

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regular meeting of the Brainerd City Council was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Council President O'Day.

Upon roll call the following Members were noted as present: Czczok, Johnson, Stunek, Yeager, Erickson, Bevans, and O'Day. Mayor Badeaux was also noted as present.

Chair O'Day led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS CZECZOK AND STUNEK, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE ADDITION OF RESIGNATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST- PAYROLL NICOLE TORRENCE TO THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS BEVANS AND CZECZOK TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

Approval of Bills

Approved as on file in the Administrator's Office.

Approval of Minutes

Approved May 4, 2026, Council Minutes.

Department Activity Reports

Approved reports as presented.

Special Event - First Lutheran Luncheon

Approved event as presented.

Special Event - Walk for Hope

Approved event as presented.

Updated Job Descriptions - Public Works Department

Approved updated Public Works Department job descriptions.

Reclassify - Spring Intern Caleb Wahlstrom to Community Service Officer

Approved reclassification of Caleb Wahlstrom from the Police Intern to Community Service Officer effective May 16, 2026, at \$22.56 per hour.

Hiring - Summer Temporary Employees

Approved the hiring of the 2026 Summer temporary employees as presented.

Policy Update - Data Practices Exhibit A

Designated Police Chief Runde as Data Practices Designee – Law Enforcement.

Resignation – Administrative Specialist – Payroll Nicole Torrence

Accepted the resignation of Administrative Specialist – Payroll Nicole Torrence effective May 29, 2026, and authorized staff to begin the hiring process to backfill the position.

Upon roll call, Council Members Czczok, Johnson, Stunek, Yeager, Erickson, Bevans, and O'Day voted "aye". No member voted "nay". The Chair declared the motion carried.

Public Forum

The Chair opened the public forum at 7:33 p.m.

Denny Bollig, 1001 Anabec St, gave an overview of the process that has been taken for his property concerning infiltration of stormwater. He stated that the recommendation to do nothing is not acceptable. He requests that the City council move forward with maintenance applicable to the easement, reimburse past stormwater fees and stop collection of future stormwater fees, and allow him to speak with the engineer that completed the study to look at other options.

The chair closed the public forum at 7:32 p.m.

Council Committee Reports

Personnel and Finance Committee

Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) – Mitch Lachelt 2026 Step Movement

Committee Chair Johnson stated that Mr. Lachelt's situation is unique as he voluntarily took a demotion after being promoted. Looking at his service record, if he hadn't taken a risk by being promoted, he would be eligible for step 7. He has been with BPU since 2017.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS JOHNSON AND STUNEK, DULY CARRIED, TO APPROVE MOA BETWEEN THE CITY OF BRAINERD AND THE IBEW LOCAL NO. 31 BRAINERD PUBLIC UTILITIES UNION ALLOWING MITCH LACHELT TO MOVE TO STEP 7 EFFECTIVE APRIL 8, 2026.

Safety and Public Works Committee

Construction Testing Proposals - Imp 25-05 - Southeast Brainerd Reconstruction Project

Committee Chair Erickson stated that this is standard materials testing. There was quite a difference between dollar amounts. A significant difference is that ITT is a local company so their transportation is less.

Member Bevans asked whether ITT will conduct testing on subsoils.

Public Works Director Sandy stated that a geotechnical report was completed for this project. This is a contract for construction material testing.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS ERICKSON AND CZECZOK, DULY CARRIED, TO AWARD THE CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS TESTING PROPOSAL FROM ITT IN THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF \$20,915.

Resolution - Requesting Advance Municipal State Aid Funds

Committee Chair Erickson stated that this is a revision to the previous advance. It now includes an amendment for Wright/10th Street project.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS ERICKSON AND CZECZOK TO ADOPT RESOLUTION REQUESTING ADVANCE MUNICIPAL STATE AID CONSTRUCTION FUNDS.

RESOLUTION 29:26

Upon roll call, Council Members Czeczok, Johnson, Stunek, Yeager, Erickson, Bevans, and O'Day voted "aye". No member voted "nay". The Chair declared the motion carried.

Ordinance Discussion - Special Events

Committee Chair Erickson stated that there was a group that contacted the parks and recreation regarding a holding a special event in a park. The group had not submitted an application for a special event or reserved the pavilion but still planned to hold the event without approval. The group has since completed an application. Staff had no way to regulate park use for large groups that planned to host public community events.

Community Development Director Kramvik stated that getting an ordinance in place that requires submission of the application already utilized by the City is the first step. There is language in the ordinance that provides for special event policy that could be worked on once a Public Services Director is in place to refine the ordinance even more.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS ERICKSON AND CZECZOK, DULY CARRIED, TO DIRECT STAFF TO BRING A DRAFT ORDINANCE TO THE NEXT MEETING.

Direction on Active Code Enforcement

Committee Chair Erickson stated that this is a repeat offender of the junk and debris ordinance.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS ERICKSON AND CZECZOK, DULY CARRIED, TO ABATE THE JUNK AND DEBRIS AT 1718 PINE ST.

Unfinished Business

Call for Applicants – Informational:

Mayor Recommended: (terms to expire on 12/31 of said year)

Charter Commission – 2 terms (Expire 2029) 2 terms (Expire 2026)

Economic Development Authority– 1 term (Expire 2028) 1 term (Expire 2031)

Library Board-- 1 term (Expire 2027)

Public Utilities Commission – 1 term (Expire 2026)

Transportation Advisory Committee- 1 term (Expire 2026) 2 terms (Expire 2027)

Council President Recommended: (terms expire on 12/31 of said year)

Airport Commission – 1 term (Expire 2028)

Planning Commission-- 1 term (Expire 2028)

Water Tower Committee—2 terms

Chair O'Day noted that the liaison for the Park Board will be Member Yeager, and the liaison for the Housing Redevelopment Authority will be Member Czeczok.

Final Reading – Ordinance 1602 – Water System

Public Works Director Sandy gave an overview of the ordinance.

Member Czeczok asked how this ordinance affects the properties that pay a double fee.

Public Works Director Sandy stated that the double fee is addressed in the fee schedule which is referenced in the ordinance.

The Chair opened the public hearing 7:51 p.m.

No one came forward.

The Chair closed the public hearing at 7:52 p.m.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS BEVANS AND JOHNSON, DULY CARRIED, TO CONDUCT THE FINAL READING OF ORDINANCE 1602 AND DISPENSE WITH THE ACTUAL READING.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS BEVANS AND JOHNSON TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 1602 – WATER SYSTEMS.

ORDINANCE 1602

Upon roll call, Council Members Czeczok, Johnson, Stunek, Yeager, Erickson, Bevans, and O'Day voted "aye". No member voted "nay". The Chair declared the motion carried.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS BEVANS AND JOHNSON TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUMMARY PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCE 1601.

RESOLUTION 30:26

Upon roll call, Council Members Czeczok, Johnson, Stunek, Yeager, Erickson, Bevans, and O'Day voted "aye". No member voted "nay". The Chair declared the motion carried.

Resolution – Awarding the Sale of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2026A; Fixing their form and Specifications; Directing their Execution and Delivery; and Providing for their Payment

Chris Hogan, Baker Tilly, gave an overview of the bond sale results. The City sold \$13,035,000 of bonds at a 4.0259% interest rate. The City has maintained its AA- bond rating.

Member Czeczok asked about the amount that the City is allowed to bond each year. He also asked if there was a way to determine the interest on the taxpayer portion.

Ms. Hogan stated that there isn't an amount that the City is limited to for bonding in a year, rather there is an overall statutory debt limit. Due to there being a variety of pay sources and terms the City is provided a debt amortization for each of the sources and purposes.

Finance Director Hillman stated that the amortization charts could be sent via email. The Fire Station debt will count toward the statutory debt limit but the City has plenty of capacity. The City is also looking at issuing debt this fall for additional construction projects.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS CZECZOK AND STUNEK TO ADOPT RESOLUTION AWARDING THE SALE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2026A, IN THE ORIGINAL AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$13,035,000; FIXING THEIR FORM AND SPECIFICATIONS; DIRECTING THEIR EXECUTION AND DELIVERY; AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR PAYMENT.

RESOLUTION 30:26

Upon roll call, Council Members Czeczok, Stunek, Yeager, Erickson, Bevans, and O'Day voted "aye". Member Johnson voted "nay". The Chair declared the motion carried.

New Business

Public Hearing and Resolution - Improvement 25-06 - Order Improvement, Accept Bids, and Award Contract

Public Works Director Sandy gave an overview of the improvement hearing and bids. The apparent low bidder was Knife River Corporation with a bid total of \$696,945.10. It is about 16% lower than the engineer's estimate.

Member Czeczok asked if the estimated assessment is included in the notice of hearing. He also asked if the bid is significantly below the engineer's estimate whether property owners can assume that their assessment will be less.

Public Works Director Sandy stated that it is a requirement of Chapter 429 to include the estimated assessment with the notice of hearing. He also stated that it is likely that the assessments will be lower. Once the project is substantially complete, the assessments will be recalculated.

The Chair opened the public hearing at 8:06 p.m.

No one came forward.

The Chair closed the public hearing at 8:07 p.m.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS ERICKSON AND YEAGER TO ADOPT RESOLUTION WHICH ORDERS IMPROVEMENT 25-06, ACCEPTS THE BIDS, AND AWARDS THE CONTRACT TO KNIFE RIVER CORPORATION - NORTH CENTRAL IN THE TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$696,945.10 AND AUTHORIZE PROPER SIGNATURES ON THE AGREEMENT DOCUMENTS.

RESOLUTION 31:26

Upon roll call, Council Members Czeczok, Johnson, Stunek, Yeager, Erickson, Bevans, and O'Day voted "aye". No member voted "nay". The Chair declared the motion carried.

Resolution - Improvement 25-05 - SE Brainerd Reconstruction Project - Accepting Bids

Public Works Director Sandy gave an overview of the bids. The engineer's estimate was \$3,477,008. The apparent low bidder for the project was Ryan Contracting with an apparent bid total of \$2,995,049.25. It is about 13.9% lower than the engineer's estimate. He stated that Bolton and Menk is confident in Ryan Contracting and there have been favorable bids this construction season.

Member Johnson asked whether Ryan Contracting included enough of an estimate for dewatering in this area given its history.

Public Works Director Sandy stated that he is confident in what the contractor has done in other cities, and the contractor had the results of the geotechnical report. The bids were sequential and he does not see there being any problems in proceeding with the project as designed.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS STUNEK AND JOHNSON TO ADOPT RESOLUTION WHICH ACCEPTS THE BIDS AND AWARDS THE CONTRACT TO RYAN CONTRACTING IN THE TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT OF \$2,995,049.25 AND AUTHORIZE PROPER SIGNATURES ON THE AGREEMENT DOCUMENTS.

RESOLUTION 32:26

Upon roll call, Council Members Czeczok, Johnson, Stunek, Yeager, Erickson, Bevans, and O'Day voted "aye". No member voted "nay". The Chair declared the motion carried.

Resolution - Orderly Annexation - Long Lake Township

Community Development Director Kramvik gave an overview of the orderly annexation. The annexation was initiated by Long Lake Township to prevent another voting precinct due to redistricting.

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS CZECZOK AND BEVANS TO ADOPT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR ORDERLY ANNEXATION OF PACELS 75060513 AND 41060523.

RESOLUTION 34:26

Upon roll call, Council Members Czeczok, Johnson, Stunek, Yeager, Erickson, Bevans, and O'Day voted "aye". No member voted "nay". The Chair declared the motion carried.

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Kramvik stated that the amended Riverside Drive Orderly Annexation is being reviewed by County staff prior to bringing it to Council for consideration. He also gave an overview of the Planning Commission agenda.

Public Works Director Sandy stated that the City of Brainerd was awarded \$2 million through the Minnesota bonding bill for the east segment of the Cuyuna Lakes State Trail that will connect 28th street to the NP Center. They've also received word regarding the funding requests for phase 1 of the wastewater treatment facility. Staff is working with Bolton and Menk to work out a trip to Washington D.C. to lobby for this and other upcoming projects.

Finance Director Hillman stated that the filings for City offices open on May 19th. Open positions include Ward 2, Ward 4, one At-Large, and Mayor.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Badeaux stated he welcomes all challengers. He hopes the lobbyist group comes up with a great name. He gave a shoutout to his grand-daughter. Finally, he stated that the first movie in the park went well. The next movie will be either Honey, I Shrank the Kids, ET, or Ghostbusters on June 5th. He gave condolences and thoughts and prayers for those affected by the fires.

Council Member Reports

Member Stunek stated that he struggled to stay in retirement during the fires.

Member Czeczok complimented Chief Runde on his debut report. He extended his thanks to Commissioner Koering for his comments regarding the 287g agreement.

Member Bevans stated that he attended Lyle Niemeyer's funeral, who owned Jim & Lyle's Red Owl downtown. Everyone in attendance wore flannel shirts and suspenders and they brought his cremains in in a minnow bucket.

Member Yeager gave his time to Airport Director Roach for the Airport Ticker.

Airport Director Roach stated that things are going well at the Airport. There are more cars in the parking lot and seeing the results in the enplanement activity since bringing the morning flight back. There is a new tenant at the Airport, Executive Express, which is offering rides to and from the Airport. Recent activities include the Flanders Fire. There are generally 3 fixed wing aircraft at the Airport. There were a total of 13 extra firefighting aircraft over the weekend. Over 18,000 gallons of fuel was used over the weekend to fight the Flanders fire. This

is about one third of a typical summer month. Finally, there may be a commercial air flight diverted into Brainerd tonight due to weather in Duluth.

Member Erickson stated that he will be attending the Planning Commission meeting and the Region 5 meeting upcoming.

Chair O'Day stated that it is crazy to see the wildfire this close to home. He took the opportunity to say that having a fire right now is not worth the risk.

Adjourn

MOVED AND SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS STUNEK AND BEVANS, DULY CARRIED, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.



Nicholas W. Broyles
City Administrator

