

**BELLE PLAINE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 18, 2026**

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Evans led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CALL TO ORDER. 2.1. Roll Call.

The Belle Plaine City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, May 18, 2026 at 6:00 PM in the council chambers at City Hall, 218 North Meridian Street, Belle Plaine, MN. Mayor Evans called the meeting to order with Councilmembers Brady Hartmann, Rex Stacey, Luke Otto and Shane Theas present.

Also present were City Administrator Meyer, Community Development Director Smith Strack, City Engineer Duncan, Public Works Superintendent Otto, City Attorney Vose, Fire Chief Otto and Police Sergeant Vycital. Wanda savage served as the video recording operator.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

MOTION by Councilmember Hartmann, second by Councilmember Theas, to approve the Agenda as presented. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

4. PUBLIC FORUM.

**Anyone wishing to address the Council must sign up before the meeting and then have a seat in the audience. The signup sheet is removed 5 minutes before the start of the meeting. Maximum of three (3) minutes per speaker. No official action will be taken.*

No one.

4.1. PROCLAMATION – National Poppy Day

Mayor Evans read the National Poppy Day Proclamation and presented it to ladies axillary member Ruth Westphal.

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA.

5.1. Regular Session Minutes of May 4, 2026.

5.2. Resolution 26-056 Appointing Seasonal Life Guards, Water Safety Instructors and Aquatic Staff for the 2026 Belle Plaine Aquatic Center Season.

5.3. Local 49ers Union MOU.

5.3.1. Resolution 26-060 Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Sign the Memorandum of Understanding – Long-Term Disability Benefits Change for 2025-2027 Collective Bargaining Agreement.

5.4. LELS Union MOU.

5.4.1. Resolution 26-061 Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Sign the Memorandum of Understanding – Long-Term Disability Benefits Change for 2025-2027 Collective Bargaining Agreement.

5.5. Resolution 26-062 Accepting a Donation of Popsicles for the Belle Plaine Police Department Summer Series Popsicles in the Park from Coborns, Belle Plaine.

5.6. Resolution 26-064 Approving Premise Permit for the Belle Plaine Chamber of Commerce at El Loro Mexican Restaurant.

MOTION by Councilmember Otto, second by Councilmember Hartmann, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: 5.1. Regular Session Minutes of May 4, 2026; 5.2. Resolution 26-056 Appointing Seasonal Life Guards, Water Safety Instructors and Aquatic Staff for the 2026 Belle Plaine Aquatic Center Season. 5.3. **Local 49ers Union MOU.** 5.3.1. Resolution 26-060 Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to

Sign the Memorandum of Understanding – Long-Term Disability Benefits Change for 2025-2027 Collective Bargaining Agreement. 5.4. **LELS Union MOU.** 5.4.1. Resolution 26-061 Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Sign the Memorandum of Understanding – Long-Term Disability Benefits Change for 2025-2027 Collective Bargaining Agreement. 5.5. Resolution 26-062 Accepting a Donation of Popsicles for the Belle Plaine Police Department Summer Series Popsicles in the Park from Coborns, Belle Plaine and 5.6. Resolution 26-064 Approving Premise Permit for the Belle Plaine Chamber of Commerce at El Loro Mexican Restaurant. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

6. DEPARTMENT REPORTS.

6.1. Community Services Department. (Report Only)

The Council acknowledged receipt of the Community Services Department report.

6.2. Ambulance Department. (Report Only)

The Council acknowledged the Ambulance Report.

6.3. Police Department.

Police Sergeant Vycital highlighted the Police Report.

6.4. Fire Department.

Fire Chief Otto highlighted the Fire Department Report and provided updated information to council.

6.5. Community Development Department.

Community Development Director Smith Strack highlighted the Community Development Report.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS.

7.1. Liquor License – Stephanie Schmitz (Schmitz Management LLC), dba The Shipwreck. The City Council will consider public comment on a request by Stephanie Schmitz (Schmitz Management LLC), dba The Shipwreck for an On-Sale, Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor, 2 AM and Sunday Intoxicating Liquor License at 110 North Meridian Street.

City Administrator Meyer reviewed the proposed new license for Schmitz Management LLC dba The Shipwreck.

Mayor Evans opened the public hearing at 6:13 PM.

Stephanie Schmitz, 212 N. Linden Street stepped forward to introduce herself to the Council.

MOTION by Councilmember Hartmann, second by Councilmember Otto, to close the public hearing at 6:14 PM. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

7.1.1. Resolution 26-057 Liquor License for Stephanie Schmitz (Schmitz Management LLC), dba The Shipwreck at 110 North Meridian Street.

MOTION by Councilmember Otto, second by Councilmember Hartmann, to approve Resolution 26-057 Liquor License for Stephanie Schmitz (Schmitz Management LLC), dba The Shipwreck at 110 North Meridian Street. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

7.2. Annual Liquor License Renewals. The City Council will receive and consider public comment on the annual liquor license renewals for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

City Administrator Meyer reviewed the annual liquor license renewals for 2026-2027.

Mayor Evans opened the public hearing at 6:16 PM.

No one stepped forward.

MOTION by Councilmember Hartmann, second by Councilmember Theas to close the public hearing at 6:17 PM. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

7.2.1. Resolution 26-058 Approving Annual Renewal of Liquor License for 2026/2027.

MOTION by Councilmember Theas, second by Councilmember Otto, to approve Resolution 26-058 Approving Annual Renewal of Liquor License for 2026/2027. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

7.3. Conditional Use Permit – 121 Meridian Street South. The City Council is to hold a public hearing to receive and consider public comment on a request by Kevin Berger (Property Owner) for a conditional use permit under Section 1105.11, Subd. 4(2) of the City Code. If approved the conditional use permit would allow automobile sales at 121 Meridian Street South.

Community Development Director Smith Strack reviewed the proposed Conditional Use Permit for 121 Meridian Street South to allow automobile sales with a slideshow.

Mayor Evans opened the public hearing up at 6:22 PM.

Kevin Berger, spoke on the use of his building and asked a clarifying question of staff.

MOTION by Councilmember Hartmann, second by Councilmember Otto, to close the public hearing at 6:25 PM. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

7.3.1. Resolution 26-059 Approving a Conditional Use Permit for an Auto Dealership at 121 Meridian Street South.

MOTION by Councilmember Otto, second by Councilmember Hartmann, to approve resolution 26-059 Approving a Conditional Use Permit for an Auto Dealership at 121 Meridian Street South. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

8. BUSINESS.

8.1. Presentation of Claims.

MOTION by Councilmember Hartmann, second by Councilmember Theas, to approve the reviewed claims as presented in the amount of \$229,435.54. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

8.2. Resolution 26-063 Authorizing Advertisement for Bids for the TH 25 and CSAH 3 (Main Street) Roundabout Project as part of the FY 2026 Metro Local Partnership Program Funding.

City Administrator Meyer highlighted the process and timelines.

Council held discussion.

MOTION by Councilmember Hartmann, second by Councilmember Theas, to approve Resolution 26-063 Authorizing Advertisement for Bids for the TH 25 and CSAH 3 (Main Street) Roundabout Project as part of the FY 2026 Metro Local Partnership Program Funding. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

9. ADMINISTRATION.

Mayor Evans invited the public for a discussion on the Minnesota State Flag at the June 1 City Council Meeting.

9.1. Upcoming Tentative Meetings.

1. City Offices Closed in Observance of the Holiday, Monday, May 25.
2. Downtown Music and Food Trucks, Wednesday, May 27, 4:30 - 8:00pm.
3. Design, Monday, June 1, 5:00 PM.
4. City Council, Monday, June 1, 6:00 PM.
5. Work Session, Monday, June 1, 6:15 PM.

The Council was reminded of the upcoming tentative meetings as listed.

10. ADJOURN.

MOTION by Councilmember Hartmann, second by Councilmember Otto, to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 PM. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee Eyrich
Recording Secretary