

NOTE: Due to Open Meeting Law restrictions, the City Council may be discussing agenda items for the first time. Your patience and understanding is appreciated during this process.



MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF BIRCHWOOD VILLAGE
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA
January 13th, 2026
6:45 PM

MISSION STATEMENT

The Birchwood Village City Council is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for all residents by fostering a safe, inclusive, and thriving community. We are committed to responsible governance and transparent decision-making. Through collaboration with residents, businesses, and local organizations, we strive to improve public services and infrastructure while preserving the unique character of our city. Our goal is to make Birchwood Village a better place to live and grow for generations to come.

MEMBERS:

Jennifer Arsenault, Mayor (on leave/planned time away)
Bridget Sperl, City Council
Kathy Weier, City Council (acting Mayor)
Ryan Eisele, City Council
Ryan Hankins, City Council

CALL TO ORDER

Called to Order at 6:45 P.M. by Acting-Mayor Weier

ROLL CALL

Present as noted above.

AGENDA

Moved for approval as amended with an additional agreement with the County for the City CIP Road Plan under Consent Agenda item 2 by Sperl, Eisele 2; AA

CITY BUSINESS

1. Presentation/Q&A with Paul Burr, DNR Big Game Specialist
Presented and answered questions.
2. Halls Marsh MOA discussion and suggested edits.

Motion: City Clerk to present the following to Rice Creek as a framework acceptable to the Birchwood City Council for revision and acceptance of the MOA, and for further discussion at a Council workshop, with edits to include:

1. Under "General Provisions,"

* Denotes item that supporting documentation will be provided

- a. P. Strike "Any decision of the dispute resolution committee shall binding on the Parties."
2. Under "Birchwood Village Agrees To," the following are struck:
 - a. E. Accept responsibility for vegetative and/or habitat management activities within Halls Marsh related to the City's desired property use and management and engaging RCWD when PLOP management may enhance City efforts.
 - b. F. Prepare and make available to the public an annual report on the ecological health of Halls Marsh.
3. Under "RCWD Agrees To,"
 - a. Update Item B to strike "at the Halls Marsh Outfall" in two places and replace it with "within Hall's Marsh"

Move to authorize City Staff to communicate changes to RCWD by Hankins, 2 Eisele; AA

3. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Approve January 6, 2026 Special City Council Meeting Minutes*(pgs. 3-4)
Move to approve Consent Agenda items a & c by Eisele, Hankins 2; AA
 - b. Approval of revised Road Plan/ CIP for 2026*(pgs. 5-7) (pulled for discussion/addition)
Move to approve Consent Agenda item b, as amended, by Hankins, Sperl 2; AA
 - c. Approval of Engagement Agreement for City Clerk-Administrator*(pgs. 8-11)
Move to approve Consent Agenda items a & c by Eisele, Hankins 2; AA
 - d. Approval of December 2025 Treasurer's Report*(pgs. 12-28)(pulled for discussion)
Move to approve Consent Agenda item d and adjust 2026 budget to include estimated cost for audit of City by outside firm by Hankins Sperl 2; AA
 - e. Approval/ratification of variances as recommended by the Planning Commission for the build at 131 Wildwood*(pgs. 29-80)(amended from previously-approved variances for same project). (pulled for discussion) Discussion included adding some modifications to the "finding of fact"
Move to approve Resolution 2026-05 by Eisele, Sperl 2; AA

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Washington County Sheriff's Newsletter*(pgs. 81-84)
2. Xcel Energy Rate Adjustment Proposal*(pgs. 85-86)
3. Washington County Historical Society Event Notice*(pgs. 87-90)
4. *Park Members up for renewal next month (Weier)*
5. *Website retention schedule next month (Sperl)*

ADJOURN

Move to adjourn by Sperl, Hankins 2, AA at 8:15PM

* Denotes items that have supporting documentation provided

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