

**INVER GROVE HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 14 6:00 P.M. - 8150 BARBARA AVENUE**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The City Council of Inver Grove Heights met in regular session on Monday, July 14, 2025, in person. Mayor Dietrich called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present In-Person: Mayor Dietrich; Council Members: Gliva, Murphy, Scales, and T’Kach

Staff In Attendance: City Administrator Wilson, City Clerk Kiernan, City Attorney Nason, Community Development Director Ziemer, City Engineer Merchlewicz, and Parks and Recreation Director Lares

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion to add item to the Regular Agenda for Spartan End Zone Off-Site Gambling Permit and to move Public Comments and Mayor Council Comments prior to the Closed Sessions and approve Agenda by Gliva, second by Scales.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

4. PRESENTATIONS:

A. Parks and Recreation Month Proclamation

Mayor Dietrich proclaimed July as Parks and Recreation Month in Inver Grove Heights, highlighting the 2025 theme, “Build Together, Play Together,” and designating July 18 as Parks and Recreation Professional Day. She praised the Parks and Recreation Department for their dedication and contributions to the community and expressed the City Council’s sincere appreciation to Director Lares and the entire team.

Director Lares thanked the City Council for the recognition and expressed appreciation for their support. He highlighted the department’s passion and dedication in providing parks, trails, and recreation programs for all ages, and said he looked forward to sharing the proclamation with the entire team.

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A.** Approval of Minutes of February 3, 2025, City Council Meeting
- B.** Approval of Minutes of May 12, 2025, City Council Meeting
- C.** Approval of Disbursements, **Resolution 2025-160**
- D.** Personnel Actions
- E.** Temporary Off-Site Gambling Permit for Moose Lodge 1088, **Resolution 2025-161**
- F.** Resolution Approving a Variance for the Xcel Energy Wescott Gas Plant
- G.** Resolution Authorizing Application for a Dakota County CDA Redevelopment Incentive Grant, **Resolution 2025-162**
- H.** Authorization to Enter into Contracts for Flooring Replacement in Fitness Area at Veterans Memorial Community Center
- I.** Approval of Contract with Alliance for Feasibility Study for Options to Expand the Inver Wood

Golf Maintenance Facility

- J.** Resolution Approving a Wetland Replacement Plan for Vetern's Memorial Greenway - Phase 2 (Southern Lakes Park Area), **Resolution 2025-163**
- K.** Resolution Approving Cooperative Construction Agreement with MnDOT for City Project No. 2019-15 - TH 52 Noise Barrier Near Barbara Avenue, **Resolution 2025-164**

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Items A-K except J by T'Kach, second by Gliva.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Mayor Dietrich requested a correction to the meeting minutes, noting that there was a carbon copy sent to City Planner Allan Hunting from the Dakota County Soil and Water office.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Item J by Scales, second by T'Kach

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. New Body Art License - The Nature of Beauty

Clerk Kiernan presented a body art establishment license for Nature of Beauty, a new tattoo parlor owned by Jennifer Baskin, to be located at 5565 Blaine Avenue, Suite 250. She noted this is the second and final license permitted by the City and confirmed that the application was complete and met all qualifications.

Mayor Dietrich opened the Public Hearing. There were no public comments.

Motion to close the Public Hearing by Scales, second by T'Kach.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion to approve a new Body Art License to the Nature of Beauty by Scales, second by Gliva.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

7. REGULAR BUSINESS:

A. Appointment of Representative to MSP Noise Oversight Committee

City Administrator Wilson explained that Inver Grove Heights is eligible to appoint a representative to the Noise Oversight Committee as part of an at-large seat shared with other cities that experience some airport noise. The City has historically appointed a staff member, typically the Community Development Director, due to meeting times falling during the workday. Director Ziemer is willing to continue serving, but she noted that an elected official may also serve if desired.

Council Member Murphy supported having the Community Development Director serve on the Noise Oversight Committee due to his expertise but questioned why Inver Grove Heights is categorized as an at-large city, noting the significant level of airplane noise experienced in some areas of the community.

Administrator Wilson explained that the at-large designation is based on the degree of impact from airport noise. While cities like Eagan, Mendota Heights, Richfield, Minneapolis, and Bloomington hold fixed seats due to greater impact, Inver Grove Heights shares an at-large seat with cities like Apple Valley and Sunfish Lake because only a relatively small portion of the City lies under the flight path.

Council Member T'Kach asked about the City's strategy for participating in the Noise Oversight Committee, specifically whether the focus is on monitoring potential commercial development under flight paths and aligning with the comprehensive plan, or on advocating for noise mitigation measures such as residential insulation.

Administrator Wilson explained that, to her knowledge, there is no longer an active residential insulation program. Based on meetings she has attended as a backup representative, the Noise Oversight Committee primarily focuses on proposed changes in airport operations, such as runway usage and timing, as well as public communication efforts. The committee also tracks and reviews noise complaints to identify trends and ensure residents are informed and have opportunities to be heard.

Council Member T'Kach asked if staff attendance at Noise Oversight Committee meetings could include more regular reporting back to the Council, suggesting brief monthly or quarterly updates with key highlights.

Administrator Wilson noted that previously the Community Development Director would include summaries of Noise Oversight Committee meetings in the Friday update. She stated that this practice could resume once a regular attendee is assigned.

Council Member Scales expressed confidence in City staff's handling of the role and supported continuing with the current representative, stating he has been a great representative for the City.

Motion to approve Jason Ziemer, Community Development Director as representative of the MSP Noise Oversight Committee by Scales, second by Murphy.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Mayor Dietrich asked if a Council member would be allowed to attend a Noise Oversight Committee meeting alongside Director Ziemer if interested.

Administrator Wilson responded that, to the best of her knowledge, it would be perfectly fine for a Council member to attend a meeting alongside Director Ziemer.

B. Off-Site Gambling Permit for Spartan End Zone by T'Kach, second by Murphy

Clerk Kiernan explained that a temporary off-site gambling permit request was received after the agenda was finalized. Since the event will take place on July 26 and there is no Council meeting before then, she brought it forward for consideration. The request is for the Soldier 6 event at the Veterans Memorial Community Center, 8055 Barber Avenue, and includes a raffle and pull tabs. Staff recommended approval of the permit for Spartan End Zone.

Motion to approve the Off-Site Gambling Permit for Spartan End Zone by T'Kach, second by Gliva.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Bernita Swafford - 4645 Barbato Court, expressed frustration over water damage from a temporary main and driveway removal, objecting to being told to file an insurance claim. She criticized the lack of rebar in replacements, questioned the contractor's qualifications, and found the one-year warranty insufficient. She stated that although Project Manager David Ray responded, she no longer wants the contractor on her property due to damage, delays, and safety concerns.

Mayor Dietrich stated that the Council did not have the presented information in advance and, therefore, could not respond immediately and would refer the matter to the appropriate staff member.

Judy Mickelson of 2144 47th Street raised expressed concerns about ongoing construction delays, limited access, and overall unsafe conditions. She criticized changes in project leadership and stated that promised driveway repairs were not completed. She questioned the fairness of the \$14,000 assessments given the incomplete work. She added that residents were given less than a week to replace the tops of their driveways, but no contractor would take on the job without a guarantee, especially due to the absence of rebar. She urged the City to deduct the contractor's portion from assessments for those who choose to opt out of further work.

Jackie Matteson, 8370 College Trail, expressed concern about ongoing speeding in her neighborhood and the risk it poses to children. Despite multiple 911 calls, the issue remains unresolved. She recommended increased enforcement.

Mayor Dietrich asked whether drivers were failing to stop at a stop sign or simply speeding.

Ms. Matteson said there is no stop sign near her home. She is frustrated about paying \$12,000 for road work while safety issues remain and feels her repeated calls have been ignored.

Mayor Dietrich acknowledged the resident's 911 calls and said she would speak with the Police Chief about conducting a speed detail on the road.

Paul Killion, 4660 Bacon Avenue East, asked if the City or engineering department has a policy regarding rebar in concrete driveways. He expressed concern that, given the cost to homeowners, driveways should be restored to their original condition.

Mayor Dietrich asked for clarification, confirming that the portion in question is the section at the end of the driveway owned by the City.

Mr. Killion said work beyond the City easement required extra driveway repairs. He raised concerns about poor communication, traffic control issues, and safety risks at 47th and Bacon, urging better communication and coordination.

Mayor Dietrich stated she would speak with Public Works and Public Safety regarding the concerns.

Scott Seldon, 4515 Bacon Avenue East, supported a neighbor's comment about rebar in driveways and asked the City to ensure proper restoration by a qualified

contractor. He also raised concerns about residents not being notified when water is shut off, causing dangerously hot water to flow into homes and posing a burn risk.

Willard Robinson, 2135 47th Street East, stated that the project was initially expected to come in 5% under bid but has since encountered major issues. He said the area was improperly constructed and had to be redone, causing delays and flooding. He questioned who would cover the additional costs.

Tracie Killion – 4660 Bacon Avenue East, who works for CenterPoint Energy reported that gas line fittings have separated due to lack of support, leading to at least 10 leaks in the neighborhood. She stated this issue needs to be addressed and has informed Project Manager Ray.

Mayor Dietrich requested clarification regarding which specific fittings were being referenced.

Ms. Killion explained that the old steel main is being replaced with dual plastic mains, which will reduce but not eliminate crossings. She warned that leaving unsupported gas lines during construction is dangerous and could lead to fire hazards.

Mayor Dietrich directed Clerk Kiernan to ensure residents on the sign-in list are connected with the appropriate staff and to identify the designated follow-up contact.

9. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Scales suggested discussing at a future work session whether requiring residents to state their name and address at meetings is necessary or if an alternative approach could be considered.

Council Member T’Kach reminded residents about the upcoming food truck event on Thursday at Rich Valley Park and encouraged community attendance.

Motion to recess until after the EDA Special Meeting by Gliva, second by Scales.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion to reconvene City Council meeting at 7:28 pm by Scales, seconded by Gliva.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

7C. CLOSED SESSION: City Administrator Performance Evaluation

Motion to move into closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute Chapter 13D.05, subd. 3a, to conduct a performance review of the City Administrator by Gliva, second by Scales.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion to recess closed session to July 28, 2025, at 7:00 pm and motion to reconvene in open session by Murphy, second by Scales.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion to recess July 14, 2025 Regular meeting and reconvene the same at 7 pm on July 28, 2025 in Council Chambers by Scales, seconded by Gliva.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

**INVER GROVE HEIGHTS SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 28, 2025, 8:30 P.M. – 8150 BARBARA AVENUE
CONTINUATION OF RECESSED JULY 14, 2025
CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND CLOSED SESSION**

10. CALL TO ORDER:

The City Council of Inver Grove Heights met in special session on Monday, July 28, 2025, in person. This meeting was a continuation of the recessed July 14, 2025, City Council Meeting and Closed Session.

11. ROLL CALL:

Present In-Person: Mayor Dietrich; Council Members: Gliva, Murphy, Scales, and T’Kach

Staff In Attendance: City Attorney Nason

12. REGULAR BUSINESS:

C. Unfinished Business – Closed Session – City Administrator Performance Evaluation

Motion to move into closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute Chapter 13D.05, subd. 3a, to continue the performance evaluation of the City Administrator by Murphy, seconded by Gliva.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion to recess closed session for 5 minutes at 9:07 p.m. by Scales, seconded by Gliva.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion to reconvene in closed session at 9:12 p.m. by Scales, seconded by Murphy.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion to recess closed session for 5 minutes at 10:00 p.m. by Scales, seconded by Murphy.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion to reconvene in closed session at 10:04 p.m. by T’Kach, seconded by Gliva.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion to recess closed session to 7:00 p.m. on August 11, 2025, in Council Chambers by Scales, second by Gliva.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion to reconvene into Open Session by Scales, second by Gliva.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion to recess and continue July 14th City Council meeting to August 11, 2025, at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers by Murphy, second by Scales.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0 Motion carried.

**INVER GROVE HEIGHTS SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
 MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2025, - 8150 BARBARA AVENUE
 CONTINUATION OF RECESSED JULY 14, 2025
 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND CLOSED SESSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The City Council of Inver Grove Heights met in special session on Monday, August 11, 2025, in person. This meeting was a continuation of the recessed July 14, 2025, City Council Meeting and Closed Session.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present In-Person: Mayor Dietrich; Council Members: Gliva, Murphy, Scales, and T’Kach

Staff In Attendance: City Attorney Nason

3. REGULAR BUSINESS:

D. Unfinished Business – Closed Session – City Administrator Performance Evaluation

Motion to move into closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute Chapter 13D.05, subd. 3a, to continue the performance evaluation of the City Administrator by Scales, seconded by Murphy.

Ayes: 5
Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion to recess and continue the closed session to 6:30 p.m. on August 25, 2025 in council chambers by Murphy, seconded by Gliva.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion to reconvene the open session by Murphy, seconded by Gliva. .

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion to recess and continue July 14th City Council meeting to 6:30 pm on August 25, 2025 in Council Chambers and by Scales, seconded by Murphy.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

**INVER GROVE HEIGHTS SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2025, - 8150 BARBARA AVENUE
CONTINUATION OF RECESSED JULY 14, 2025
CITY COUNCIL MEETING AND CLOSED SESSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The City Council of Inver Grove Heights met in special session on Monday, August 25, 2025, in person. This meeting was a continuation of the recessed July 14, 2025, City Council Meeting and Closed Session.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present In-Person: Mayor Dietrich; Council Members: Gliva, Murphy, Scales, and T'Kach

Staff In Attendance: City Attorney Nason

3. REGULAR BUSINESS:

E. Unfinished Business – Closed Session – City Administrator Performance Evaluation

Motion to move into closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute Chapter 13D.05, subd. 3a, to continue the performance evaluation of the City Administrator by Gliva, second by Scales

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn closed session and reconvene open portion of regular meeting of August 25, 2025 at 7:27 pm by Murphy, seconded by Gliva.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn at 9:15 pm by Murphy, seconded by Gliva.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes by Rebecca Kiernan, City Clerk.