

**MINUTES OF THE ZIMMERMAN CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER**                   The Zimmerman City Council met as the Committee of the Whole at City Hall on Monday, November 10, 2025. Mayor Dahl called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**                       Present: Mayor Dahl, Council Members Earenfight, Farber, and Wells. Member Bondhus was excused absent. Also present were Administrator Piasecki, Clerk/Treasurer Tillmann, Public Works Director Koehler, and Engineer Cook.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**           **The agenda was approved by consensus as presented.**

**ORDER OF DISCUSSION**

- 2025 – 2026 Snowmobile Routes – **Scotty Harder, Sherburne County Snowmobile Trail Association**, was invited to the workshop to discuss the snowmobile trail system within the city, specifically the segment from CH 46 eastward to 10<sup>th</sup> Street West. This segment has been designated by the City as an approved route to get into and out of the City and provide access to Casey’s Gas Station and ZBG/Angeno’s businesses.

There does not appear to be sufficient right of way to allow a groomed snowmobile trail between the bituminous path and roadway along CSAH 4, which could force snowmobile traffic to use the newly paved bituminous path. Snowmobile traffic on the paved and winter-maintained path would likely lead to damage and accelerate the need for repairs. Travel along the north side of CSAH 4 could be accommodated, but access to the same businesses would not only require crossing CSAH 4 at or near the roundabout but also crossing the new trail and sidewalks.

Council, staff, and Harder discussed the current snowmobile routing and agreed that for this season, it would be best to require trail riders from the west to cross from the south side of CSAH 4 to the north side at 13228 Fremont Avenue, travel along the north side of CSAH to just west of 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, crossing back to the south side to access Casey’s and ZBG. Snowmobile Club members will work on installing signage while the weather is good. Harder will also contact Sherburne County Public Works to discuss access at CR 46 during the 2026 – 2027 snow season after that roundabout is complete.

Staff will update the snowmobile map with the suggested routing and present at a future meeting for review and approval.

- 2026 Water and Sewer Budgets – Public Works Director Koehler presented draft 2026 Water and Sewer Fund budgets, stating the budgets for the two funds are close to the 2025 budgets. Discussion was held regarding SAC and WAC fees collected for new development and used to make the City’s PFA debt payments. Clerk/Treasurer Tillmann added that the City’s loan for the previous Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion will be paid off in 2026. Staff will present final budgets for the Water and Sewer Funds at the November 17, 2025 meeting.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North Reconstruction – Engineer Cook was present to discuss proposed improvements to 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North and 10<sup>th</sup> Street West in the Countryside Estates neighborhood, as well as working on a proposed design for the extension of 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue South to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street East. At the next Council meeting, Bolton & Menk will be requesting approval to complete a feasibility report for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North project, in addition to completing survey work of the area. The total cost for the feasibility report and survey work would be approximately \$18,000 -- \$20,000. Council agreed that it is in the City’s best interest to complete

the reconstruction of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North and 10<sup>th</sup> Street West as soon as possible after extensive use as a detour route in 2025 due to the County's reconstruction of CSAH 4. Bolton & Menk will send a letter to impacted residents and property owners advising that survey crews will be in the area in the next few weeks.

Engineer Cook reminded Council that the City has also been awarded a Federal STBG grant in the amount of \$815,000 for the 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue South extension project, which will be funded in 2028. Engineering staff is working on an LRIP grant application, which could cover the remaining cost of the project.

- City Planner Position – At the October COW meeting, extensive discussion was held regarding the City Planner position. Staff provided the most recently approved Job Description for the position, with Administrator Piasecki adding that at this time, this is what the City needs for the position to meet day-to-day works demands. Staff will develop a Request for Proposals for search services for discussion at a future meeting.

Councilmember Earenfight left the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

- Organized Garbage Collection -- At the April 15, 2025 COW meeting Council discussed a memorandum provided by Attorney Mattick related to the implementation of organized garbage hauling. After considerable discussion at that meeting, Council felt the RFP process was the appropriate direction to take when moving towards the implementation of organized collection. Discussion at this meeting centered on proposed timing for the process, with January 1, 2027 as a target date for implementation, with Council agreeing that it could be earlier if statutory requirements were met. Staff will work towards drafting an RFP for Council review at a future meeting.

**Mayor Dahl adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.**

Approved this 1st day of December, 2025.

s/s Kary Tillmann, City Clerk/Treasurer