

GOOD THUNDER COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting

August 11, 2025

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 Scott Stoltzman, Jon Brude, Amy Klammer, and Jim Day were present. Sue Petty, City Clerk-Treasurer, Eli Depuydt City Maintenance Supervisor, and Brian Severns were present.

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

Agenda: Councilor Brude made a motion to approve the agenda, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried

Minutes: Councilor Brude made a motion to approve July 14, 2025, Public Hearing and Council Meeting Minutes, July 25, 2025, Special Council Meeting Minutes, Councilor Day seconded; motion carried.

Bills: Check #18536 to #18569, EFT #56892 to #56904, Payroll EFT #500188E to #500195E. Councilor Stoltzman made a motion to approve the bills as listed, Councilor Day seconded; motion carried.

M&M Insurance: Chad Osterman from M&M Insurance presented council with the 2025 renewal Insurance package. Property insurance has increased due to inflation. Last year's premium was \$38,798, and this year's premium is \$35,124. Last year the city received a dividend of \$1578.00. There have been no work comp claims since 2014, there is a work comp claim still open from 1998. Chad explained the Tort Limit and asked the council to make a motion to waive or accept the Tort Limit. Councilor Brude made a motion to waive the Tort Limit, Councilor Day seconded; motion carried. Chad explained the city's liability for injuries/accidents at city parks and the old BMX track in the woods by Thunder Valley Park. Chad suggested signage at the parks stating bike at your own risk or not responsible for injuries, having Eli check the track weekly or monthly depending on usage would also be a good idea. Mayor Anderson asked about health insurance coverage for city employees. Due to the high cost of coverage, Chad explained other options the city may want to explore. The city could raise the deductible, offer an HSA plan, reimburse premiums up to a certain amount, which would allow employees to obtain their own coverage. Council will review this information.

Bollig Engineering: Brandon Johnson was present as a follow-up to his previous presentation. Brandon explained if the city were to switch engineers, a needs assessment would be done at no cost to the city and would be reviewed with council after completion. Bollig Engineering would look for grant dollars and other funding to help offset the cost of any approved projects. Mayor Anderson asked if Bollig Engineering had experience in new developments. Brandon explained the cost of a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER), which is why Bollig tries to include as many projects as possible into 1 PER to keep the cost down. They try to have a representative onsite during construction, however if there is not and one is needed, Brandon stated he would

appreciate a phone call, and he will take care of it. Bollig Engineering works with cities with a population of 5,000 and under. Most of the cities they work in have a population of under 1,000. Mayor Anderson asked if there were any more questions and if council was interested in switching engineers. Councilor Day made a motion to change the city's engineering firm from Bolton and Menk Engineering to Bollig Engineering, Councilor Stoltzman seconded; motion carried.

Community comments: Tyler Truebenbach from High Performance Garage was present and thanked the council and the city of Good Thunder for the great turnout of the Day of Thunder Car Show August 2, 2025. Council thanked High Performance Garage for all the work they did on making the event a success. Tyler would like to continue this event every year.

Sheriff's Department – 66 hours. Directed Patrol, civil, assist, juvenile nuisance, welfare check, traffic stop, stolen property. Councilor Day read message he received from Deputy Hagen regarding the BMX track and city parks. His suggestion is to post hours the park is open and post no camping or sleeping in the parks without consent from the city. Eli will work on getting signs for the parks. Deputy Hagen also advised council to review the e-bike ordinance as more residents are purchasing these.

Fire Department – Chief Klammer - 8 calls: 5 medical, 1 vehicle fire, 1 down power line, 1 assist law enforcement.

Streets Update – Eli thanked council for the quick approval on the patch work for Houk St. Building permit GT-11-25 – move a shed from one side of residence property to the other. Councilor Brude made a motion to approve Building permit GT-11-25 Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried. Eli presented council with 2 quotes for a bucket attachment for the tractor. One quote for \$3500 for a bucket that would fit the tractor, the other quote for \$4975 with a skid loader attachment which would allow any skid loader attachment to fit on the tractor. This bucket will be used to sift debris and separate large chunks of debris, roots, etc. from the burn pile and compost pile. This will help clean up the compost area and allow a farmer to spread the sifted material on his fields. Councilor Day made a motion to approve the quote for \$4975 for a bucket and attachment, councilor Stoltzman seconded; motion carried. Three quotes for sidewalk striping and angle parking on Houk St. from Main St to Sherman were submitted. The quotes ranged from \$3500 to \$1470.70. Councilor Brude made a motion to approve the quote for \$1470.70 for sidewalk striping and angle parking on Houk St., Councilor Day seconded; motion carried. Sewer quote for the manhole behind The Thunder Bar has not been received yet. WW submitted a quote to remove the Riprap from S. Houk/Willard St, redirect runoff and hook into the Storm sewer drain. The city will need an easement from 451 Sherman St to connect to the existing Storm sewer. Mayor Anderson suggested Eli contact Chamber's Excavating. Council asked Eli to get a few more quotes. WW Blacktopping will be back in a week or so to sweep the streets of the remaining red rock. Eli asked council what type of trees they want to plant to replace the Ash trees that will be cut down. Council suggested fast-growing Oak or hard Maple. Eli will present some quotes at the next council meeting. A resident contacted Eli regarding the N. Halladay Sewer Project and now there is erosion behind Winters Construction. Eli will remove the overgrown weeds down there and assess and repair the erosion.

Mayor Anderson asked Eli to check on the outside sanitary sewer by the carwash and may have to seal up the sewer drain to eliminate storm water from getting into the sanitary sewer. Councilor Day was notified about the dim sign lighting on the town's west side. Eli will investigate this. On the East side of the old school, there is a light that is flashing all the time. Clerk Petty will contact Drummer and ask them to fix the light.

Water/Sewer Update – Brian Severns- There are 4 pumps at the ponds, pump #2 was not pumping out correctly. Quality flow came out and checked the pump. The check valve is bad, the pump needs work. They will be submitting a quote to Brian. The water treatment plant needs to have some work done on it. Another coupler requires replacement due to rust. The pipe from the well pump to the filter should all be replaced.

Clerk/Treasurer Update – Reminder of the budget workshop is scheduled for Monday August 18, 2025, at 5pm at city hall. Letters were sent to residents who were not in compliance with the vehicle ordinance. The second letter will go out by August 13, 2025, which will have the \$50 fine for those that have not responded to the first letter. Disconnect notices for past due water bills were sent out. All but one resident has paid. The water service connection fee that is charged once a year in July is going up January 1, 2026, from \$9.72/connection to \$15.22/connection per year. This fee is paid to the MN Dept of Health. Clerk Petty asked council for permission to look for a different rental property inspector. Judd Schultz is very hard to get ahold of, last year it was almost 3 months of calling before he could be reached, and it would benefit the city to have a contracted rental inspector. The rental inspections are not due until next year so now would be a good time to look for a new inspector. Clerk Petty will do some research and report back to council. Clerk Petty asked council to make a motion to adjust a utility bill in the amount of \$48.40 for 131 N Houk St. as resident has passed away. Councilor Brude made a motion to approve the write off 131 N Houk St balance of \$48.40, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried. Clerk Petty will be gone August 27 – September 1, 2025. Clerk Petty talked to the city attorney regarding building permits and nuisance properties. Per the attorney, if there is no action within 180 days of the building permit approval, the building permit becomes void. Also, if action stops for 180 days the building permit becomes void. The council may want to consider raising the fee for 2nd, 3rd, etc. building permits. Clerk Petty would like to switch to a consent agenda, which would group non discussion topics such as minutes, bills, fire dept report and Sheriff's report, building permits, etc. and require one motion. If a councilor would like to discuss one of the topics, it would be removed from the consent agenda and placed on the agenda. Another option would be a workshop prior to the council meeting. That way discussion would be done prior to the regular scheduled council meeting and would streamline council meetings. Mayor Anderson would like to revisit this in 30 days.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Misc. Business: None

Adjourn: Mayor Anderson called for a motion to adjourn the council meeting, Councilor Brude made a motion to adjourn, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.

Budget workshop August 18, 2025, at 5pm

Next Regular Council Meeting September 8, 2025, at 7pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Susan Petty, City Clerk/Treasurer