

Regular Meeting

**Echo City Council  
Tuesday August 12th, 2025**

The regular city council meeting of the City of Echo Minnesota was called to order by Mayor Dan Remmele at 7:00 pm at the Community Center.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Present:** Mayor Dan Remmele, Councilman Mark Schettler, Councilman Wyatt Bendix, Councilman Dan Larsen, Clerk Brian Pitzl, Public Work Supervisor Bryan Nielsen, Fire Chief Matt Dunphy. Absent was Councilman Darren Gjerset.

**Citizens/Guests:** Paul Jurek: Bollig Engineering, Shannon Sweeney: David Drown Associates

**Open Forum:** Paul Jurek from Bollig Engineering and Shannon Sweeney from David Drown Associates were present to update the council on the scope of the TIF expansion project costs. \$720,000 would be available over the course of the TIF financing to put toward any projects. Bollig received quotes for the televising and jetting of the storm sewers to see if any issues were found before any decisions would be made as to what the city wanted to do regarding any projects. Motion made by Councilman Bendix, seconded by Councilman Schettler to approve the televising of the storm sewer with the cost not to exceed \$35,000, with the amount to be paid by the city, then will be reimbursed by the TIF district income once the area is expanded. Motion carried with Councilman Gjerset absent. The city needs to have a project in place by April 2027 pertaining to the TIF district with several options to finance any project. The city believes that there are 4 streets, that would be a priority and would like to get more information on costs.

**Approval of Minutes & Resolutions:**

Motion to approve, July 8th, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes, was made by Councilman Schettler, seconded by Councilman Bendix. Motion carried with Councilman Gjerset absent.

A Resolution to Delegate Responsibility for Cannabis Retailers to the county was discussed. The council has mixed feelings on the issue. Motion made by Councilman Schettler, seconded by Councilman Bendix to hold a public hearing regarding the issue to see what the community members think of the matter. Any residents who would like to attend the meeting are welcome to express their opinions in a civilized manner. Motion carried with Councilman Gjerset absent.

**Reports:**

Matt Dunphy- Fire Chief: Reported that the pork chip feed attendance was down a little, but donations were up. Brought 2 trucks to Vesta for the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary parade. They Echo Fire Department will be hosting the West Central Fire Department Association meeting on August 18<sup>th</sup> at the Echo Community Center. Received a resignation letter from Fireman Mark Schettler.

Motion made by Councilman Larsen, seconded by Councilman Bendix to accept the resignation. Motion carried with Councilman Schettler abstaining and Councilman Gjerset absent. The council thanked Mark for his service. The chief has not heard from a firefighter who was sent a letter requesting a doctor's letter clearing them to continue on the department. Chief Dunphy and Mayor Remmele will talk to the individual and see about their intentions.

Chastity Kuehn- Not present. Holding a fundraiser at Echo Days.

Maintenance Supervisor Nielsen – Bryan will be off August 20<sup>th</sup> for Rural water training and September 5<sup>th</sup>. Would like a letter to be sent to a property owner regarding shrubs that have overgrown and are blocking part of an alley. Clerk will send a letter to the property owner.

Mayor Remmele-

Councilman Schettler –

Councilman Gjerset – Not present.

Councilman Bendix –

Councilman Larsen –

Clerk Pitzl – Received an email pertaining to a complaint of barking dogs during the day. The council will look into the matter.

**Old Business:** The city clerk contacted the city auditor for advice on allocating excess funds to projects. It was suggested that the city would like to keep 65% of funds in the unassigned general fund and earmark the remaining 35%.

**New Business:** The clerk distributed copies of the 2026 budget to the council. The council will need to approve a proposed levy by the end of September to be sent to the county. The final levy needs to be approved by December 31<sup>st</sup> of this year. A building permit for a fence was brought before the council. Motion made by Councilman Schettler, seconded by Councilman Bendix to approve the permit. Motion carried with Councilman Gjerset absent.

**Consent Agenda:** Motion made by Councilman Bendix, seconded by Councilman Schettler to approve the consent agenda consisting of Bills, Payroll, and Bank Information. Motion carried with Councilman Gjerset absent.

**Adjournment:** Motion was made by Councilman Schettler, and second by Councilman Bendix to adjourn regular meeting at 7:27 pm. Motion carried with Councilman Gjerset absent.

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Mayor Dan Remmele

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City Clerk- Brian Pitzl