

EAST BETHEL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 25, 2025

The East Bethel City Council met on August 25, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. for the regular City Council meeting at City Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ardie Anderson Suzanne Erkel Brian Mundle
 Tim Miller Jim Smith

ALSO PRESENT: Matt Look, City Administrator
 Jacob Saufley, City Attorney
 Jeff Cielocha, Fire Chief

1.0 Call to Order

The August 25, 2025, City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Anderson at 7:00 p.m.

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3.0 Adopt Agenda

Mundle stated I'll make a motion to adopt tonight's agenda, adding to the Consent Agenda, Item H, Supplemental Payment Summary. Miller stated I'll second. Anderson asked any discussion? To the motion, all in favor say aye. **All in favor.** Anderson asked any opposed? That motion passes. **Motion passes unanimously.**

4.0 Presentations and Public Hearings

4.0 A Anoka County Sheriff's Report

Lieutenant Derek Peters presented the July 2025 Sheriff's Report, stating the Sheriff's Department responded to 529 calls for services, 6 thefts, 2 assaults, 3 damage to property, 37 arrests, 218 traffic stops, 23 traffic citations, and discussed notable calls from the month.

Lieutenant Peters stated that the proactive enforcement approach on their roadways has increased numbers compared to last year, directly from tips from community members, which helps them do their jobs better.

Erkel asked if the increase in numbers is Statewide. Peters stated that he has not seen any data for this year, but they are right where they have been for many things, and increasing their traffic enforcement efforts has been an enormous help.

Informational; no action required.

4.0 B Fire Department Monthly Report

Fire Chief Cielocha presented the July 2025 report and noted that they responded to 81 calls, of which 43 were medical, 23 good intents, 8 hazard conditions, 3 service calls, 2 fires, and 2 false alarms. He stated that they had 1 structure fire from a presumed lightning strike.

Fire Chief Cielocha stated that they had 5 new people start on August 12, 2025, and they went through new hire orientation and were introduced to their mentors. Fire Chief Cielocha noted that they are still looking for more people to hire, and the goal is to get 3 additional people to attend the academy in January.

Erkel asked what a good intent call is. Cielocha stated that it is smoke alarms sounding or CO alarms going off.

Informational; no action required.

5.0 Public Forum

Channing Stoll, asked for some pushback regarding East Bethel maintaining autonomy and control of elections. Mr. Stoll noted that the Anoka County Board passed a motion to affirm that the unelected County Auditor gets to decide if cities use electronic poll pads or paper rosters, but he believes that legally belongs at the municipal level.

Mr. Stoll encouraged the Council to watch the videos that he sent them to get more details on the work he has been doing to inform cities on what has been happening with election integrity.

6.0 Consent Agenda

Item A: Approve Bill List

~~Item B: Approve Meeting Minutes August 11, 2025 City Council Meeting~~

Item C: Approve 2026 Anoka County Law Enforcement Contract

~~Item D: Pay Estimate No. 1 for the 2025 Street Surface Improvement Project~~

Item E: Resolution 2025-47, Proclamation of Constitution Week

Item F: Conference Attendance for City Planner

~~Item G: Intern for Digital File Transition Project~~

Item H: Supplemental Payment Summary

Mundle requested to pull Items D and G. Smith requested to pull Item B.

Mundle stated I'll make a motion to approve Consent Agenda as amended. Smith stated I'll second. Anderson asked any discussion? To the motion, all in favor say aye. **All in favor.** Anderson asked any opposed? That motion passes. **Motion passes unanimously.**

6.0 B Approve Meeting Minutes August 11, 2025 City Council Meeting

Smith asked to table the minutes because there is information missing.

Smith stated I'll make a motion to table Item B of the Consent Agenda. Erkel stated I'll second. Anderson asked any discussion? To the motion, all in favor say aye. **All in favor.** Anderson asked any opposed? That motion passes. **Motion passes unanimously.**

6.0 D Pay Estimate No. 1 for the 2025 Street Surface Improvement Project

Mundle asked what projects this is for, because it does not have a description.

Look stated that he believes this is the first payment for the Taylor Street project, as well as the overlay and curb work being done. Look noted that this is about \$1 million that they are paying, which is a year and a half's worth of money they have set aside.

Mundle stated I'll make a motion to approve Item D of the Consent Agenda. Miller stated I'll second. Anderson asked any discussion? To the motion, all in favor say aye. **All in favor.** Anderson asked any opposed? That motion passes. **Motion passes unanimously.**

6.0 G Intern for Digital File Transition Project

Mundle asked if this is being put out for part-time. Look stated that initially they put out to find an intern, but the hired individual had an emergency come up and could not get the work done. However, they have now met with an individual who has agreed to come out and work on a part-time basis.

Look noted that they have met with staff to determine how they can help speed up the process with their daily activities to work through the files.

Mundle stated I'll make a motion to approve Item G of the Consent Agenda. Miller stated I'll second. Anderson asked any discussion?

Miller asked how many years' worth of files need to be converted. Look stated that undertaking this is no small feat.

Miller asked if they had all the equipment needed. Look noted that they plan on utilizing the copier here at City Hall, but they may need to rent another copier if needed.

To the motion, all in favor say aye. **Mundle, Anderson, Miller, Smith - Aye.** Anderson asked any opposed? **Erkel – Abstain.** That motion passes. **Motion passes.**

7.0 New Business. Commission, Association, and Task Force Reports

7.0 A Planning Commission

None.

7.0 B Economic Development Authority

None.

7.0 C Park Commission

None.

8.0 Department Reports

8.0 A Community Development

None.

8.0 B Engineer Report

None.

8.0 C City Attorney

None.

8.0 D Finance

None.

8.0 E Public Works

None.

8.0 F Fire Department

None.

8.0 G City Administrator Report

8.0 G.1 Fall Town Hall Meeting Date

Look asked for the Council's input on when they would like to hold the Fall Town Hall meeting in November.

Mundle stated that he has no conflict on any of the dates. Erkel noted that November 13, 2025, would work for her. The Council agreed on the 13th.

8.0 G.2 BDM Agreement

Mundle noted that he will be abstaining from this item.

Smith stated I'll make a motion to table the BDM Agreement. Miller stated I'll second. Anderson asked any discussion? To the motion, all in favor say aye. **Erkel, Anderson, Miller, Smith - Aye.** Anderson asked any opposed? **Mundle – Abstain.** That motion passes. **Motion passes.**

9.0 – Other Items

9.0 A Staff Report

Look noted that they got a call from Midco, and they are moving to Midco TV from the typical cable. Look noted that this will be more of an online-based format.

Look also noted that the City was awarded dollars from Anoka County for a broadband project, and they got started on Briarwood Lane. Look stated that they hope that this project will be completed before they get any snow.

9.0 B Council Reports

Mundle stated that they had a Booster Day meeting and there have been changes to the leadership, and thanked Dan Dobbs for running the Car Show for over 10 years and Scott Schnieder for booking bands and entertainment for Booster Day over the years.

Mundle stated that anyone who would like to volunteer or has any connections for any entertainment should reach out and let them know.

Erkel stated that she attended an airport meeting, and they are planning a celebration for 2026 and are looking for entertainment and ideas for vendors.

Smith stated that they got a complaint form on a property and asked if they had proceeded with it. Look noted that he will follow up on it.

Miller noted that the Upper Rum River Watershed Association will be meeting on September 2 and will be touring Lake George and the watershore line projects, and then proceed to the City Hall in Oak Grove following the tour.

9.0 C Other

None.

10.0 Adjourn

Mundle stated I'll make a motion to adjourn. Erkel stated I'll second. To the motion, all in favor say aye. **All in favor.** Anderson asked any opposed? That motion passes. **Motion passes unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Submitted by:

Lilian Rokosz

TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.