



Goodhue City Council Work Meeting Minutes  
City Hall ~ January 8, 2025 ~ 6:00 p.m.

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**Members Present:** Mayor Ellen Anderson Buck, Joe Benda, Michael Brunkhorst, Chris Schmit

**Absent:** Mayor-elect Ernie Valenzuela, Council-elect Tyler Rashid

**Staff/Guests:** Lisa Redepinning, Lori Luhman, Jason Mandelkow, Todd Kieffer, McCrae Olson, Nick Gravemann, Trevor Sullivan GCSO, Lily Peterson, Emma Voth

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**Swearing in of new members**

Oath of office was read welcoming Michael Brunkhorst as Council Member.

**EDA Meeting**

Mayor Buck called the EDA meeting to order. There have been two board applications received. The closing date has been extended to January 19, 2025. The board is looking for a total of five members. Two of whom are council members and three from the public. The EDA may conduct a survey for business owners and will be working on a business directory.

Motion by Benda, seconded by Schmit, to adjourn the EDA meeting.

**Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Approve or amend Agenda**

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Schmit, seconded by Benda, motion carried 4-0-0.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion, to approve the December 17, 2024, meeting minutes, was made by Schmit, seconded by Benda, motion carried 4-0-0.

A motion was made by Benda, to set the following assignments for 2025, seconded by Schmit, motion carried 4-0-0.

- First Farmers and Merchants - official bank
- Zumbrota News Record – official newspaper
- City Attorney – Robert Vose/Kennedy & Graven
- City Engineer - Reese Sudtelgte/ISG
- City Prosecutor - Goodhue County

A motion to assign Joe Benda as Fire Association liaison was made by Brunkhorst, seconded by Schmit, motion carried 4-0-0.

A motion to continue having Chris Schmit serve on the Gas Committee for the remainder of the one-year, was made by Brunkhorst, seconded by Benda, motion carried 4-0-0.

A motion to assign Joe Benda as Ambulance liaison was made by Schmit, seconded by Brunkhorst, motion carried 4-0-0.

A motion to continue having Joe Benda serve on the Personnel Committee was made by Schmit, seconded by Brunkhorst, motion carried 4-0-0.

A motion to assign Michael Brunkhorst to the Ordinance committee was made by Benda, seconded by Schmit, motion carried 4-0-0.

The council decided the swimming pool liaison was no longer needed as the pool committee no longer exists.

Council tabled the appointment of acting mayor until the new mayor is sworn in.

A motion was made by Benda to adjust work meeting and council meeting times to 5:00 p.m. during lent, seconded by Schmit, motion carried 4-0-0.

Tobacco license Renewals for Goodhue Country Station, The Corner Bar and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Pub were discussed. All three have paid the city tobacco license fee and can be added to the consent agenda for approval at the next regular meeting.

The council discussed the first-floor apartment zoning issue with Attorney Vose and asked how to address this correctly. For the apartments to remain as they are and not displace residents, the owner of the property will need to apply for a variance. This is a special exception granted by the city to allow the property owner to use their land in a way that would otherwise be prohibited by the existing zoning regulations.

The council was asked about money that was donated from the Lions Club for the Flower Committee in 2024. The staff will search for the funds and the resolution accepting this donation. Council member Brunkhorst is on the flower committee and on behalf of the committee asked if the flower committee is part of the city or not. The decision leans toward “they are not” a part of the city and thus will check into working with the Goodhue Community Fund since they are a 501(c)(3) organization.

Council and staff also discussed an agreement that was found between the city and the Goodhue Lions Club from 1973 that states that they are to keep the premises insured. This agreement needs to be updated or see if there is an updated agreement. The city will reach out to the Lions Club for a meeting to discuss the agreement and then if needed, get the information to Attorney Vose for a recommendation.

Mayor-elect Ernie Valenzuela was unable to be present will be sworn in at the next possible opportunity.

Council member – elect Tyler Rashid was not present to be sworn in at this meeting. At the next meeting, it is recommended to adopt a resolution declaring a vacancy with hopes to fill the vacancy as soon as possible with a temporary appointment until the next regular election in November of 2026.

#### **Approval of Bills**

A motion was made to approve the bills by Schmit, seconded by Benda, motion carried 4-0-0.

#### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 7:02 p.m. by Council Member Schmit, seconded by Brunkhorst, motion carried 4-0-0.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Lori Luhman, Administrative Assistant/City Clerk