

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 3, 2025

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT

Jeff Manthe – Mayor, Mark Schulzetenberge, Sarah Grutsch, Aaron Goebel, Katie Reiling - City Council and EDA
Jim Sand and Tim Burg – Economic Development Authority
Jodi Austing-Traut, City Clerk-Administrator

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and the meeting was opened at 6:30 pm.

EDA MEETING – CONSIDER BUCKHORN BAR CRD

Staff presented a CRD subsidy application on behalf of Larry Melton/Melton Properties LLC for work at the Buckhorn Bar. At this point much of the exterior work has already been completed. The request is for the furnace replacement and other energy efficiency related work. Jim Sand expressed gratitude for the work Melton is doing to improve the property.

Motion Burg to approve the CRD Loan for Melton Properties LLC for the Buckhorn Bar

Second Reiling

Motion Passed with Grutsch Abstaining

Motion Burg to close the EDA meeting and reopen the council meeting

Second Schulzetenberge

Motion Passed Unanimously

Open Forum

None Present

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Council Minutes of October 6, 2025
2. Planning Commission Minutes of October 21, 2025
3. Receive Fire Department Minutes of September 29, 2025.
4. Paid Check Register, Capital Expenditures, Payroll Deposits
5. Legal Fees, Engineering Fees, Auditor/Acct. Fees
6. Resolution 2025-45 Approving a Variance
7. Resolution 2025-46 Accepting Donation
8. Approve Commercial Rehabilitation Deferred Loan (CRD) for Melton Properties DBA Buckhorn Bar (Ex. A)

Motion Goebel to approve consent agenda as presented

Second Grutsch

Passed Unanimously

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Paul Hughes – Fisher's Club Use of Beach Property

The owners of Fisher's Club are requesting a longer term lease or a purchase option for the property that they have been using adjacent to the beach. The city has been leasing approximately a 20'x70' section of the grassy area adjacent to the beach to Fisher's Club for several years. The city council is willing to consider this but have asked the property owners to come back with some actual design options to continue this conversation.

Linneman Lake Road Drinking Water Quality Issues

Several Linneman Lake Road residents were present to request assistance from the city with the iron in their water in their homes. This issue began about two years ago and occurs on and off. The city has been doing more flushing, which helps, but has not resolved the issue. The MN Department of Health came out last week and suggested that the bowl of the tower be drained. Kurtz did that today and there was a significant amount of sediment that came through. The residents of Linneman Lake Road stated that they noticed their water appeared to have high levels of iron in it today, possibly as a result of that. Kurtz is hopeful that having drained the bowl of the tower may help going forward.

Kurtz also mentioned that Hawkins, our chemical supplier, is also looking at doing some testing for a biofilm that can grow off of iron and manganese that can not be removed with chlorine alone. If this is found in the testing, there is a process for ridding the system of it.

Jeremy Mathiasen, Stantec - Engineering Update

Mathiasen stated that the first lift of paving is complete. Mailboxes will go in on Wednesday. Behind the curb restoration will start after that; either late this week or early next week. Final lift of bituminous will go down in the spring, allowing for any settling to occur over winter. The alley behind Elite Wrestling is in design phase. There will need to be some grading done prior to asphalt so this will not be completed until spring.

Pay Application No. 5 RL Larson \$275,015.89 2025 Streets Project

Pay Application No. 2 JR Ferche \$405,686.86 2025 Streets/Stormwater Project

Invoice for Tapco \$2,897.25 Mailbox Kits 2025 Streets Project

Motion Grutsch to approve Pay Application No 5 to RL Larson in the amount of \$275,015.89

Second Reiling

Passed Unanimously

Motion Goebel to approve Pay Application No. 2 JR Ferche \$405,686.86 2025 Streets/Stormwater Project

Second Grutsch

Passed Unanimously

Motion Reiling to authorize payment to Tapco for \$2,897.25

Second Manthe

Passed Unanimously

ISSUES BY STAFF

Administration

Easement Agreement

Austing-Traut presented an easement agreement for utility lines located on property owned by Michele Meyer at 405 1st ST SE in Avon. The original easement was imprecise and vague. The new easement clarifies the easement and confines it to a 20' easement for the city's utility lines.

Motion Goebel to approve the Amended and Restated Easement as presented

Second Schulzetenberge

Passed Unanimously

Consider Draft Traffic Sign Evaluation and Maintenance Policy

Austing-Traut presented a draft document to set forth how the city might consider dealing with requests for traffic control mechanisms in the city. The policy dictates that requests for traffic control measures will be vetted through city staff prior to being addressed by council. Policy is on file at city hall.

Motion Manthe to approve a Traffic Sign Evaluation and Maintenance Policy

Second Reiling

Passed Unanimously

Public Works

Written report was presented. Kurtz presented quotes for a 6" mud valve for the wastewater plant. \$3110 is the cost for stainless steel. A galvanized valve is a couple of hundred dollars less but would not withstand the corrosive nature of the plant.

Motion Schulzetenberge to approve the purchase of the stainless-steel mud valve

Second Reiling

Passed Unanimously

Kurtz stated that Avon Township was planning to sell their lift/plow truck on government auction, but their reserve bid amount was not met. Austing-Traut has contacted Avon Township to see if they are willing to sell it outright to the city. The Township will consider this at their meeting on Wednesday. There was more discussion about equipment needs in the water/wastewater department. We will wait to see what direction the Township wants to go.

Kurtz explained that he and Austing-Traut met with Keith Boulais of Premier Materials to discuss alternative ways to potentially remove chlorides from wastewater. Boulais has offered a pilot study at no cost to the city to see if the equipment would work for chloride removal. The equipment pulls atmospheric air in and drops out nitrogen and then negatively charges oxygen to O²⁻ "super oxide". Those negative ions then attach to the water molecules and clean them. Council consensus to go ahead with the pilot study and report back.

Kurtz stated that fall water flushing has been completed. He noted that the water had more mineral deposit than normal, quite likely due to the street and utilities project.

Pelkey stated that the electric improvements have been made at Wobegon Trailhead so there is power available for more holiday decorations and events. Pelkey presented options for trade-in on a lawnmower. Trade in pricing for the model we currently have would be \$6388.72 out of pocket after trade.

Motion Goebel to authorize the trade in of our current John Deere for a new, but same model at \$6388.72

Second Reiling

Passed Unanimously

Public works has been using a golf cart as a utility vehicle for quite some time but it is no longer operable. Staff has attempted to overhaul the engine twice and change the carburetor but it is not responding to repairs. Pelkey presented quotes for consideration for a 2012 Gator XUV. This would be used for hauling mulch and other materials, weed spraying, garbage hauling from parks, and other landscape projects. The Gator also has a winch on it which would be helpful for pulling out the dock. Manthe asked whether the tires might dig in to the turf. Pelkey will do some further investigating on this.

Pelkey stated that no commercial dumping is allowed at the compost site in town, but he has been getting requests for a few local landscape type companies to work out an agreement whereby they could pay for space at the compost site. Council consensus to continue the policy in place not to allow any commercial dumping.

Police Department

Chief Nellis presented his written report and confirmation of a grant from Community Giving for \$1,000 for the encrypted radios. The Avon PD was also awarded \$2,000 for national night out from the MN Chiefs of Police Association. Council unanimously received and accepted these grants for the purposes they were given.

ISSUES BY COUNCIL

Adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jodi Austing-Traut - City Clerk/Administrator