

**CITY OF WACONIA
MARCH 16, 2026**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Litfin called the March 16, 2026, Waconia City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with Council Member Coleman absent.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trinty Lutheran School 7th grader, Vyctor Traver led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. PROCLAMATIONS

None

4. ADOPT AGENDA

Motion to adopt the consent agenda as published was made by Council Member Grengs, seconded by Council Member Siddons.

MOTION CARRIED.

5. PUBLIC HEARING

1) Fee Schedule Ordinance Amendment — Waconia City Code Chapter 1100

Nicole Meyer, Finance Director, stated that it is necessary under Minnesota State Law that the City holds a public hearing before a zoning ordinance is amended and that Chapter 1100 of the City Code contains zoning and land use fees charged by the City. The City holds a public hearing for the entire fee schedule each year to avoid inadvertently violating this requirement for land use/zoning fee changes.

Motion to open the Public Hearing was made by Council Member Gleason, seconded by Council Member Siddons.

MOTION CARRIED.

No verbal or written comments were received.

Motion to close the Public Hearing was made by Council Member Gleason, seconded by Council Member Grengs.

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 792 amending Chapter 1100 of the Waconia City Code related to Permits, Licenses, and Fees was made by Council Member Siddons, seconded by Council Member Gleason.

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-076 Summary Publication of Ordinance No. 792 was made by Council Member Gleason, seconded by Council Member Grengs.

MOTION CARRIED.

6. OPEN FORUM

None.

7. COMMUNITY INTEREST PRESENTATIONS

None.

8. ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) **Approve March 2, 2026, City Council Minutes**
- 2) **Approve March 16, 2026, Expenditures**
- 3) **Safari Island Community Center Expenditures from Sports Facilities Companies Incurred February 2026**
- 4) **Ice Arena Expenditures from Sports Facilities Companies Incurred February 2026**
- 5) **Innovent Unit Replacement — Waconia Ice Arena Facility**
- 6) **CSAH 10 & Waconia Parkway North Improvements Pay Request #6**
- 7) **2025 Pond Cleaning Pay Request No.1 to Schneider Excavating and Grading, Inc.**
- 8) **2025 Bent Creek Culvert Lining Project Change Order #1**
- 9) **2026 Dock Slip Lease for the Fire Department Boat**
- 10) **Firefighters' Leave of Absence**
- 11) **Carver County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan**
- 12) **Interfund Loan from General Fund to PIR Capital Project Fund - Year End 2025**
- 13) **Agreement for Can Trailer Location - Troop 327**
- 14) **Authorize Execution of Contract for Compost Collection Services**
- 15) **Approval of Laserfische Migration to Cloud Upgrade**
- 16) **Special Event Permit - Promise Church**
- 17) **Off-Site Gambling- Waconia Lions Club**
- 18) **Off-Site Gambling - Minnesota USA Wrestling Inc**

Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as published was made by Council Member Siddons, seconded by Council Member Grengs.

MOTION CARRIED.

9. COUNCIL BUSINESS

1) Franchise Agreement - Minnesota Valley Electric

Nicole Meyer stated that Staff have been working to finalize language with the Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative (MVEC) on an electric franchise agreement. The City currently has a franchise agreement with MVEC; however, a formal agreement must be approved by Ordinance of the Council. This Ordinance grants MVEC a non-exclusive franchise to provide electric energy and establishes the terms of the agreement. The updated language clearly outlines how the City and MVEC will coordinate construction activities within the City right-of-way.

Motion to approve Ordinance 790 made by Council Member Gleason, seconded by Council Member Grengs.

MOTION CARRIED.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-035 made by Council Member Grengs, seconded by Council Member Siddons.

MOTION CARRIED.

2) Special Event Permit - 2026 Earth Day Event

Shane Fineran, City Administrator, stated that the City received a Special Event Permit from Podium Sports Marketing for a special event permit for a 2026 Earth Day event. This event is scheduled for April 26, 2026, and will be held at City Square Park. The Earth Day Event is anticipated to last two hours and approximately 75 students and their supervisors will pick up litter along a designated route including sidewalks, boulevards, curbs, and within City Square Park. Students will be provided with plastic bags, gloves, and vests for safety. The applicant is requesting the Council approve this as a City Supported Event under the Special Event Permit policy, that the permit fees as well as the rental fees be waived, and an additional in-kind donation for portable toilets based on weather conditions.

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-088 approving a Special Event Permit and Temporary Noise Permit for the Waconia +30 Earth Day Event was made by Council Member Siddons, seconded by Council Member Grengs.

MOTION CARRIED.

3) Annexation Petition – Wolter and Klingelhutz

Lane Braaten, Community Development Director, stated that his item is a continuation from the March 2, 2026, Council meeting. At that meeting, Council directed Staff to work with the City Attorney to explore allowing annexation contingent upon an agreement for utilities to be provided at a later date. The City Attorney recommended denial of the annexation, as outlined in the Council packet. Staff also received an email from the applicant's representative requesting that the item be tabled for 30 days to allow time to address concerns raised by the City Attorney and Staff.

All Council Members were in agreement to table this item for 30 days.

Motion to table the Annexation Petition Request submitted by Eugene E & Carol Wolter and Klingelhutz Farms LLC to the April 20, 2026, regular City Council meeting was made by Council Member Siddons, seconded by Council Member Grengs.

MOTION CARRIED.

10. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None.

11. BOARD REPORTS

1) Staff Reports — Sgt. Jon Howard

Sgt. Jon Howard not available for Staff Report.

2) Staff Reports — Land Use Summary 2025 Lane Braaten, Community Development Director

Lane Braaten provided the Council with the 2025 Land Use Summary. The Planning Commission is scheduled to review this information on April 9, after which the full packet will be posted on the City's Website. Mr. Braaten reported that a total of 2,491 permits were issued in 2025, an increase from 853 permits in 2024. However, overall permit activity has remained relatively consistent since 2021. The total construction value rose significantly from \$61.8 million in 2024 to \$134.5 million in 2025, driven in part by projects such as Tractor Supply Store, Goodwill, The Wilford, and Transport Security. He also noted a substantial increase in the number of e-permits issued in 2025. Residential development included 119 new single-family homes and 103 multi-family units. In the commercial sector, 157 permits were issued in 2025, up from 104 in 2024 and 94 in both 2022 and 2023. As of the end of 2025, the City had 329 single-family lots, 44 townhome lots, 28.1 acres of commercial land, and one industrial lot totaling 2.37 acres available for development.

In summary, 2025 saw 2,491 total building permits issued, 222 new housing units constructed, 30.47 acres of commercial and industrial land available for development, an estimated population of 15,850, 158 commercial and industrial permits issued, and 373 buildable lots available.

Council thanked the Community Development Department and the Building/Inspections Department for a job well done.

3) Councilmember Siddons

Nothing to report.

4) Councilmember Coleman

Absent.

5) Councilmember Gleason

Nothing to report.

6) Councilmember Grengs

Nothing to report

7) Mayor Litfin

Mayor's Report – March 16, 2026

Thank you to Zac Coauette, Manager of Westview Acres, along with residents Bob and Bob, for their time as we taped a *Mayor's Minute* at Westview Acres.

Thank you as well to Angie Cruisen from Gather and Grow for hosting another *Mayor's Minute*.

Met with Carver County Commissioner Matt Udermann to discuss shared interests between the County and the City.

Presented to the Waconia Middle School Student Council, which is 39 members strong. Thank you to Ms. Cindy Schook for arranging the presentation. Our future is in good hands, and that was clearly on display through the students' strong interest and thoughtful questions.

Congratulations to the new Tractor Supply Store on their grand opening, and thank you to Manager Todd Christopherson for participating in a *Mayor's Minute*.

On March 4, the Waconia +30 group met, with 12 participants representing public and private fitness centers, Podium Sports, the Chamber of Commerce, Waconia Living, and Gather and Grow. Each organization shared updates on how they are helping energize the community through the +30 initiative.

Also on March 4, I was invited to lead the Senior Center in a new card game, which was a lot of fun. Thank you to Kathy Sissler for her great work. On March 26, the group will honor Shirley Heinen, who recently passed away.

On March 6, I hosted the Carver County Mayors for our bi-monthly meeting at Egg Cetera, with seven mayors in attendance.

On March 12, the City, along with Bolton & Menk, hosted an open house for both the

2027 Downtown Reconstruction Project and the Highway 5 Reconstruction Project. The event was well attended, with many great questions. Thank you to all who took the time to participate.

On March 14, I attended The Paws Inn open house. It is a business well worth visiting, offering a wide range of services for our pets.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shane Fineran stated he is hosting open office hours on Thursday, March 19th, from 5:00 to 6:15 p.m. in the Oak Conference Room.

13. ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING

Motion made by Council Member Grengs, seconded by Council Member Siddons to adjourn the March 16, 2026, Waconia City Council meeting at 6:30 p.m.

WORK SESSION: 801 HWY 284 SMALL AREA PLAN/PLANNING COMMISSION JOINT MEETING

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS/MEETINGS:

Tim Litfin, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Sue Schwalbe, Administrative Specialist