, compared to the pictures taken on April 26, 2025. Council Member Lorentz stated, although the RV in the yard has not been licensed since 2023, Mr. Davidson has made progress cleaning the yard. The Council decided not to move forward with the abatement process on the property at 236 North Street W, as long as the owner continues with the improvements.

Next on the Abatement list, Jonathan Dulas & Rebecca Breun; the Council reviewed the pictures that were taken on July 21, 2025, and compared to the pictures taken on April 26, 2025. More items and debris have been placed throughout the property since the first pictures were taken. (Action 25-07-95) Council Member Lorentz presented Resolution #25-16-747 "City of Eagle Bend Notice of Order to Abate Public Nuisance at 223 3rd Avenue NE. and moved for its adoption, seconded by Council Member Kimball. Put to a vote, the following members voted in favor of this resolution; Kimball, Lorentz, Olson and Nelson; against, none. Resolution # 25-16-747 was duly adopted. Jonathan Dulas & Rebecca Breun will have twenty-one (21) days from July 22, 2025, to comply with the conditions set forth in the resolution.

Next on the Abatement list, Jeremiah Kern, Sr.; the Council reviewed the pictures that were taken on July 21, 2025, compared to the pictures taken on April 26, 2025, and found little to no change at this property. (Action 25-07-96) Council Member Lorentz presented Resolution #25-17-748 "City of Eagle Bend Notice of Order to Abate Public Nuisance at 502 Nelson Street W. and moved for its adoption, seconded by Council Member Kimball. Put to a vote, the following members voted in favor of this resolution; Kimball, Lorentz, Olson and Nelson; against, none. Resolution # 25-17-748 was duly adopted. Jeremiah Kern, Sr. will have twenty-one (21) days from July 22, 2025, to comply with the conditions set forth in the resolution.

Next on the Abatement list, Charles and Joyce Larson; the Council reviewed the pictures that were taken on July 21, 2025, compared to the pictures taken on April 26, 2025. There have been little to no improvements made on this property. (Action 25-07-97) Council Member Lorentz presented Resolution #25-18-749 "City of Eagle Bend Notice of Order to Abate Public Nuisance at 537 3rd Avenue NW. and moved for its adoption, seconded by Council Member Kimball. Put to a vote, the following members voted in favor of this resolution; Kimball, Lorentz, Olson and Nelson; against, none. Resolution # 25-18-749 was duly adopted. Charles and Joyce Larson will have twenty-one (21) days from July 22, 2025, to comply with the conditions set forth in the resolution.

Next on the Abatement list, James Schuett; the Council reviewed the pictures that were taken on July 21, 2025, compared to the pictures taken on April 26, 2025. There has been no progress made on this property. (Action 25-07-98) Council Member Lorentz presented Resolution #25-19-750 "City of Eagle Bend Notice of Order to Abate Public Nuisance at 137 North Street W. and moved for its adoption, seconded by Council Member Kimball. Put to a vote, the following members voted in favor of this resolution; Kimball, Lorentz, Nelson, and Olson; against, none. Resolution # 25-19-750 was duly adopted. James Schuett will have twenty-one (21) days from July 22, 2025, to comply with the conditions set forth in the resolution.

The final property on the abatement list, Kerdell Wittmier, Jr.; the Council reviewed the pictures that were taken on July 21, 2025, compared to the pictures taken on April 26, 2025. There have been no improvements on this property. (Action 25-07-99) Council Member Lorentz presented Resolution #25-20-751 "City of Eagle Bend Notice of Order to Abate Public Nuisance at 223 3rd Avenue NE. and moved for its adoption, seconded by Council Member Nelson. Put to a vote, the following members voted in favor of this resolution; Kimball, Lorentz, Nelson, and Olson; against, none. Resolution # 25-20-751 was duly adopted. Kerdell Wittmier, Jr., will have twenty-one (21) days from July 22, 2025, to comply with the conditions set forth in the resolution. (Action 25-07-100) Council Member Lorentz moved to close the abatement hearing at 7:14 p.m., seconded by Council Member Nelson. Motion adopted unanimously.

Following a brief review and discussion, (Action 25-07-101) Council Member Olson moved to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2025, regular City Council Meeting as written, seconded by Council Member Kimball. Motion adopted unanimously.

Bills submitted for approval were reviewed. Following a question-and-answer period, (Action 25-07-102) Council Member Lorentz moved to approve the bills for payment as presented, seconded by Council Member Nelson. Motion adopted unanimously.

Bryan Drown from Bolton and Menk presented the Council with Pay Application Number 6 in the amount of \$276,790.32 for the work completed on the Phase 5 Street and Utility Project through July 9, 2025. After a brief question and answer period, (Action 25-07-103) Council Member Kimball moved to approve the Pay Application Number 6 in the amount of \$276,790.32 as presented, seconded by Council Member Lorentz. Motion adopted unanimously. Mr. Drown provided the City Administrator with the cost for budgeting purposes, if the city wants to migrate the city GIS information from the current site to ArcGIS Online platform in 2026. The cost for Bolton and Menk to migrate the data as is, will be \$6,500.00 and the annual subscription fee will be \$1,225.00 with the current number of users. The GIS provides the whereabouts of the water, sewer, and gas lines along with additional information.

John and Laura Dempsey were present to inform the council that they wish to split their parcel (33-0022900) of land. This land was separated back in 1995, and the previous owner asked for and received permission from the council to combine the two lots. The previous owners (Tim and Char Greene) asked and received permission from the Council to separate the parcel in 2022; this was never completed as the Greene's sold the property to one family. Mr. and Mrs. Dempsey presented an appeal for a variance to "Section 910.02 Subd. 5".

The reason for the variance is that once the lot is split, the non-conforming building will be in violation of City Code, "Section 910.02 Subd 5". The variance, if approved, would allow this non-conforming structure to be within 4 feet of the rear yard and side yards. After further discussion, (Action 25-07-104) Council Member Olson moved to accept the variance application and set the hearing for August Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m., seconded by Council Member Lorentz. Motion adopted unanimously.

The Council was presented with a request from Todd Wadena Community Corrections to help fund the year 2026 "Community Concern for Youth Program". The amount being requested from the City of Eagle Bend is \$552.00. Following a brief discussion, (Action 25-07-105) Council Member Olson presented Resolution #25-21-752 "Resolution authorizing participation with the Community Concern for Youth Program with Todd-Wadena Community Corrections", and moved for its adoption, seconded by Council Member Nelson. Put to a vote, the following members voted in favor of this resolution; Kimball, Lorentz, Nelson, and Olson; against, none. Resolution #25-21-752 was duly adopted.

The council was asked to donate \$360.00 to the Initiative Foundation, like in past years. After some discussion, (Action 25-07-106) Council Member Olson moved to approve the donation request of \$360.00 from the Initiative Foundation, seconded by council member Nelson. Motion adopted unanimously.

The City Administrator was approached by Joey Beach regarding parcel # 33-0015500. Joey stated that he "no longer wants his parcel because the project has eliminated his property." The Council asked him to explain what he meant by "eliminated". Mr. Beach responded with, "There is no more driveway access, it's a ravine, there is no room to build a proper home to meet specifications, and the lot size has been eliminated by about half." Mr. Beach asked, "were the utilities updated, if so, where are they?" Clay Sandmeyer stated the utilities were updated. Mr. Beach goes on to state the city has done nothing but block him from using his lot, especially when he lost his house in the tornado. "I applied for the variance when I lost my house, but the new house did not meet the requirements laid out in the ordinances. I was going to put a deck on the new house so the width requirements would be met, but the Lawyer said that is not what the ordinance was intended for." Council Member Lorentz asked, "what are you looking for, or what is it you are wanting the city to do?" Mr. Beach stated, "At this point I just want the land out of my name; the city can have it." Council Member Lorentz told him that we will need to check with the City Attorney to see what the city can and cannot do.

The Council was presented with Zoning Permit Application (25-03) from John Rachuy to remove and replace the shingles and add solar panels. The City Administrator was told by the City Attorney there were no ordinances against solar panels. After further questions and discussion, (Action 25-07-107) Council Member Kimball made a motion to approve John Rachuy's zoning permit application. This motion was seconded by Council Member Lorentz. Motion adopted unanimously.

The Council was presented with Zoning Permit Application (25-04) from Jonah Koslowsky to remove and replace the shingles. After a brief discussion, (Action 25-07-108) Council Member Nelson made a motion to approve Jonah Koslowsky's zoning permit application. This motion was seconded by Council Member Lorentz. Motion adopted unanimously.

Leila Oliver and John Rachuy presented an estimate to add an exterior door to the museum and close off the opening between the library and the museum from JW Construction, LLC., in the amount of 12,500.00. Currently you must walk through the library to access the Museum, and it would be beneficial if we were able to access the Museum without having to enter the library. Mrs. Oliver and Mr. Rachuy would like to apply for grants to help with the updates to the Museum. (Action 25-07-109) Council Member Olson moved to approve for the Museum to apply for grants to upgrade the Museum, seconded by Council Member Lorentz. Motion adopted unanimously.

Administrator Nordlund stated the VFW liquor license expires in September and has received the signed renewal application and the Certificate of Liability Insurance from the VFW. (Action 25-07-110) Council member Lorentz moved to approve renewing liquor license for both Eagle Lanes and the VFW. This motion was seconded by Council Member Nelson. Motion adopted unanimously.

Administrator Nordlund presented the Council with a quote from Kaos Works LLC, in the amount of \$5,253.00 for the security window system installation in the City Hall. The Deputy Clerk reached out to three (3) contractors, but two (2) of them stated they are currently too busy to provide a quote. (Action 25-07-111) Council member Lorentz moved to approve the quote from Kaos Works LLC in the amount of \$5,253.00 for the security window installation as presented, seconded by Council Member Kimball. Motion adopted unanimously.

Administrator Nordlund informed the Council that Royce Martin Consulting Inc, has updated the systems in both City Hall and the Liquor Store. There are two (2) outstanding items which include the off-site cameras at the water treatment plant, and at Nelson Park. Royce stated he would have to come back on-site and tour the locations to see how they are wired and what type of equipment is at each site. Royce Martin Consulting Inc provided an estimate of 4 hours totaling \$600.00. This does not include the updated/new equipment if needed or installation costs. It was stated that the cameras in some of the other locations are up for renewal, and the city should check with Royce to see if we could get the same cameras for all the locations.

The City Administrator presented the Liquor Store operating statement for the month of June 2025 which showed a net profit of \$4,312.67.

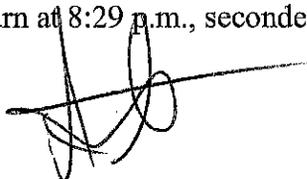
The Council was presented with a monthly report for June from the Todd County Sheriff's Office showing calls they handled during the month.

Old Business: The land transaction between the City and Cory and Emily Berg is now complete. The land transaction between the City and SJM Real Estate is in the final stages of closing, both the Mayor and the Administrator have signed the documents.

New Business: Mayor Johnson is proposing the August City Council Meeting be moved to Tuesday, August 19, 2025. (Action 25-07-112) Council Member Lorentz moved to accept the proposed meeting for August 19, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., seconded by Council Member Olson. Motion adopted unanimously.

Miscellaneous: The Fire Department would like to apply for Emergency Preparedness Funds through Sourcewell. These funds will be used for needed emergency equipment for the region's public safety entities. (Action 25-07-113) Council Member Olson moved to approve the Emergency Preparedness Funds application through Sourcewell, seconded by Council Member Kimball. Motion adopted unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, (Action 25-07-114) Council Member Nelson moved to adjourn at 8:29 p.m., seconded by Council Member Olson. Motion adopted unanimously.



Ashlee Nordlund
City Administrator



Scott Johnson
Mayor