

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CALEDONIA CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL
CALEDONIA, MINNESOTA
March 23, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: Following due call and notice thereof, Mayor Jeremy Leis called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Leis led the Council, City staff, and visitors in stating the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Council members present: Mayor Jeremy Leis, Member John Rauk, Member Dave Fitzpatrick, Member Amanda Ninneman, and Member Bob Klug. Staff present: Jake Dickson, City Clerk/Administrator, Casey Klug, Public Works/Zoning Director, Stephanie Eggert, Library Director, Bethany Klinski, Assistant Library Director. Visitors Present: Mike & Julie Gerardy, Chuck & Sharon Schulte, Tracey Knutson, Bryan Spier, Kim Nielson, *Caledonia Argus*, Charlene Corson Selbee, *Fillmore County Journal*.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Member Rauk moved to approve the minutes from the March 9th, 2026 regular City Council meeting. Motion seconded by Member Ninneman, motion passed unanimously, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA: Member Klug moved to approve the consent agenda. Member Ninneman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, motion carried. The consent agenda comprised the following items:

- a. Approve Payments and Disbursements
- b. Approve Purchase Agreement with Gran Properties
- c. Approve Firefighter Hires
- d. Approve 2026 Township Ambulance Contracts
- e. Approve Land Use Application at 614 Esch Drive
- f. Approve 2026 Soft Drink License Renewals
- g. Resolution 2026-07 Approving an LG230 Application to Conduct Off-Site Gambling for Caledonia Volunteer Fire Department Relief

PUBLIC COMMENT: Caledonia resident Chuck Schulte expressed his displeasure with the process and legal requirements for the City's anticipated purchase of the Freedom Auto Car Lot property for the proposed Public Library project and withdrew from the project. Schulte also withdrew from the January 12th Contract Agreement approved by the City Council.

PUBLIC WORKS/ZONING DIRECTOR: Public Works/Zoning Director Casey Klug updated the City Council on the Warrior Ave extension design and recent geotechnical analysis, street sweeping, and numerous planned improvements to Veterans Park and the ballfield.

CITY CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR: City Clerk/Administrator Dickson updated the City Council on the upcoming newsletter, a meeting with Representative Greg Davids at City Day on the Hill, and recent and upcoming meetings with the Economic Development Authority.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. E-Navigator Contract: City Clerk/Administrator Dickson introduced an update to the contract with Entrepreneurial Navigator David Carlson. Dickson stated that the agreement expires April 1st but there are still funds of approximately \$7,500 to expend, and that the funds would be appropriate to spend on additional contract time with Dave. The City Council asked about the performance of the E-Navigator and desired programs. Resident Tracey Knutson suggested more business visits. Motion made by Member Rauk, seconded by Member Fitzpatrick to extend the Entrepreneurial Navigator Contract. Motion passed unanimously, motion carried.
- b. Warrior Ave Watermain Loop: Public Works/Zoning Director Casey Klug introduced a design agreement for the Warrior Ave extension Watermain Loop. Klug stated that the project would loop the watermain that surrounds the High School to improve water pressure and water delivery in the area. Klug stated that the City engineer, SEH Inc. will perform design work for \$9,900. Motion made by Member Klug, seconded by Member Rauk to approve the Warrior Ave Watermain Loop Design Agreement. Motion passed unanimously, motion carried.
- c. Approve Part Time Police Officer Wages: City Clerk/Administrator Dickson introduced a proposal to move the two part time officers employed by Caledonia Police Department to a wage equivalent to the first steps of the Full Time Police Officer wage scale. Dickson stated that the police work performed by the part time officers is functionally identical to the work of full time officers save for the investigator, and that the Chief had advocated for higher wages for the part time officers given difficulty to recruit and the general climate of police work. Motion made by Member Rauk, seconded by Member Klug, to approve wage increases for Pal Tiangping and Gretchen Braun, equivalent to Steps 2 and 1 of the Full Time Officer wage scale. Motion passed unanimously, motion carried.
- d. Library Project: Tabled
- e. Overtime Reports: Pay Periods March 2nd through 15th: The City Council reviewed the overtime reports and took no action.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. The next regular Council meeting was scheduled for Monday, April 13th at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the Council, Mayor Leis adjourned the City Council Meeting at 7:28PM

Jeremy Leis
Mayor

Jake Dickson
Clerk/Administrator