

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Special Meeting – August 25, 2025

Pursuant to due call and notice, a special meeting of the City Council of the City of Bemidji, Beltrami County, Minnesota, was held on Monday, August 18, 2025, at 6:55 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, Mayor Prince presiding.

Upon roll call, the following Councilmembers were declared present: Prince, Fiskevold Gould, Rivera, Eaton, Thayer. Absent: Peterson

CLOSED MEETING

Prince stated that council will need to discuss in closed session for pending or threatened litigation, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.05, Subd. 3(b) concerning the consolidated boundary adjustment proceedings involving Northern Township and the City of Bemidji, Minnesota Office of Administration File Numbers OAH 71-0330-40846 and OAH 71-0330-40869. Prince read into the record that the need for confidentiality outweighs the purposes served by the open-meeting law in this case based on the following:

- The City Council and legal counsel need to have a candid and open discussion of strategic considerations regarding the pending litigation.
- The only business to be discussed in the closed session is the pending litigation.
- An open session would be detrimental because it may take place in the presence of individuals or parties involved in the litigation and thereby divulge legal strategy that may be detrimental to the interests of the City and taxpayers.
- A closed session would benefit the public because the ultimate outcome of the threatened litigation may impact the finances, operations, future growth, services, economic development, and rights of the City.

Motion by Rivera, seconded by Thayer to close the meeting pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.05, Subd. 3(b) to discuss pending litigation concerning the consolidated boundary adjustment proceedings involving Northern Township and the City of Bemidji, Minnesota Office of Administration File Numbers OAH 71-0330-40846 and OAH 71-0330-40869. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Meeting closed at 6:57 p.m.

Those in attendance: Rich Spiczka, Sam Anderson, Robert Kringler, and Michelle Miller.

REOPEN MEETING

Having completed their business in closed meeting, Prince reopened the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Eaton, seconded by Thayer, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle R. Miller
City Clerk