

## GOOD THUNDER PUBLIC HEARING AND COUNCIL MEETING

### Minutes of the Meeting

November 10, 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, Amy Klammer, and Jim Day were present. Councilor Jon Brude was absent. Sue Petty, City Clerk-Treasurer and Eli Depuydt, City Maintenance Supervisor, were present. Brian Severns was absent.

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

Mayor Anderson opened the Public Hearing -

#### **Public Hearing:**

Certifying unpaid utility bills and ordinance violations to Blue Earth County:

844 Chapel St - \$1003.60 unpaid utility bills and unpaid Ordinance violations

730 Chapel St - \$57.50 unpaid Ordinance violations

443 Main St - \$560.76 unpaid Ordinance violation

440 S. Halladay St - \$390.16 unpaid utility bills

Mayor Anderson called for any discussion on the above properties; resident Thomas Shoemaker disputed the unpaid balance on his account. He stated he asked for his water to be shut off over a year ago and it was not done. Clerk Petty stated the curb stop was broken and needed to be fixed. The curb stop was eventually fixed. May 21, 2024, Mr. Shoemaker emailed the city clerk and stated he may need to change his decision about the shut off and would let the city know what his decision would be. He never responded with a decision. Mr. Shoemaker requested council to decide immediately and refund him \$814.27 and \$390.16 for the water bill he has previously paid and the balance owing. After some discussion, councilor Brude made a motion to reimburse Mr. Shoemaker \$814.27 and to adjust off the \$390.16 past due on the water bill, Councilor Stoltzman seconded motion carried.

Mayor Anderson called for a motion to approve Resolution 2025-14 Certify Delinquent Utility accounts and other delinquent accounts for tax levy collectible in 2026 for the above listed properties, excluding 440 S. Halladay St, Councilor Brude made a motion to approve the above stated Resolution, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried.

Mayor Anderson called for a motion to close the public hearing and open the regular council meeting, Councilor Brude made a motion to close the public hearing and open the regular council meeting, Councilor Day seconded; motion carried.

Mayor Anderson opened the regular council meeting.

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

- A. Approval of Agenda
- B. Approval of Minutes October
- C. Approval of Bills: CK #18620 to CK #18661, EFT #56940 to #56954, Payroll EFT #500215 to #500221
- D. Building permits – GT-14-25, GT-15-25, GT-16-25, GT-17-25
- E. Reimbursements – Clerk Mileage, Brian Postage
- F. Sheriff's Department – 74 Hours: Directed patrol, Ambulance assist, Welfare Check, Paper service, theft, Disturbance, Narcotics
- G. Fire Department – Pancake feed-served over 500 people.  
10 calls – 5 medical, 1 MVA, 1 vehicle fire (combine) 1 gas leak, 1 field fire, 1 Mutual aid.

**Community comments:** None

**SouthPoint Financial Credit Union** – Rob Johnson presented information regarding an HSA account with SPFCU. There is no fee or yearly maintenance costs to enroll in an HSA with SPFCU. The employee will need to be a member of the Credit Union. The Credit Union will deposit the necessary \$10 into a savings account for the employee if they are not already members so they can become a member of the Credit Union. The interest rate on an HSA account is 2.018% APY. Council is reviewing changing to a high-deductible health insurance plan, which would allow for an HSA for employees. The max contribution for single coverage is \$4,400/year with an additional \$1,000 catch-up contribution. Councilor Brude asked how the transfer of funds would happen. Rob explained the funds would be transferred from the city's accounting software directly to the individual HSA accounts. The city can contribute to the HSA as well as the employees. The funds in the account carry over each year with no penalties. Mayor Anderson asked if the personnel committee has discussed this with the employees, Councilor Brude stated the committee met the previous week with Clerk Petty and discussed options.

**Streets Update** –The catch basin was placed at Willard and Houk. Quotes for concrete have been solicited, and MK Concrete will be coming out to place the curb and gutter and do some sidewalk panel replacements around town. The total cost for the sidewalk was \$4600; the county will be covering \$1250 of concrete due to the cost sharing agreement. Mayor Anderson asked for a motion to approve the bid from MK Concrete Councilor Stoltzman made a motion to approve the bid for MK Concrete, Councilor Brude seconded; motion carried. Safe Step will be in town November 11 or 12 to complete sidewalk maintenance in the areas they noted as trip hazards and lips that plow edges catch. Eli purchased 6 trees from Edenvale Nursery and planted them at Thunder Valley Park and the City Park. New posts were set at the compost and Archery Range for the archery tower expansion and camera mounting. Kellon and his volunteers have been

working on finishing new target stands and shooting lane. This week 2 high service pump alarms went off, the first was reset and seemed to be working, the second time there was a power supply issue. Luke's Electric inspected the wiring and fixed a few small issues contributing to the alarms. Water mains were flushed this week.

The repairs to the radiator and transmission were wrapped up and the truck is running great. A few more filters need to be replaced, there was a small leak in the transmission that has been fixed. The sander rate control has been addressed as well. The main broom has been replaced as it was too worn out to get through the fall leaf cleaning. The bucket and adapter for loading concrete and sifting compost have been delivered. Hoping to start sifting compost and removing concrete before putting on the new tires. Mayor Anderson asked about the concrete pile and if it were something the city would like to review and potentially offer to residents. This would allow residents to dump small amounts of concrete on there. Eli commented on the issue with that is monitoring it as it costs the city in labor to dispose of the concrete.

Eli will talk to Luke's Electric and get on the schedule to put up the Christmas lights.

**Water/Sewer Update** – In Brian's absence, Eli stated the chemical building at the ponds continues and should be wrapped up in the next few weeks. Brian is doing a discharge. The fence repairs on the NW corner of the ponds are nearly finished.

**Clerk/Treasurer Update** – MN Paid Family Leave will take effect January 1, 2026. The leave is a cost share between the employer and employee. The required premium is 33% because the city is considered a small employer as there are less than 30 employees including the Fire Department, city employees, and council members. The auditors suggest the premium be equally split between the employer and employee. Councilor Brude made a motion to approve the 50/50 premium cost share and approve the MN Paid Family Leave Policy and the FMLA policy, Councilor Day seconded; motion carried.

The Truth and Taxation meeting will be held December 8, 2025, at 7pm.

City hall will be closed November 26, 2025 – December 1, 2025.

**Unfinished Business:** Personnel Committee (Councilor Brude and Councilor Day) met last week and went over some changes to the Personnel Policy. Some of the changes include employment guidelines regarding annual reviews. Compensation and benefits will be reviewed. The Personnel Policy states there is life insurance, the city does not offer life insurance, which will need to be removed. Updating the insurance to include an HSA eligible insurance plan. The Personnel Committee would like to offer Comp time to employees instead of overtime. There will need to be a cap on the Comp time accrued. Also, there is conflicting information regarding the use of PTO after a probationary period. Clerk Petty will be working with COG on the updates with directions from the Personnel Committee.

**New Business:** Clerk Petty worked with M&M Insurance on switching to an HSA eligible health plan. Clerk Petty presented 3 options to the Personnel Committee for review. The monthly cost of the current plan is going up approximately \$300/month for both employees. If council approves switching to an HSA eligible plan, it would be approximately the same cost as the

current plan. The difference would be deductible with no co-insurance. It would be a \$6400 deductible max out of pocket. The vision insurance is unchanged. Clerk Petty presented council an option to increase the Dental Insurance coverage. This would allow employees \$1500 max benefit and the ability to be seen at any dentist's office. Councilor Day stated this is a good option to help compensate the employees as they are both at a high end of the pay scale. Councilor Day made a motion to approve the changes in Health Coverage and Dental Coverage, Councilor Stoltzman seconded; motion carried.

**Misc. Business:** None

**Adjourn:** Councilor Klammer made a motion to adjourn the regular council meeting, Councilor Day seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm

TNT December 8, 2025, at 7pm with Regular Council Meeting to follow.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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Susan Petty, City Clerk/Treasurer