



**CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM
Thursday, August 20th, 2026**

4:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Councilors Geissler, Hjelle, LeBlanc, Peterson, and Mayor Boucher

CITY STAFF: None

OTHERS: Justin Terch

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Councilor LeBlanc, second by Councilor Peterson to close the meeting of the Hermantown City Council pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 13D.05 Subd. 2 (b) for preliminary consideration of allegations or charges against individuals subject to its authority. Ayes: Councilors Geissler, Hjelle, LeBlanc, Peterson, and Mayor Boucher. Motion carried 5-0

Motion by Councilor Peterson, second by Councilor LeBlanc to reconvene into open session. Ayes: Councilors Geissler, Hjelle, LeBlanc, Peterson, and Mayor Boucher. Motion carried 5-0

Motion by Councilor LeBlanc, second by Councilor Hjelle to adjourn to the 5:30 Work session. Ayes: Councilors Geissler, Hjelle, LeBlanc, Peterson, and Mayor Boucher. Motion carried 5-0

**CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Thursday, August 20th, 2026**

5:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Councilors Geissler, Hjelle, LeBlanc, Peterson, and Mayor Boucher

CITY STAFF: John Mulder, City Administrator; Joe Wicklund, Assistant City Administrator; Chad Ronchetti, Economic Development Director, Eric Johnson, Community Development Director, David Bolf, City Engineer

OTHERS: Approximately 50 visitors (there was no sign in sheet)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Proposed Data Center Land Use Application Material: Representatives from the Google Project team began by answering questions from the City Council on Monday night. They then presented information on the proposed data center land use application material including:
 - Site Selection and Explanation
 - Development Process / Timeline
 - Additional Land Use Reviews Beyond the City of Hermantown
 - Site Plan for Proposed Development
 - Proposed Final Plat
 - Architectural Elevations for the Various Building Types
 - Landscaping/Screening Plan
 - Visualization Images and Video for Adjacent Roadways
 - Comparisons between the AUAR and the Proposed Project
 - Grading Plan
 - Stormwater Management
 - Wetland Impacts and Mitigation
 - Groundwater Management – No Groundwater Use Proposed
 - Water and Wastewater Management
 - Public Utility and Roadway Improvements
 - Photometric Site Plan/Responsible Lighting Design
 - MPCA and City Noise Regulations – Project Committed to Below Allowable Noise Levels
 - Current Noise at Project Site
 - Project-Specific Noise Abatement
 - Maximum Backup Generators/Fuel Storage
 - EMF Overview
 - Traffic Analysis/Traffic Mitigation Plan
 - Construction Phases
 - Additional AUAR and Project Comparisons
2. Recess to August 24th, 2026 City Council Work Session Meeting Motion by Councilor LeBlanc, second by Councilor Peterson to recess to the August 24, 2026 City Council Work Session. All ayes, motion carried. The meeting recessed at approximately 8:15 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Administrator