

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LEXINGTON  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
JUNE 4, 2026 – 7:00 P.M.  
9180 LEXINGTON AVENUE**

**1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**2. CALL TO ORDER:** – Mayor Murphy

A. Roll Call - Council Members: DeVries, Mahr, Winge and Hunt

*Mayor Murphy called to order the Regular Council meeting for June 4, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. Councilmember's present: Devries, Hunt, Mahr, and Winge. Also Present: Bill Petracek, City Administrator; Chris Galiov, Finance Director; Kurt Glaser, City Attorney; Jim Mork, Police Chief; Heidi and Jason Haakinson, Lexington; Diane Harris, Lexington; Quad Press; Numerous Centennial High School students.*

**3. CITIZENS FORUM**

*Heidi Haakinson  
9333 Griggs Ave  
Lexington Mn*

*Ms. Haakinson provided a statement regarding the action item to approve a contract with SBM Fire Department. Haakinson stated that when the Lexington Fire Officers accepted a flight on a private jet to go to Atlanta, Georgia to view the company intending to sell the fire department a fire apparatus, she stated that it saved taxpayers money. She also stated that she can't understand why this City can't afford additional duty crews. She also stated that she feels that the fire relief association should still be able to store used pull-tabs in the city garage.*

*Dawn Palmer  
Blaine, MN.*

*Ms. Palmer asked why a non-city employee has access to the security camera in the fire station?*

*Linda Pitchford  
Lexington, MN*

*Stated her husband was a retired Lexington Fire Fighter, and she doesn't understand why the City Council is getting rid of the fire department. She added that she can't count how many times Lexington Fire Department came to her husband's aid.*

*Diane Harris  
3781 Centerwood Rd.  
Lexington, MN.*

*If our fire chief hadn't been fired, we wouldn't be in this situation. Until last month, nobody knew about the issues in the fire department. Harris asked why Chief Mohler was even put in this position? No discussion.*

*Maria Nelson  
Shoreview, MN*

*Mayor Murphy stated that she is not a resident of Lexington, MN. and would she please sit down.*

#### **4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA WITH CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS**

*Councilmember Devries made a motion to approve the agenda without changes or corrections. Mayor Murphy seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.*

#### **5. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:**

- A. Airport (Councilmember Devries) -*Councilmember Devries stated that 58 private jets are coming in from all around the country for the Special Olympics. He also discussed a new minor league baseball stadium construction, which will increase the air traffic to the airport. Discussion ensued.*
- B. Cable Commission (Councilmember Mahr) *Quarterly meetings – Councilmember Mahr stated that the executive committee met to develop a strategic plan and the decreasing cable franchise fees being paid by cable companies. The idea is to transition away from live sports coverage due to costs and lower viewer interest due to other organizations providing live streaming. Discussion ensued.*
- C. City Administrator (Bill Petracek) – *Petracek explained a chlorine leak in the City's wellhouse that caused a fire department/hazmat response. He stated staff would be working with the insurance company to replace the damaged controls in the wellhouse. Discussion ensued.*

Choose a building block.

#### **6. LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A. Council Workshop Meeting Synopsis – May 21, 2026

*No discussion on Letters and Communications.*

#### **7. CONSENT ITEMS:**

- A. Recommendation to Approve Council Minutes:  
Council Meeting – May 21, 2026
- B. Recommendation to Approve Claims and Bills:  
Check #'s 54142 through 54187  
Check #'s 16171 through 16176

*Councilmember Winge made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Devries seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.*

## **8. ACTION ITEMS:**

- A. Recommendation to Approve a Fire and Rescue Services Agreement with Spring Lake Park – Blaine – Moundsview (SBM) Fire Department

*Councilmember Devries stated he was on the Lexington Fire Department for 40 years and fought against getting rid of the fire department. He stated he has watched the decline of the fire department over the years. He stated that if Chief Edwards was still here, we would still have the fire department; however, we are looking out for the taxpayers and the services that are provided to them.*

*Councilmember Mahr stated that it is unfortunate how things proceeded. She continued that there are a lot of regulations that protect public employees and we can't discuss personnel issues in open session. Chief Mohler discussed the fire department budget last summer with the Council, and we did have a discussion about the costs involved in with the fire department. It is difficult for all of us to lose our fire department. She agreed that it is hard to maintain our identity as a small community.*

*Councilmember Winge stated that he doesn't take the approval of the SBM Fire Services contract personally. He stated that if he calls 911 SBM Fire Department will show up; however, he doesn't want his taxes to go up 30-40% to fund Lexington Fire Department. He pays taxes and doesn't like it, but this is the way it is.*

*Mayor Murphy stated he would like to do something as a group to preserve the history of this fire department. He is sorry that the Council had to make this decision.*

*Councilmember Winge made a motion to Approve a Fire and Rescue Services Agreement with Spring Lake Park – Blaine – Moundsview (SBM) Fire Department. Councilmember Devries seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Devries – yes; Mahr-yes; Winge-yes; Hunt-yes; Murphy – yes. Motion carried 5-0.*

## **9. MAYOR AND COUNCIL INPUT**

*Councilmember Hunt discussed the Hazmat response to the city public works facility within 5 minutes. Discussion ensued.*

*Councilmember Mahr stated that if you are interested in airports, they are having an open house Wednesday 4:30 to 6:30 pm.*

*Councilmember Devries stated that the police chief's retirement party is June 30<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm.*

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

*Councilmember Devries made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. Councilmember Mahr seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.*