

Regular Meeting

**Echo City Council
Tuesday June 10th, 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 Dan Larsen, Councilman Darren Gjerset, Clerk Brian Pitzl, Public Work Supervisor Bryan Nielsen. Absent was Councilman Wyatt Bendix.

Citizens/Guests: Steven Enriquez

Open Forum: Steven Enriquez was asked to address the council regarding the old gas station on 2nd Ave. He is in the process of purchasing the building to start a repair business. Mr. Enriquez inquired about what needs to be done to move forward with the project and has been working on plans for the business. The council suggested looking at other properties along 2nd Ave. to see what other options there are that would better fit the business. No matter what happens with the property, the council requests that the building be removed for safety reasons.

Approval of Minutes & Resolutions:

Motion to approve, May 13th, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes, was made by Councilman Gjerset, seconded by Councilman Schettler. Motion carried with Councilman Bendix absent.

Motion to approve June 3rd, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes was made by Councilman Gjerset, seconded by Councilman Schettler, motion carried with Councilman Bendix absent.

Reports:

Matt Dunphy- Fire Chief: Not present

Chastity Kuehn- Not Present

Maintenance Supervisor Nielsen – Bryan spoke on behalf of the fire department about a fire call mutual aid bill that was received from Sacred Heart. The council felt that it would not be right to pay the bill as there should be agreements between local fire departments that each help the other and the owner is not charged any more than the fire call rate. The city of Sacred Heart has both a new fire chief and city administrator that are going off an updated contract of the West Central Fire Department Association. Councilman Gjerset called the fire chief during the meeting to discuss the bill, and it was determined that the City of Echo would not need to pay the bill. Bryan also spoke on behalf of the 1st Responders and informed the council of an upcoming mock car accident training on July 7th at Lions Park that will include the fire

department, 1st Responders, County Sheriff, and possibly an air ambulance. In regard to city maintenance, Bryan said the new generator at the lift station is up and running. Bryan received a quote for a generator for the community center for \$55,000. The council felt that it would be better to get a quote to be able to hook up the current portable generator to the community center. Bryan was asked how often the fire hydrants were flushed and informed the council that he does it once per year. Asked about efficiency of spraying for mosquitoes. Bryan told the council that it depends on the direction of the wind which affects how effective the spraying is. Bryan was also asked about the settings for the water tower. The water tower is filled less in the winter to keep the water from freezing by pumping in water as it goes out. Bryan will be gone July 3-6 for extended weekend. Usually there is someone to cover if anything arises.

Mayor Remmele- Requested that if the council adjusts meeting times in the winter months, that they be no earlier than 6:30 to make it easier for him to attend.

Councilman Schettler –.

Councilman Gjerset –

Councilman Bendix –

Councilman Larsen – Asked about the recycling bins for the townships. They were removed by the county but could be returned after some exploration of options by the county.

Clerk Pitzl – The City office will be closed on Thursday, June 19th in observance of the Juneteenth Holiday and well as July 3-7 for clerk long holiday weekend. Working on the 2026 budget. The preliminary budget needs to be submitted to the county by the end of September. Brian will have the budget ready for the August meeting to be approved at the September meeting. There may be a question-and-answer public meeting regarding the Yellow Medicine East school referendum prior to the July 8th regular council meeting. Brian will do a rate study for the sewer to see if the current rate is sufficient for funding.

Old Business:

New Business:

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

Adjournment: Motion was made by Councilman Schettler, and second by Councilman Larsen to adjourn regular meeting at 8:20 pm. Motion carried with Councilman Bendix absent.

Mayor Dan Remmele

City Clerk- Brian Pitzl