

Regular Meeting

**Echo City Council  
Monday June 9th, 2026**

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

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Present:** Mayor Dan Larsen, Councilman Wyatt Bendix, Councilman Darren Gjerset, Maintenance Supervisor and Fire Chief Bryan Nielsen, Clerk Brian Pitzl.

**Citizens/Guests:** Tim & Daneen Dhoore, Matt Dunphy, James Dunphy, Kristi Fernholz: Upper MN Valley Regional Development Commission.

**Open Forum:** Daneen Dhoore addressed the council regarding getting playground equipment for the park. She informed the council of a grant available and will send the information to the city clerk to look into it. James Dunphy, representing the Echo American Legion, asked about the lack of light on the flagpole at the city cemetery. With the lack of electricity to the pole, the options are for solar lights that don't necessarily last very long. James will look into pricing to run electricity to the flagpole as the electrical poles are close in proximity. The American Legion would be willing to supply the flags for the cemetery. The E.C.H.O. group requested liquor and gambling licenses for the Echo Days Celebration. Motion made by Councilman Bendix, seconded by Councilman Gjerset to approve the licenses. Motion carried with Councilman Schettler absent. Kristi Fernholz from the Upper Minnesota Valley Regional Development Commission addressed the council with some information regarding what all the Commission does. There are a number of projects that they are willing to help communities with.

**Approval of Minutes & Resolutions:**

Motion to approve, May 19th, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes, was made by Councilman Gjerset, seconded by Councilman Bendix. Motion carried with Councilman Schettler absent.

Motion to approve Resolution 2026-008 Accepting Donations was made by Councilman Bendix, seconded by Councilman Gjerset. Motion carried with Councilman Schettler absent.

**Reports:**

Fire Chief Bryan Nielsen – The fire department had a joint training with Wood Lake and Belview for Firefighter Survival and Confidence Course to improve air consumption and low visibility outcomes. Will be receiving a pallet of water from a grant they obtained. There is one individual interested in joining the department. The Fire Department Pork Chop Feed is scheduled for Thursday, July 30<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm.

1<sup>st</sup> Responders Chief Chastity Kuehn-

Maintenance Supervisor Bryan Nielsen – Bryan estimated a cost to make a sprayer attachment for the street sweeper with a 60-gallon tank to be \$550. Motion made by Councilman Bendix seconded by Councilman Gjerset to approve the purchase. Motion carried with Councilman Schettler absent. Finished up with spraying for weeds on city properties. Will be out of town June 18<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>. There have been some issues with the water pressure from Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water that are being monitored.

Mayor Dan Larsen -

Councilman Mark Schettler –

Councilman Darren Gjerset – Would like to see the water sewer rate margins and where the city is regarding rates.

Councilman Wyatt Bendix – Noticed that a few residents who had been sent letters regarding their property have made some improvements. Inquired about the residential dumpsters that are full and would like to see them dumped on a regular basis.

Clerk Pitzl – Brian will be at the League of Minnesota Cities Annual Conference June 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. The city office will be closed on those days as well as July 6<sup>th</sup>. Received an updated census of the city of Echo stating that the population as of 2025 was 240 residents with 106 households. At the previous council meeting, the council had a question about an individual with a problematic past and wanted to know if the person was following any conditions given. The city was informed that the county knows the individual is in town and is allowed to be without restrictions.

**Old Business:** A quote was received for tree removal and trimming in a couple areas in town. More detailed information is needed before a decision is made.

**New Business:**

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

**Adjournment:** Motion was made by Councilman Bendix, and second by Councilman Gjerset to adjourn regular meeting at 8:08 pm. Motion carried with Councilman Schettler absent.

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Mayor Dan Larsen

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City Clerk- Brian Pitzl