

GOOD THUNDER COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting
August 10, 2026

Mayor Robert Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm at City Hall at 130 S Ewing Street in Good Thunder, MN 56037. Councilors Amy Klammer and Jon Brude were present. Councilor Stoltzman and Councilor Day were absent. Sue Petty, City Clerk-Treasurer, and Brian Severns were present. Eli Depuydt, City Maintenance Supervisor, was absent.

The pledge was recited, immediately followed by a moment of silence.

Consent Agenda: Mayor Anderson called for a motion to approve the consent agenda items A-F as listed on the agenda. Councilor Brude made a motion to approve the consent agenda items, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried.

- A. Approval of Agenda
- B. Approval of Minutes July 13 Council Meeting and July 27 Budget Workshop
- C. Approval of Bills: CK #18898 to CK #18933, EFT #57098 to #57118, Payroll EFT #500276 to #500283
- D. Building permits GT26-05, GT26-06
- E. Reimbursements – Brian Severns – Postage; Sue Petty - Mileage
- F. Sheriff's Department – 80 hours; directed patrol, fraud, traffic stop, assist, suspicious circumstance, civil, assist, parking, driving complaint

Community comments: None

Maureen Spear – Ms. Spear expressed concerns regarding the Dakota Mart building. The building is showing signs of wear, and she is asking if the city can do anything about the property. Council stated the property is not city owned and unless there are ordinance violations, the city can't really do much. Ms. Spear stated there are some back taxes due, she contacted Blue Earth County Assessors office and asked what the county is doing regarding taxes. She presented council with questions she would like the city attorney to answer. Clerk Petty referred council to a letter from Chris Kennedy with the answers Ms. Spear was asking for. Continued discussion regarding what the city can do and how much money the city wants to stick into this knowing the city will probably not recoup any of the fees.

Fire Department – Fire Chief Mitch Froehlich – 6 calls; 4 medical, 1 auto extrication, 1 water rescue. Fire Chief Mitch Froehlich present council with a remount proposal from Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus. The proposal is for a used ambulance module and place on a new F550 chassis. The module will be rewired and fitted for the new chassis. The purchase price is \$260,337.92. Mitch and another fire fighter will be going down this week to tour the facility and the module. There is an addition proposal for \$13,815 for upgraded rims, exit lightening, step sides. The Fire Department will cover the cost of the additional proposal. The city will have to pay the upfront cost and recoup the township portion. The Fire Department made a \$75,000

contribution to the city last year and the city also received a one-time Public Safety Aid of \$24,462 in 2023. That will help offset the cost of the new Rescue Truck. Upon the city's approval of the proposal and the build is approved by the fire Department, the city will need to pay 50% down to start the build. The current rescue truck is a 1996 and is getting worn out. The city can potentially sell the truck and recoup some of the expense of the new truck.

Mitch is asking the council to approve \$260,337.92 appraisal pending inspection. The cost will be shared among Decoria, Lyra, Rapidan and Beauford townships. Mayor Anderson asked for a motion to approve the proposal upon inspection by the fire Department, Councilor Brude made a motion to approve the proposal upon inspection, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried.

M&M Insurance – Chad Osterman – Chad Osterman presented council with the insurance renewal information. The total premium is \$28,829 which is about \$7,000 lower than last year. The work comp and property damage rates have gone down. Chad asked if the council wanted to waive the Tort Limit and purchase the umbrella coverage. Mayor Anderson called for a motion to waive the Tort Limit and purchase the umbrella coverage, Councilor Brude made a motion to waive the Tort Limit, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried.

Streets Update – In Eli's absence, Brian reported the following: Class 5 was spread over the top of the areas that were treated with oil for dust control. He is continuing to work with Bollig on the design for the water treatment plant. Thunder Valley Park was thoroughly cleaned, and outlets were added to light pole for Day of Thunder Events. New flags and poles were ordered and installed to replace the flags along Main St that were damaged in the storm before the 4th of July. Eli and Mark Klema emailed BEC and asked if they would allow the city to install a driveway along Ewing to a proposed gravel parking lot when the existing water treatment plan is. BEC Highway Department denied the request stating it would be safer to extend the driveway to Sherman St. A resident applied for a building permit to add solar panels to their garage. There is nothing specific in the ordinances that prohibit solar panels, the permit was approved. Brian stated Eli has been doing a great job; he has done a great job working on the equipment and keeping the city looking good. Eli has been working with Brian on his water and wastewater licensing. He has enough time in to take the test for his wastewater license and is currently studying for that.

Water/Sewer Update – In the coming weeks, Brian will be doing sample testing. He will be dropping off sample bottles at 10 residences.

Clerk/Treasurer Update – National Night was another successful year. Many residents gave positive feedback. Clerk Petty worked on balancing the 2026 budget as follows:

1. **City Clerk** – redistribute \$12,680 from legal fees and regular employees to HSA, MN Paid Leave, Elections, auditing, printing.
2. **FD** – Redistribute \$11,400 from conference, maintenance contracts, bldg. maintenance and distribute to Communications

3. **Streets** – Redistribute \$28,700 from overtime, future improvements and major repairs and Maintenance to Maintenance contracts, contractual services, MN Paid leave, Health Savings account, Temporary Employee
4. **Parks** – Redistribute \$6950 from Building maintenance and Bell tower to Equipment maintenance, MN Paid Leave, Health Savings account, General Supplies, contractual services, subscriptions
5. **Water** – Redistribute \$1825 from building maintenance and to MN Paid Leave, Reimbursements, Conferences/schools/training, subscriptions and future improvements.
6. **Sewer** – Redistribute \$15850 from General Supplies and Future Improvements to MN Paid Leave, Conferences/Schools, and Machinery & Equipment
7. **Refuse** – Redistribute \$1500 from Sanitation Services to Motor Fuels and Lubricants (there has been a fuel surcharge for a while)

Councilor Brude made a motion to approve the transfers within the respective funds, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried. Clerk Petty will start working on the 2027 budget and would like to schedule another budget workshop. Councilor Brude suggested he work with the clerk on the budget and set a date for a budget workshop at the September council meeting. A few property letters were sent out with Ordinance Violations. Fall curbside cleanup will be October 3, 2026. The mileage reimbursement went up from \$.725 per mile to \$.76 per mile, beginning July 1, 2026.

Unfinished Business: none

New Business: none

Misc. Business: none

Adjourn: Councilor Klammer made a motion to adjourn the regular council meeting, Councilor Brude seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Susan Petty, City Clerk/Treasurer