

- MINUTES -
CHASKA CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 20, 2026

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hubbard at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Roll call was taken. Present: Mayor Hubbard and Councilmembers Sheveland, Grau, Benesh, and Hatfield.

Also Present: Matt Podhradsky, City Administrator; Elise Durbin, Assistant City Administrator; Krista Mark, Communications Coordinator; and Christophe Morschen, City Attorney.

4. Adopt the Agenda

Motion by Councilmember Hatfield, second by Councilmember Benesh to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

5. Visitor Presentation

5.A. Recognition – Chaska High School Hawks Basketball Team – State Champions

Mayor Hubbard welcomed the Chaska High School basketball team to the meeting.

Coach Nick Hayes thanked the Council for inviting the team. He introduced the eight players that were able to make it to the meeting as well as Assistant Coach Peyton Sanders and JV Coach Nick Sabin. Coach Hayes noted the team had a record of 28-4, winning the last 25 games in a row and ultimately winning the state championship. The team had an undefeated record in conference, with several players getting honorable mentions in the conference.

Mayor Hubbard added that it was exciting to watch the team play throughout the season and complimented the players on their mentorship of younger players.

Councilmember Hatfield congratulated the players and followed their journey to the state championship on social media. She added that winning a state championship brings the community together.

Councilmember Benesh congratulated the players and told them to continue being strong role models for everyone in the community.

Councilmember Hatfield thanked the team for creating a legacy with this win and for working with kids in the community.

Councilmember Grau added that he has two kids in the basketball program, has coached travel basketball, and has gotten to know Coach Hayes through summer basketball camps. He congratulated the team on their win and thanked the team for supporting younger kids in the

program, building community, and being strong role models. The impact and influence of not only the win, but their attitudes go way beyond performance and matter more in the long run. He thanked the seniors on the team for the legacy they built.

City Administrator Podhradsky added that the team should not underestimate how many people are going to remember the players and the impact this win has had on the community.

Mayor Hubbard wished the two seniors on the team luck in their future endeavors and expressed excitement over watching the rest of the team continue to move forward.

5.B. Annual State of the Library Report – Jodi Edstrom and Kevin Spencer

Jodi Edstrom, Carver County Library Director, and Kevin Spencer, Chaska Library Branch Manager, introduced themselves to the Council.

Ms. Edstrom noted that the library system aims to be more than just books, focusing on community support, programs, and services. The library introduced extended access, allowing adults to use libraries in the early mornings, evenings, and weekends with card access. Library usage is strong and growing again, with over 1.5 million checkouts, and high community value with partnerships, outreach, and volunteers having an important impact on the library for the community. She added that she is looking forward to the planned expansion with extended access at more branches, and a new library building in Chaska.

Mr. Spencer stated that the current Library space in Chaska is significantly smaller compared to nearby Chanhassen, despite serving a larger population of over 40,000 people. This creates a high demand for limited resources, with staffing levels also relatively low. Despite these constraints, the library is performing exceptionally well and has checked out over 192,000 items, with about 67% being children's materials, and continues to expand its collection. Library visits have increased by 13% from the previous year, rebounding strongly after a pandemic-related dip in 2021. He added that libraries now serve as community hubs and are not just places for books, and the staff, though small, are highly engaged, increasing community connections by nearly 15% through outreach and events. Some of these events include story time, whose attendance has grown by nearly 64%, often exceeding space capacity in the library. Overall program attendance has increased by 106%, and events are creatively managed despite the lack of a dedicated meeting room. New initiatives such as a jigsaw puzzle competition and an entrepreneurship class for Spanish-speaking residents show the library's adaptability and commitment to serving community needs.

Mr. Spencer continued that he recently attended the Public Library Association conference in Minneapolis, which is a national event with global participation, and gained inspiration and practical ideas from innovative libraries across the country. He noted he went to a session during the conference about the Missoula, Montana, library, which won the 2022 world's best library award, and was inspired by how that library had a strong emphasis on community engagement in its library design. The Missoula library incorporated a small science museum that is run in collaboration with the local university, allowing them to share programming and resources in a way that deeply enriches the community.

Mr. Spencer continued that he would love to have a maker's space, teaching kitchen, and library of things at the new Chaska library, and hoped all of those would come to fruition. He thanked the Council for their support and the planning involved.

Mr. Spencer stated there is a large support crew, the Friends of the Library in Chaska, that sells books, and the proceeds help with events and programs, such as teens making charcuterie boards.

Mr. Spencer introduced Mary Kvitek, President of the Chaska Friends of the Library, to give some insight into what they do. Ms. Kvitek stated that Friends of the Library is a 501 (c) nonprofit organization with about 50 members, including Mayor Hubbard. The mission is people serving people by expanding and strengthening the services of the Chaska library, which is done primarily through book sales.

Mayor Hubbard added that there is an elevator in the library, but it does not go down to the basement, so books have to be hauled up from the basement for book sales.

Mr. Spencer stated he is always happy to talk to the Council about any and all library dreams, hopes, and wishes, and to reach out to him or Ms. Edstrom.

Councilmember Hatfield thanked Ms. Edstrom and Mr. Spencer for the presentation, thanked the Friends of the Library, and noted she is very excited about the plans for the new Chaska library.

Councilmember Hatfield noted her kids frequent the library and would love to schedule some time to hear thoughts on Ms. Edstrom and Mr. Spencer's ideas on the new library.

Mayor Hubbard stated the library is the lifeblood of the community and is much more than just books. She added that she is excited for what the future holds with building a new library.

Councilmember Grau added that the library is a gathering space, and he is excited about helping and seeing the plans for the library. He noted that maker space and a 3D printer are two things he is excited to see, and now understands the importance of the library.

Mr. Spencer noted that librarians are evolvers and are constantly looking at what they can do to help the public, and educators at heart.

Mayor Hubbard added that one of the librarians goes up to the Lodge and helps with technology, which is an amazing resource for them.

City Administrator Podhradsky noted that tomorrow, the County Board is taking action to appoint a representative to the design task force to kick off the process of getting an architect on board for the new library.

Mayor Hubbard thanked Ms. Edstrom and Mr. Spencer for the presentation.

6. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

6.A. Approve the March 30, 2026, City Council Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilmember Hatfield, second by Councilmember Sheveland to approve the minutes of the March 30, 2026, City Council meeting.

Motion carried.

7. CLOSED SESSION

7.A. Discussion of Initiation of Arbitration with Mueller Systems, LLC.

This portion of the meeting will be closed pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05 subdivision 3(b).

Motion by Councilmember Grau, second by Councilmember Benesh, to recess the City Council meeting at 7:44 p.m. to a Closed Session of the City Council to receive legal advice regarding arbitration with Mueller Systems, LLC regarding the AMI contract.

Motion carried.

Motion by Councilmember Grau, second by Councilmember Hatfield to return to open session of the City Council at 8:20 p.m.

Motion carried.

8. OPEN SESSION

9. Consent Agenda

Motion by Councilmember Hatfield, second by Councilmember Sheveland to approve the Consent Agenda Items A through M:

A. Resolution No. 2026-18 Adopting the 2025 Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-18 adopting the 2025 Carver County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

B. Approve Low-Potency Hemp Retail Registrations

Motion to approve low-potency hemp edible retail registrations for Nothing But Hemp, Schindler's Beverage Center DBA Chaser's, and Kwik Trip Inc., allowing them to sell low-potency hemp edible-related products.

C. Approve Transient Accommodations License – Hazeltine National Golf Club

Motion to approve the 2026-2027 transient accommodation license at a Level I effective May 1, 2026, through April 30, 2027, for Hazeltine National Golf Club.

D. Approve Transient Accommodations License – Super 8

Motion to approve the 2026-2027 transient accommodation license at a Level II effective May 1, 2026, through April 30, 2027, for Prime Hotels Inc. DBA Super 8.

E. Approve Transient Accommodations License – Townsquare Place

Motion to approve the 2026-2027 transient accommodation license at a Level I for TownSquare Place, effective May 1, 2026, through April 30, 2027, for Chaska Lodging Management LLC DBA TownSquare Place.

F. Approve Temporary Liquor License – Chaska Lions Club

Motion to approve Temporary On-Sale Intoxicating License TW 26.03 for the Chaska Lions Club, that allows them to serve intoxicating beverages at Chaska City River Days, on July 24th – 26th, 2026.

G. Approve Tobacco License – Excelsior Vintage DBA River Bend Cellars & Spirits
Motion to approve license to sell tobacco-related products for River Bend Cellars & Spirits, located at 3115 Chaska Blvd., Chaska.

H. Approve On-Sale Liquor at a Community Event – Schram Haus Brewery
Motion to approve On-Sale Intoxicating License at a Community Event, Lic# OSCF26.01, for Schram Haus Brewery, 8785 Airport Road, Waconia, MN, for Chaska Fire and Ice and Bonspiel Festival, effective July 10th & July 11th, 2026.

I. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-28 approving the Annexation into Chaska of a portion of the Raser property currently in Dahlgren Township
Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-28, approving the annexation of the Raser property into Chaska from Dahlgren Township.

J. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-29 Approving the Final AUAR for Big Woods Business Park
Motion to adopt Resolution 2026-29, approving the final Alternative Urban Areawide Review (AUAR) for Big Woods Business Park (PC #2025-20).

K. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-31 Authorize Initiation of Arbitration with Mueller Systems, LLC
Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-31 to authorize city staff and the City Attorney to initiate a demand for arbitration with Mueller Systems, LLC regarding Mueller's breaches of contract.

L. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-32 Authorizing use of Eminent Domain for Easements for CSAH 61 Trunk Sewer Extensions for serving Highpoint Vistas and Fultonwood Development Utilities
Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2026-32 to authorize city staff to initiate eminent domain proceedings for the affected properties for the CSAH 61 sanitary sewer utility project.

M. Addendum Chaska Community Center Meeting & Event Room Rental Agreement University of MN
Recommendation for City Council Approval of the University of Minnesota's request for rental space at the Community Center.

Councilmember Hatfield asked about the transient license for TownSquare, and if there was any concern about going from a level three to a level one, and if things would spin back up again and be back where they started. City Administrator Podhradsky noted that the answer is yes, and there would be that concern with any of the City's facilities. The challenge is that it is the City's Ordinance, and there has to be an opportunity for people to correct things, but Staff will continually monitor things.

Mayor Hubbard asked City Administrator Podhradsky to explain what level one gets, versus level two and three, and the parameters that have to be in place.

City Administrator Podhradsky explained that level three is the top level as far as enough calls for service to that location to qualify. These calls for service are not related to medical issues, but for other reasons. The level three requires that the location is responsible for having security on duty, and staff available 24 hours a day.

Councilmember Sheveland noted that level two parameters include 10 to 19 calls for service and one felony. City Administrator Podhradsky stated that it is due to not having security and

staff presence during all hours of operation. He added that level one means the location is not of concern and can continue operating as is.

Councilmember Hatfield noted that the Council needs to keep a close eye on that and act quickly if needed.

Mayor Hubbard shared that one of the transient accommodations is missing, and asked City Administrator Podhradsky to talk about Oak Ridge. City Administrator Podhradsky noted that Oak Ridge had a temporary occupancy permit and hotel license, and had specific milestones that the owner had to meet in the process, but no action has been taken to do so, and communication with the City has fallen off. He added that at the next meeting, he will be recommending that the Council pull Oak Ridge's temporary permit and its hotel license until the owner can demonstrate that they can meet the City's criteria.

Mayor Hubbard added that it is good to get this information to ensure that the Council is in the know and on the same page.

Councilmember Grau asked what the repercussions are for not securing the Oak Ridge facility because it is a nuisance to the police force and fire crews. City Administrator Podhradsky noted this has become a real issue, and he will be looking at the ability to charge the owner for the amount of calls for service and presence that is needed at that facility on a regular basis. He added that this is a difficult situation because if the building were dilapidated, it would be condemned, but that is not the case with Oak Ridge.

Councilmember Grau noted that there is still a safety risk in that building as well as the environmental risk, and Oak Ridge is in a nice area, which causes concern for the residents who live nearby. He added that he is frustrated because individuals came to the Council a while ago and presented their plans, and stated that they were aware of the problems at the property. When questioned by the Council, the individuals said they were ensuring the building was properly secured, but that is clearly not true.

Mayor Hubbard added that those individuals blatantly disregarded what was discussed at that meeting.

Councilmember Sheveland added that she also questioned those individuals about the parking issues at their location, which were never resolved. Councilmember Grau stated that the presentation given to the Council was all for show.

City Administrator Podhradsky stated that City Staff were told many things that have not come to fruition at the property, but the City does have leverage if it can start charging back some of the City's services to the owner.

City Attorney Christophe Morschen agreed that it is something that cities do explore when there are excessive calls for service for fire and police. Ultimately, if the problem becomes too great a threat to the safety of citizens, hazardous building actions could be taken. If it is open to trespass, statutes would be utilized to secure the building at the owner's cost, and collection

mechanisms for that would be assessed against the building because collecting those costs from the owner would likely be challenging.

City Administrator Podhradsky added that cancelling the temporary occupancy permit will send a message.

Mayor Hubbard asked if the people who gave a presentation to the Council on the Oak Ridge concept plans are not the building owners. City Administrator Podhradsky confirmed that it is correct.

Mayor Hubbard asked if a meeting with the building owner could be scheduled. City Administrator Podhradsky confirmed that he can get a meeting set up with the building owner.

Mayor Hubbard stated that her concern is that even after the Council revokes the licenses, the message will not be heard by all parties involved. The message from the Council needs to be clear that they care about safety around that building and the condition that it is currently in. City Administrator Podhradsky reiterated that he would arrange a meeting with the building owner.

10. Action Items

10.A. Awarding of Contracts for Outlot C of the Chaska Municipal Services Building

City Administrator Podhradsky introduced Assistant City Administrator Elise Durbin to present this item. Ms. Durbin presented the item to the Council.

Motion by Councilmember Benesh, second by Councilmember Hatfield to approve the awarding of the contracts for Outlot C of the Chaska Municipal Services Building, and authorize the Mayor and City Administrator to execute the contracts.

Motion carried.

11. Bills

11.A. Accounts Payable Claims Roster 04-20-2026

Motion by Councilmember Grau, second by Councilmember Sheveland to approve the bills as presented. Roll call was taken. Voting aye: Councilmembers Hatfield, Benesh, Sheveland, Grau, and Mayor Hubbard. Voting nay: None

Motion carried.

12. Other Business

Councilmember Grau:

- Shared that he learns something new every year at the Strategic Planning meeting and makes connections with City Staff. He noted it is important that residents understand that Council does not just wing it and has to work through a process and make strategic plans.
- Shared that Christmas in May is scheduled for May 2. He encouraged residents to come out for that event.
- Encouraged residents to be careful while driving, as the weather gets nicer, there are more pedestrians on the roadways.

City Administrator Podhradsky:

- Shared that there are four single-family homes and one mobile home that will participate in Christmas in May on May 2, with painting and landscaping being done. City Staff will take on additional small projects for two other property owners.

Councilmember Sheveland:

- Shared that she enjoyed the Strategic Planning meeting.

Councilmember Benesh:

- Shared that six years ago, his paramedic partner was a victim of suicide. May is Mental Health Awareness month, and he encouraged everybody to remember to check in on people, especially those who are not vocal enough.

Councilmember Hatfield:

- Shared that the Senior Expo (April 21) is at the Community Center at 9:00 a.m.
- Shared that the City Council Retreat was incredible and showed how much has been achieved.
- Shared that seeing the Police Department and Fire Department move into their new building was incredible to see, since it has been a long time coming.
- Shared that the Fire Department is looking for more firefighters, and applications are available online.

Sergeant Pesheck:

- Shared that neighborhood speed trailer season is near, and residents can reach out to the Police Department to sign up for it and borrow it for their neighborhood.
- Shared that the new Public Safety building is incredible and has spent 19 years in the same building, so moving out was emotional. He thanked the Council and noted the new Public Safety building shows how much the City and the Council care about public safety employees.

Mayor Hubbard:

- Thanked Sergeant Pesheck for being there and for his community input. She noted how important it is to get feedback and be valued by the Council.
- Shared that the City Council Retreat was great.
- Shared that seeing both the Fire Department and the Police Department move into their new facility and expand their operations has been amazing, especially as calls for service have almost doubled.
- Shared that there are job postings up for Mental Health Specialists for the Police Department, which is a dream realized after conversations about the need for more enhanced services to be available to better help the community.
- Shared that Christmas in May is on May 2 and kicks off at St. John's at 7:30 a.m. with breakfast offered.
- Shared that there is a tree planting at McKnight Park at 8:00 a.m. this weekend with the Rotary and the Lions Club.

- Noted that there are no giant road construction projects inside Chaska, but will be impacted by the surrounding communities' construction right outside Chaska, with lane closures on Highway 5 and Highway 41.
- Noted that there are significant upcoming dates: International Firefighters Day (May 4), National Police Week (May 10 through May 16), Peace Officers Memorial Day (May 15), Municipal Clerks Week (May 3 through May 9), Armed Forces Day (May 16), and National Military Appreciation Month through the whole month of May, and Memorial Day at the end of May.
- Shared that the next Council meeting is on May 4.

12.A. City Administrator's Report

12.A.i. Bi-Weekly Report 04-20-2026

13. Adjourn

Motion by Councilmember Sheveland, second by Councilmember Benesh to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Motion carried.