



Goodhue City Council Work Meeting Minutes  
City Hall ~ March 11, 2026 ~ 6:00 p.m.

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**Members Present:** Mayor Chris Schmit, Council Members Michael Brunkhorst, Jeannine Nagel, Eric Brandt, Katie Kurtti

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Lisa Redepenning, City Administrator, Lori Luhman, Administrative Assistant/City Clerk, Jason Mandelkow, Public Works Director, Pete Grimsrud-News Record

**Remote:** Bob Vose, City Attorney

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**Call to Order**

Mayor Schmit called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Approve or amend Agenda**

Amendment to the agenda is to move the “EDA-Plan-Meeting” Process to third item for convenience of Attorney Vose. A motion to approve amended agenda made by Brandt, seconded by Brunkhorst, motion carried 5-0-0.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the February 25, 2026 council meeting minutes made by Brandt, seconded by Brunkhorst, motion carried 5-0-0.

**Approval of Bills**

A motion was made to approve the bills by Brandt, seconded by Nagel, motion carried 5-0-0.

**New Business**

*Fire Truck Association Joint Power Agreement*

Council discussed discrepancies between different versions (version 3 vs version 5), with concerns over incorrect voting (7 of 10 members vs 14 of 20) members with capital M “Members” meaning communities and lowercase meaning individual board members. Lack of clear document ownership and control between the city’s attorney (Bob Vose) and the Fire Association’s attorney (Bob Ruppe). Council member Kurtti requested that the document have more control with track changes and a summary of changes for transparency. Also needed was an accurate map (Exhibit A) showing the fire service territory.

Council agreed that the Fire Association’s lawyer should control the master document, but the city will provide requested changes and require the latest version for review.

Council asked the attorney Vose to contact the Fire Association’s attorney to obtain the latest version, confirm version control, and submit city’s requested changes. Council is requesting final review after the changes.

### *Garbage Bid Update*

The city is soliciting bids for garbage collection, as the current contract expires at the end of August. The City will mail bid information to interested parties and advertise for a month to ensure competitive responses. Attorney Vose confirmed current process is compliant with state law. Council agreed the bid application can place on consent for approval at the next meeting.

### *EDA Plan – Meetings*

The Economic Development Authority will revert to meeting only as needed. The ongoing function is administering the façade grant program. Grant opportunities will be monitored by all council members and staff (previously handled by Todd Keiffer of CEDA). Council agreed to notify staff for EDA topics to be added to the agenda as needed.

### *Pool Manager/Lifeguard Recruitment Update*

There are two Pool Manager candidates and four Lifeguard applications so far. Emphasis was on manager presence, keeping the pool open during scheduled hours, improving communication and scheduling. A new app called “Sling” was tested and may be implemented this year for helping with the pool staff coverage. There is a persistent challenge of staffing late in the summer due to sports and school. Suggested incentives/bonuses for staff who work the full season. Council also reviewed pool concession sales, need for better inventory and sales tracking. Suggesting a POS system like Clover or Square. Staff investigated this option last year and it was costly. Public Works Director noted that there are upcoming maintenance needs for the pool floor and tile joints. Quotes will be obtained and repairs done as weather allows.

### *Review Emergency Plan/designate local emergency contact for Goodhue*

Council reviewed and updated emergency contact information and roles in the city’s Emergency Operations Plan. Council member Brant stressed noting the need for formal approval from the Fire Association to use the fire station as a Emergency Operations Center once the Joint Powers Agreement is finalized. Council members and staff agreed to update committee members and replace city clerk with administrator. Council member Kurtti also noted the need for version control of the document with summary of changes and clarification of attachments/maps of the plan. Council discussed having an EOP committee meeting once a year to make necessary updates. Also confirmed that emergency alerts and communications are accessible in Spanish and other languages.

### *Safety Program*

The City’s previous group safety training arrangement (with Zumbrota and MMUA) was deemed non-compliant by MMUA so the city must start with a new provider. The proposal is to contract with IEA of Rochester for its OSHA/safety program which includes on-site training, policy updates, safety committee establishment, and job hazard analysis. IEA suggest starting with the nine days of training and that it can be adjusted as needed. Goodhue Gas Commission will continue with MMUA for gas related training but will participate in IEA for OSHA related topics. Council agreed that we need to move forward with this immediately and added it to consent for approval at the next meeting.

### *Financial Reporting*

Council requested more detailed, regular (monthly) reports showing budget vs actual for main expense categories and funds, even if a month delayed due to reimbursements. The need for better tracking of restricted/earmarked funds (e.g. Lions fund/truck-plow funds, sanitation district, etc.). Council asked if idle funds could be moved into higher interest CD's and getting back to them about this. Also suggested inviting bank reps to advise on the City's financial health.

### *Ag Day Road Closure Request*

Council was familiar with the request and added to the consent agenda to be approved at the next meeting.

### *Façade Payment Request for Vine Haven Hardware*

Council reviewed the receipts and agreed to reimburse Vine Haven Hardware for the \$2000 façade grant. Request will be added to consent for approval at the next meeting.

### *Committee Updates*

Council member Brunkhorst reported that the Zumbrota ambulance received a new rig that replaced a 2014 model. Discussed the per capita payment schedule and budget impacts for future years. There will be more information after the next meeting in August.

Mayor Schmit reported that the Gas Commission is looking at upgrading gas meters to implement remote meter reading and that project is funded by CD interest.

### *Public Works Update*

The city will be excepting spring quotes for labor and equipment rates for excavation services. It is standard practice to except them all so we can use whoever is available. All public works vehicles, including dump trucks, are inspected and logbooks are maintained.

### *City Administrator Update*

Administrator Redepenning provided updates on savings account balances and the need to maximize interest on idle funds. Council member Kurtti asked if statement balances and depreciation schedules for city vehicles and equipment could be provided. Staff will work on getting the information

Council Comments-Confirmed EDA meeting details that will meet and will be added to agenda only as needed.

### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 8:46 pm by Council Member Nagel, seconded by Kurtti, motion carried 5-0-0.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Lori Luhman, Administrative Assistant/City Clerk