

**Red Wing City Council  
Regular Meeting  
City Council Chambers  
March 9, 2026**

**Council Members Present:** Council President Janie Farrar; Council Members Vicki Jo Lambert, Kim Beise, Ron Goggin, Becky Norton (arrived at 6:08), and Donald Kliwer

**Council Members Absent:** Council Member Beth Snyder

**Others present:** Gary Iocco, Mayor; Chris Heineman, City Council Administrator; Zach Cronin, City Attorney's Office; Marshall Hallock, Administrative Business Director; Melissa Hill, City Clerk; Kyle Klatt, Community Development Director; Grady Nelson, Assistant Fire Chief; Shawn Blaney, Public Works Director; Zach Regnier, Engineering Director; Michelle Leise, Public Information and Engagement Officer; Dan Brower, Library Director; Nick Sather, Police Chief

**Agenda Item 1**

**Call to Order**

Council President Farrar called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Agenda Item 2**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Council President Farrar led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Agenda Item 3**

**Excusal of Members**

A motion was made by Council Member Kliwer, seconded by Council Member Goggin, and unanimously carried, to excuse the absence of Council Member Beth Snyder.

**Agenda Item 4**

**Approval of Agenda**

A motion was made by Council Member Kliwer, seconded by Council Member Beise, to approve the agenda as written. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6:0.

**Agenda Item 5**

**Proclamations and Recognitions**

There were no proclamations or recognitions.

**Agenda Item 6**

**Presentations**

There were no presentations.

## Agenda Item 7

### Public Comment

Alan Muller, Sturtevant Street, spoke to 4<sup>th</sup> St. reconstruction project and questioned who pays for the grant for the lead pipe replacement project.

Terri Cook, Ward 3, asked about the Council's decision to eliminate Council liaisons from boards and commissions, and wanted the current liaison list published so the public could see which liaisons were eliminated. Ms. Cook also mentioned a \$10,000 grant the Library received and recognized its staff for their hard work.

Amber Dawn Plank Warfield, Ward 4, read a statement she wrote about concerns with people being detained and the nation pouring money into a war, including the sacrifices from the American people. Ms. Warfield asked to use the remainder of her time in silent observation and recognition of those affected by them.

Council Member Norton arrived at 6:08 p.m.

Alan Muller, Sturtevant Street, spoke on agenda item 8G and stated that he attempted to contact the Public Works Department to arrange a tour of the wastewater treatment plant. Council President Farrar stated the staff would connect with him after the meeting adjourned. Mr. Muller then stated he has heard comments about the elimination of the Council liaisons. Council President Farrar asked Mr. Muller to return to his seat, as he had already used his allotted time for non-agenda items in his prior comments.

Anthony Bianchi, Ward 2, asked about the proposed ordinance regarding water meters in trailer home parks. He owns his home and rents his lot, and stated that when the water meters were installed, his bill went down. He would like to see something that monitors individual water use so everyone pays for their own water, not someone else's.

Skog, Bush Street, commented about staff and Council taking the time to talk with the residents in Pepin Woods about the water meter changes, wanting to be confident that the Council members had educated themselves about this issue.

Council President Farrar closed public comment at 6:20 p.m.

## Agenda Item 8

### Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Council Member Lambert, seconded by Council Member Kliewer, to approve the agenda with the removal of items 8E, 8F, and 8I. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6:0.

**A. Motion to Approve Bills (Warrant #126768 - 126954, totaling \$756,590.92).**

**B. Motion to Approve February 23, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes.**

**C. Motion to Appoint Hannah Paul to the Library Board of Trustees for a First Term Expiring December 31, 2028.**

**D. Motion to Approve Hangar Lot Lease with Sky Hook Incorporated at the Red Wing Regional Airport.**

David Carlstrom has requested that his existing Hangar Lot Lease at the Red Wing Regional Airport (Block 5, Lot 3) be updated and put under his business name, Sky Hook Incorporated.

~~**E. Motion to Approve City Council Administrator Review Process.**~~

*This item was removed from the agenda.*

~~**F. Motion to Approve Department of Justice Notice Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Grievance Procedures under the ADA.**~~

*This item was removed from the agenda.*

**G. Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 8155, Approving Plans and Specifications and Ordering Advertisement for Bids on Improvement for 2026 Street Reconstruction Project (E 4th St, E 3rd St, Sanderson St, Green St, Arkin St).**

This project is a street and utility infrastructure replacement project.

**H. Motion to Approve a One-Day Temporary Liquor License for the Anderson Center for a Saltydog Concert on March 27, 2026.**

~~**I. Motion to Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the East End Community Garden Group and the Use of the Road Right-of-Way for a Community Garden.**~~

~~City Staff recently met with John Anderes to discuss the development of a proposed community garden in the East End Neighborhood. The discussion included identifying a suitable location, outlining roles and responsibilities between the City and the gardening group, and ensuring consistency with City policies regarding use of public right-of-way.~~

~~*This item was removed from the agenda.*~~

**J. Motion to Approve the Reallocation of Capital Improvement Funds from Interior Painting of the Library to Replacement of the Access Control System for the Library.**

After reviewing site conditions with the Library Director, Staff evaluated current facility priorities and identified replacement of the building's antiquated access control system as a more urgent operational and security need. Staff is requesting that the previously budgeted \$24,417 for full interior painting be reallocated to replace the building's access control system.

**K. Motion to Approve Reallocation of \$400,000 in the 2026 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) from Water Reservoir Maintenance – Charlson Crest Water Reservoir to Rehabilitation of Booster Station.**

Staff is requesting the City Council approve the reallocation of \$400,000 from the 2026 CIP for the water utility enterprise fund from the Water Reservoir Maintenance, Charlson Crest Water Reservoir interior and exterior painting project, to fund rehabilitation of Booster Station.

**L. Motion to Approve a Work Order with Bolton Ramp; Menk for Preliminary Engineering for Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements.**

At the February 23, 2026, City Council meeting, the Council approved the reallocation of \$193,600 in the 2026 CIP from the Trickling Filter Roof Replacement to Preliminary Engineering for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements. Per the City's financial management practices, the City Council must formally approve work orders for professional service agreements exceeding \$175,000.

**M. Motion to Approve a Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Minnesota Paid Family Medical Leave with the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Public Works Union.**

The City Council is asked to approve the Memorandum of Agreement listed below. Staff recommends approval.

**N. Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 8156, Approving the Purchase of a Pierce Enforcer 100-foot Ascendant Tower Bid No. 1284 for \$2,415,625.**

**O. Motion to Approve Private Use of Public Property (PUPP) Application for Riseup Community Weekend, Celebrating Juneteenth and Pride.**

Rise Up Community Weekend is a coordinated two-day, family-friendly community celebration held at Central Park. The weekend includes a Juneteenth Celebration on Friday, June 19, and a Pride Celebration on Saturday, June 20.

**P. Motion to Approve Private Use of Public Property (PUPP) Application for Red Wing Walk to End Alzheimer's - River Cities.**

The Alzheimer's Association will hold its annual event on September 18 -19, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Colvill Park. Organizers have reserved the Colvill Courtyard for the event and will utilize the surrounding area, the walking paths within Colvill Park, and the parking lot.

**Q. Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 8157, Authorizing Acceptance of the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority (MPFA) Grant from the Drinking Water Revolving Fund for the 2026 Lead Service Line Replacement Project.**

On January 12, 2026, the City was notified that we had successfully obtained \$1,325,000 in funding through the PFA for our 2026 project. This program is intended to fund the replacement of all lead service lines, including any service lines inside property lines that remain galvanized pipe, as well as any service line that contains or has contained lead, including lead goosenecks at the connection to the water main. To obtain the already approved funding through MPFA, the City must adopt a resolution to allow the acceptance of funds before they can be disbursed through the MPFA loan/grant program.

**E. Motion to Approve City Council Administrator Review Process.**

Council Member Kliewer stated that the question of involving a third party in the review process was discussed at the last meeting and that a decision needed to be made on whether to use one. The president said the personnel committee would like to move ahead with the consultant. There is a higher cost to include an outside party.

Council Member Lambert asked how Olson HR Consulting was selected as the vendor and why. City Council Administrator Heineman stated that there were three quotes, and the next lowest was \$12,000. Council Member Lambert stated that the process needs to be as transparent as possible, but she doesn't feel it has been, as she doesn't have all the information she would like at this time.

Administrator Heineman stated that there would be a two-way conversation between the Administrator and the Council and staff members' input would be part of the process. Council President Farrar stated that the report included the personnel committee's recommendation.

Council Member Goggin isn't in favor of the three-way evaluation but is in favor of providing comments. Council President Farrar stated that comments would be collected from department heads. Council President Farrar also stated that there is a misunderstanding in the definitions being used.

Council President Farrar stated the Council discussed utilizing an outside consultant as part of the City Council Administrator review process during the workshop. The consultant's credentials were asked for. Council President Farrar stated that Olson HR Consulting has extensive experience working with individuals and has the skills to provide the review evaluation the Council is looking for.

Council Member Norton asked about the questions in the City Council Administrator's review, and who would be developing them. It was discussed that the City's Human Resources Manager and the consultant will generate the questions. Council Member Norton asked that they Council be able to see those questions prior to the review. Mayor locco stated he has worked with this consultant before and is impressed with their work.

A motion was made by Council Member Kliewer, seconded by Council President Farrar, to Approve the City Council Administrator Review Process and, time permitting, to share the questionnaire with Council members, including department head feedback. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6:0.

**F. Motion to Approve Department of Justice Notice Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Grievance Procedures under the ADA.**

Council Member Norton stated that the pronouns used in this document cause confusion as to who is being referred to in the document. Council Member Norton read some of the policy's sentences and recommended changes of pronouns to titles to help lessen confusion.

A motion was made by Council Member Norton, seconded by Council Member Lambert, to Approve Department of Justice Notice Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Grievance Procedures under the ADA. Council Member Lambert additionally commented that the elimination of ambiguous pronouns should be reviewed.

Council Member Kliewer asked whether it was a government template and whether it could even be changed. Zach Cronin from the City Attorney's Office stated that it is and could research whether these changes could be made.

Council Member Kliewer then suggested it be tabled.

Following discussion, a vote was conducted, and the motion to approve with pronoun language changes, if legally allowed, carried unanimously by a vote of 6:0.

I. **Motion to Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the East End Community Garden Group and the Use of the Road Right-of-Way for a Community Garden.**

Council Member Lambert highlighted this agenda item and expressed appreciation that community gardening is coming back to the east end neighborhood area. Council Member Norton agreed that this is very exciting and it is great to see this move forward.

A motion was made by Council Member Lambert, seconded by Council Member Norton, to Approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the East End Community Garden Group and the Use of the Road Right-of-Way for a Community Garden. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6:0.

## **Agenda Item 9**

### **Motions and General Business**

A. **Consider Motion to Introduce Ordinance No. 232, Amending Chapter 4 of the City Code Requiring a Single Master Water Meter for Manufactured Home Parks (MHPs).**

The purpose of this ordinance amendment is to require that manufactured home parks within the City of Red Wing be served by a single master water meter rather than individual City meters at each lot. Staff presented this draft ordinance change to the City Council at the February 23, 2026, workshop. The council's general direction was in favor of adopting this ordinance to reduce risks to the City and to provide consistency and uniformity in utility metering and billing. Public Works Director Shawn Blaney explained at a recent workshop that this had been addressed, and tonight is the first reading of the policy. The parks will be served by a master water meter. It ensures all water is metered and retains integrity. The property owner is familiar with the concept, as he has other properties as well. Staff recognized that it is a challenge, that this is a first step, and that it is not asking for immediate enforcement. Pepin Woods would not be affected by this ordinance change, as they are already in compliance.

Council Member Goggin asked about communication with the property owner. Director Blaney stated he did not know if the owner knew this topic would be on this evening's agenda. However, as this is a first reading, the owner has time to respond.

Council Member Norton stated that the language on page 5 regarding multi-family needed to keep up with any fee changes for residents. Zach Cronin, from the City Attorney's Office, stated that the ordinance implies the fee structure is being followed. Council Member Goggin reiterated that contact with the property owner must be maintained to avoid surprises when the ordinance goes into effect.

A motion was made by Council Member Beise, seconded by Council Member Norton, to Consider Motion to Introduce Ordinance No. 232, Amending Chapter 4 of the City Code Requiring a Single Master Water Meter for Manufactured Home Parks (MHPs). A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously, by a vote of 6:0.

**B. Actions Related to Ordinance No. 228, Fourth Series, Repealing and Replacing Chapter 9 of the City Code. On November 10, 2025, Council approved the introduction of Ordinance 228 amending Chapter 9 of the City Code to improve readability, eliminate redundancies, and make two minor policy adjustments. Council tabled the item at the February 23 meeting and requested Staff make additional modifications for which the Ordinance is being reintroduced.**

**1. Consider Motion to Remove from Table.**

A motion was made by Council Member Goggin, seconded by Council Member Norton, to Remove the Item from the Table. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6:0.

**2. Consider Motion to Introduce Ordinance No. 228, Fourth Series, Repealing and Replacing Chapter 9 of the City Code, Parking Regulations.**

Community Development Director Kyle Klatt provided a quick recap of the ordinance. The ordinance was introduced in November of 2025 but didn't come back for a second reading right away as it had to go through a state review process first. That process is now complete but, as there were some changes, it is being reintroduced and tonight would be considered the first reading. This ordinance has been put in place to be consistent with the new parking policy changes. Director Klatt reviewed these changes with the Council. There is a 20-hour limit to move one's vehicle. A prior conversation took place between Director Klatt and Council Member Norton to clarify this requirement, and staff concurred that it could be changed but would be brought back as another item at a later time. Council Member Norton encouraged staff to consider a longer parking time limit.

A motion was made by Council Member Norton, seconded by Council Member Lambert, to Introduce Ordinance No. 228, Fourth Series, Repealing and Replacing Chapter 9 of the City Code, Parking Regulations. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6:0.

**C. Consider Motion for the City of Red Wing to Maintain Ownership of the Mooring Clusters Located Adjacent to the Red Wing Grain Dock Facility and to Enter into a**

**Minimum of a 50-Year Lease Agreement with the Port Authority for their Operation, Maintenance, and Management Under Terms Approved by the City Council.**

Shari Chorney, Port Authority Manager, addressed this issue with the Council. The City has been working on the requirements to accept the grant funds. Port Authority staff have worked with the City attorney, the Harbor Advisory Committee, and the Port Authority Board, and the recommendation is to maintain ownership of the Mooring Clusters.

Mayor Iocco asked whether it is better for the City to enter a lease rather than own the clusters. Manager Chorney explained that because the City of Red Wing owns the shoreline property, this is the best recommendation. A new lease will be drafted and presented to the Council for review. The environmental assessment is scheduled to be completed within the timelines provided to the City.

A motion was made by Council Member Beise, seconded by Council Member Lambert, for the City of Red Wing to Maintain Ownership of the Mooring Clusters Located Adjacent to the Red Wing Grain Dock Facility and to Enter into a Minimum of a 50-Year Lease Agreement with the Port Authority for their Operation, Maintenance, and Management Under Terms Approved by the City Council. A vote was conducted, and the motion carried unanimously by a vote of 6:0.

**Agenda Item 10**

**Communication Items**

**A. Port Authority Update.**

Director Klatt reviewed the 2025-2029 work plan and the long-range projects they have worked on and will continue to work on. Director Klatt also explained the technical assistance program, providing support to stimulate development on dormant sites. Director Klatt also indicated they are working on a grant approved by the Office of Energy Transition that includes a port waterway plan and have begun seeking a consultant. A few items approved at the last meeting were also noted by Director Klatt. Council Member Norton asked for clarification on the sign and awning grant program. Manager Chorney informed the Council that the grant amount has increased to \$5,000 as the sign requirements have become more involved.

**B. Council Comments.**

Council Member Lambert asked which boards and commissions would continue having Council liaisons, and why only certain groups would continue to have them. Council President Farrar explained that the ones kept were because those groups had it in their bylaws or there were statutory requirements, or other agreements. Administrator Heineman reviewed the original motion, which was to only keep Council liaisons to boards of authority. Per the City's Boards, Commissions, and Committees policy, the only boards of authority are the Port Authority Board and the HRA. The Port Authority doesn't have a Council liaison as it has two voting Council members instead. The HRA is a board of authority and will subsequently keep a Council liaison. Council Member Norton asked for further clarification. Council President Farrar stated that this topic was discussed at a prior workshop and has nothing else to state to clarify the discussion. The language

states that all Council liaisons would be discontinued unless they are boards of authority or the groups that have it in their bylaws.

Council Member Norton stated there was still some confusion. Several miscellaneous committees continue to have a Council member appointed to them, which is inconsistent with the motion to keep Council liaisons only to boards of authority. These miscellaneous committees include the Hiawathaland Transit, Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition, and Beyond the Yellow Ribbon. Council Member Norton asked Council Member Kliewer to clarify the intent of his original motion, asking if it was to include these miscellaneous boards. Council Member Kliewer clarified that he didn't intend for miscellaneous boards to continue to have Council liaisons, only for boards of authority as the motion indicated. Council Member Norton stated that was also her understanding of the motion, and subsequently, those miscellaneous appointments will be removed.

Council Member Norton further stated that as the committee appointments were being reviewed, it should be noted that the remaining committee appointments have largely been given to only three Council members, and perhaps more equal representation should be considered.

Council Member Lambert asked Administrator Heineman where the City is at with grants and fundraising, and whether they have been working on them. Administrator Heineman stated they are working on several right now and listed those in process. Council President Farrar suggested that it would be helpful to put grant and fundraising updates in future Council Administrator Status Reports. Police Chief Nick Sather commented on a few grant opportunities the Police Department has missed out on, but the department is actively pursuing others.

Council Member Norton wanted to review the ad hoc committees and read from section 16 of the Council's Rules of Order and Procedures. Council Member Norton stated that there is an ongoing investigation involving an employee that the entire Council has not been appraised of and questioned why it was only made known to the Personnel Committee. Council Member Norton further noted that the Personnel Committee decided to utilize an outside entity to assist with the complaint and noted that the Personnel Committee can only make recommendations and, in her opinion, does not have the authority to make that decision without the consent of the full Council. Council President Farrar stated that this discussion should take place later and that Council members need to trust that the committee is working towards everyone's best interests. Council Member Kliewer asked where Council Member Norton received the information. Council Member Norton declined to share the source of the information.

### **C. Council Administrator's Status Report.**

Administrator Heineman referenced the attached information provided to the Council members. As there was no response from Council members regarding the League of Minnesota Cities' Day on the Hill, there will be no participation in that process. The Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities has a Legislative Action Day on March 25. Interested Council members were encouraged to contact Administrator Heineman. Administrator

Heineman also reviewed a bill in the legislature that would change some housing requirements and suggested that the Council keep an eye on it. Lastly, a registration packet is included in the information given to the Council members about the League of Minnesota Cities summer session, June 24-26, and Public Information and Engagement Officer Michelle Leise is on a panel presenting at that meeting. If interested, Council members need to let Administrator Heineman know so they can get registered.

Director Blaney commented on the question from the public comment section of the meeting about tours of the wastewater plant. Public Works staff are working with Officer Leise to schedule dates for tours of that nature. Proposed dates for these tours are 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 11, and 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 29.

Council Member Norton asked for an update on the water service line replacement project community meeting. It will be provided at the next meeting, and 20 people attended.

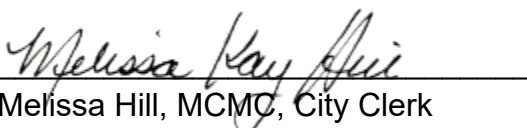
### **Agenda Item 11**

#### **Adjournment**

Council President Farrar adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

  
Janie Farrar, Council President

ATTEST:

  
Melissa Hill, MCMC, City Clerk