



EDINA
MINNESOTA

City Council Meeting Agenda

September 10, 2026, 1:00 PM

Edina City Hall, Community Room, 4801 W. 50th St.



Accessibility Support:

The City of Edina wants all residents to be comfortable being part of the public process. If you need assistance in the way of hearing amplification, an interpreter, large-print documents or something else, please call 952-927-8861 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Approval of Meeting Agenda**
- 4. Reports/Recommendations**
 - 4.1. City Manager Finalist Selection
- 5. Adjournment**



Item Number: 4.1

Department: Administration

Item Activity: Action

Prepared By: Elena Roberts, Deputy City Clerk

Item Title: City Manager Finalist Selection

Action Requested:

Offer the position of the Edina City Manager to _____ and negotiate the terms of employment with the finalist.

Information/Background:

The City Manager recruitment process began shortly after City Manager Neal shared his planned retirement date in January with a City Council Work Session on February 17. Staff outlined a proposed timeline, received feedback from Council and Council selected two of their members, Carolyn Jackson and James Pierce, to assist with the process. The first major tasks were to develop a position profile and develop a request for proposal for a consultant firm to assist with the process.

The job profile was developed with input from the Community (150 surveyed responses), 38 staff and all the Executive Leadership Team, and the City Council. The City Council hired DDA Human Resources to assist with the recruitment process and the position was posted publicly.

The City received 63 candidates. There were no internal candidates. DDA reviewed the applications and recommended 16 candidates to move forward with video interviews. The 16 candidate video interviews were reviewed and narrowed to six semi-finalists. The interviews intentionally used aspects of the position profile to assist with reviewing the candidates. The six semi-finalists were interviewed in person in mid-August by two panels including two council members, two community members and a panel of executive leadership team members. Council Members Jackson and Pierce determined to move four candidates on to backgrounding processes based on the panels feedback. Two candidates were recommended to be named finalists.

Laurie Hokkanen and Jason Wedel have been named finalists for the position of City Manager. The City Council has completed interviews and will debrief about the candidates.

Next steps: After a final candidate is selected, the City will enter into contract negotiations and determine a start date in collaboration with the candidate. Contract approval is tentatively planned for the September 15 Council meeting to allow adequate time for the candidate to give notice. If necessary, a special meeting may be held to keep the process moving forward.

Supporting Documentation:

None