

LAUDERDALE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Lauderdale City Hall
1891 Walnut Street
Lauderdale, MN 55113

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August 12, 2025

Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tem Sayre called the Regular City Council meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Councilors present: Sharon Kelly, Jeff Dains, and Mayor Pro Tem Evan Sayre.

Councilors absent: Duane Pulford and Mayor Mary Gaasch.

Staff present: Heather Butkowski, City Administrator; and Miles Cline, Deputy City Clerk.

Approvals

Mayor Pro Tem Sayre asked if there were any additions to the meeting agenda. Administrator Butkowski stated that she would like to add a discussion about the construction on Eustis Street to the Additional Items portion of the agenda. There being nothing else, Councilor Dains moved and seconded by Councilor Kelly to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tem Sayre asked if there were corrections to the minutes of the July 22, 2025, City Council meeting. There being none, Councilor Dains moved and seconded by Councilor Kelly to approve the July 22, 2025, City Council meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tem Sayre asked if there were any questions on the claims. There being none, Councilor Kelly moved and seconded by Councilor Dains to approve the claims totaling \$208,017.33. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent

Councilor Dains moved and seconded by Councilor Kelly to approve the Consent Agenda thereby acknowledging the June financial report and the second quarter investment report.

Councilor Pulford joined the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Public Hearings

A. Annual Opportunity for the Public to Comment on the City's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program

Butkowski explained that annually the City Council must hold a public hearing to allow the public to comment on the City's storm water program. This meets one of the requirements of the City's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit. Staff included the permit in the packet. The City's MS4 permit documents the City's required commitments through 2025.

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Mayor Pro Tem Sayre opened the floor at 7:11 p.m. to those interested in addressing the Council on this topic. There being nobody interested in speaking, Mayor Pro Tem Sayre closed the floor at 7:11 p.m.

Discussion/Action Item

A. Draft 2026 Budget and Proposed Levy

Butkowski said staff prepared a draft of the general fund budget. St. Anthony provided an estimate of \$1,086,407 for 2026 policing costs or a 3.23% increase. This increase is based on their new formula for allocating costs that were expected to be beneficial to Lauderdale. The rate of increase is significantly less than in recent years.

Based on these estimates, the local levy would need to increase by \$125,281 or 11.7% to cover costs. The overall levy would increase by 10.2%. The public safety aid used over two years to help hold down costs is no longer available. Staff will continue to refine the general fund budget and prepare the special revenue fund budgets before the Council sets the preliminary levy in September.

Additional Items

A. Construction on Eustis Street

Butkowski stated that Meyer Contracting reached out to City staff regarding working outside of their normal hours for three upcoming Saturdays. Their request is to start at 7 a.m. and work until 5 p.m. on August 16, August 23, and September 6.

Councilor Pulford moved and seconded by Councilor Kelly to allow construction outside of normal designated hours for the three requested days. Motion carried unanimously.

Set Agenda for Next Meeting

Butkowski stated that the August 26 Council meeting might include the July financial report and an RFP for architects for the proposed municipal cannabis store.

Work Session

A. Community Development Update

Butkowski shared that Motiv Excavating would start the sanitary sewer manhole repair work the following week. Councilor Dains stated that Falcon Heights is establishing a commission for the sale of the University of Minnesota golf course and would like the City to be able to send a representative to participate in those discussions. Finally, Councilor Pulford stated that the cable commission has been paying sales tax but the Department of Revenue just gave them exempt status. They are now receiving a refund of their taxes paid since 2016.

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B. Opportunity for the Public to Address the City Council

Mayor Pro Tem Sayre opened the floor to those interested in addressing the Council.

There being nobody interested in speaking, Mayor Pro Tem Sayre closed the floor.

Adjournment

Councilor Kelly moved and seconded by Councilor Pulford to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Miles Cline
Deputy City Clerk