

City of Red Lake Falls
March 2, 2026
Public Hearing Minutes

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Red Lake Falls, Red Lake County, Minnesota was duly held in the Council Chambers of said City on the 2nd day of March 2026.

Members Present: Allen Bertilrud, Joyce Kalbakdalen, Neil Knaack, Cheryl Matzke, Kyle Thibert

Member Present through interactive technology: John Kleven

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Kathy Schmitz, Delray Sparby, Jane Thibert, Matt Swendra, Mitch Bernstein, Zach Thoma, Mitch Casper, Julie Beyer Buse, ShyAnn Larson, Linda Schultz, Joel Schultz, Alice Conwell, Rob Conwell, Pam Columbus, Rusty Remick, Gloria Peterson, Trisha Adelman, Mercedes Coan, Blake Bjerklie, Duane Ademan, Margaret Adelman, Jesse Adelman, Chandler Burns, Brian Vathauer, Tracy Malwitz, Deb Schmitz, Craig Schmitz

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m.

The purpose of the public hearing was to provide information on the proposed 2026 Street & Utility Improvement, which includes State Ave SW between 5th St SW and 6th St SW, Champagne Ave SW between 3rd St SW and 9th St SW, 6th St SW between Main Ave S and Chicago Ave SW, 7th St NW between Mill St NW and Burrows Ave NE, Mill St NW between 7th St NW and Blueberry HL, Bottineau Ave NW between Blueberry HL and Bridge St NE/TH 32, River St NE between 1st St E and Bottineau Ave NE, Hamilton Ave NE between Bridge St NE/TH 32 and 7th St NE, 5th St NE between Hamilton Ave NE and McLean Ave NE, Frederick Ave NE between 6th St NE and 7th St NE,

The preliminary engineering report was completed in 2022, resulting in numerous areas within the city that require utility and street improvement. The estimated total project cost is \$10,430,000.00 (\$2.7 million water, \$2.2 million sanitary sewer, \$4.8 million streets, \$0.7 million storm sewers). Areas and projects have been prioritized based on the condition of the utilities and streets.

Based on the City's assessment policy and MN Statutes Section 429. The City's share would be 79% of the total project, and the remaining 21% of the total project would be assessed at a cost per assessable footage for street, sewer and water. Constituents were invited to meet with the engineers after the public hearing to obtain their estimated assessment. Actual costs will be determined after construction.

The tentative timeline for the project is to advertise and open bids in April 2026. Construction begins in May 2026, with a projected completion date of July 2027. There will be an assessment hearing following the completion of construction in 2027.

Anyone requesting to speak was given an opportunity to be heard.

There were no comments or objections submitted in written form to be shared.

Mayor Bertilrud thanked everyone for coming and invited constituents to stay after the meeting to go over their projected assessment with Engineer Zach Thoma.

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen Bertilrud, Mayor
Kathleen Schmitz, City Administrator

The published material is only a summary, the full text is available for public inspection at City Hall, or by standard or electronic mail.