

A regular meeting was held in person and virtually with the meeting originating at City Hall, Canby Minnesota on September 1st, 2026, at 6pm.

Members: Nancy Bormann, Marisa Kack, Susan Cram, Rick Bueltel, Diana Fliss

Absent: None

Visitors: Bonnie Merritt, City Administrator
Thalia Sik, Administrative Secretary
Gerald Boulton, City Attorney
Theresa Hentges

Virtually Attending:
Josh Van Klompenburg
Andrew

The regular Council meeting was called to order.

The agenda was reviewed. A motion was made by Fliss and seconded by Kack to approve the agenda with the addition of discussion regarding the airport board and election judge pay. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

The council minutes from the August 18th meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Bueltel and seconded by Cram to approve the minutes. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

Theresa Hentges with the Canby Deputy Registrar's office was present to discuss a resolution opportunity which would request action by the Minnesota State Legislature on seeking sharing revenue with all deputy registrar offices. She stated there is no cost for local governments to adopt this measure – it merely sends the message that the locality wants the legislature to act on the matter in the upcoming legislative session. After discussion, a motion was made by Bueltel and seconded by Cram to approve Resolution 2026-09-01-1. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

City of Canby
Resolution 2026-09-01-1
RESOLUTION SEEKING STATE OF MINNESOTA
REVENUE SHARING FUND TO SUSTAIN DEPUTY REGISTRAR OFFICES

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota has a responsive and well-established network of locally operated deputy registrars acting as independent agents for the benefit of our citizens and the State, who are appointed and regulated by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety; and,
WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota in 1949 established a filing fee on motor vehicle-related transactions to be retained by the deputy registrar office as their only income to pay for all their associated costs in providing this vital local service on the State's behalf; and,
WHEREAS, increasing costs borne by any office include but are not limited to basic inflation, salaries, training, insurance, rent, security, bank fees, utilities, furnishings, phones, computers, IT infrastructure, scanners, copiers, paper and toner cartridges, postage; and,

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety has transferred 40% of their data entry work onto deputy registrars without due compensation for these additional time-consuming tasks; and, **WHEREAS**, the Department of Public Safety has aggressively marketed their exclusive online and mail-in service options to the public which also captures any filing fee in direct competition with deputy registrar offices who depend upon that revenue for their own local sustainability; and,

WHEREAS, increased costs to provide local services, exacerbated by competition and expanded new duties both caused by the State, now routinely outpace the filing fee income realized by any deputy registrar office and causing 6 permanent local office closures statewide since 2021; and,

WHEREAS, annual shortages incurred by public deputy offices are now consistently being subsidized by their local governments to remain open, while private deputy offices without this ability are forced to seek alternative lines of credit elsewhere to remain operational; and,

WHEREAS, a 2022 State commissioned independent expert review (*King report*) specifically calls on the State to share 25-50% of all filing fee revenue derived from the Department's online and mail-in transactions with all local deputy registrar offices, and a subsequent State commissioned study from 2024 (*Barry-Dunn report*) also reinforced the overall need to develop a more sustainable revenue model for deputy registrars to remain operational.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the (*City or County*) of _____

requests that the **2027 State Legislature** recognize the critical need to sustain deputy registrar offices and to **enact a permanent state revenue sharing fund for deputy registrars**, sourced with 50% of the existing filing fee revenue captured by the Department of Public Safety from their online and mail-in transactions to be disbursed quarterly among all deputy offices in Minnesota.

Passed and adopted this ____ **day of** _____, **2026.**

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator

Council meeting dates were discussed. After discussion, a consensus was made to cancel the September 15th meeting and reschedule it to Wednesday, September 23rd to provide enough time to work on the 2027 budget. Council meeting dates for October-December were set for the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month.

A 2026 CSO Report was reviewed. This provided the council with information regarding the ordinance violations and citations that were administered in 2026 during Gary Ellenbolt's seasonal employment.

Fliss commented regarding airport board meeting notices. She stated that notices for airport board meetings should be provided in a timely manner to ensure most board members are able to attend.

Election judge pay was discussed. Election judge pay is currently set at \$11.00 per hour. After discussion, a motion was made by Bueltel and seconded by Cram to increase election judge pay

to \$15.00 per hour provided the increase in pay fits within the 2026 budget. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

An administrator's report was provided.

August vendor transactions were reviewed. A motion was made by Fliss and seconded by Bueltel to approve the vendor transactions in the amount of \$1,201,289.59. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

A motion was made by Kack and seconded by Bueltel to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

Nancy Bormann, Mayor

Bonnie Merritt, City Administrator