

**MINUTES**  
**MONTICELLO CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING**  
**Monday, February 9, 2026 – 5:00 p.m.**  
**Monticello Community Center**

Present: Lloyd Hilgart, Charlotte Gabler, Kip Christianson, Tracy Hinz, Lee Martie  
Absent: None  
Staff: Rachel Leonard, Sarah Rathlisberger, Angela Schumann, Matt Leonard, and Tom Pawelk  
Others: Tom Cruikshank (MNDOT), Mike Larson (Bolton & Menk), Zach Whitley (MNDOT)

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Lloyd Hilgart called the special meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**2. Highway 25 Corridor Update - MNDOT**

Tom Cruikshank, MNDOT, reported that MNDOT, in collaboration with the cities of Monticello and Big Lake, as well as Wright and Sherburne Counties, completed a corridor study of TH 25 from CR 106/85<sup>th</sup> Street to US 10. The study aimed to identify safety concerns, near-term improvements, and a long-term vision for the corridor.

Mike Larson, Bolton & Menk, and Zach Whitley, MNDOT, provided an overview of the study, highlighting key downtown challenges, including high cash rates, traffic bottlenecks, and a constrained roadway corridor. Several alternatives were evaluated based on existing traffic volumes, with the recommended concept being a 4<sup>th</sup> Street roundabout with access restrictions including allowing right-in/right-out movements only on River Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Street, and prohibiting side street left-turns at 7<sup>th</sup> Street. The addition of the roundabout with this implementation of access restrictions alternative was identified as providing the greatest overall benefit.

Project scoping begins in 2027 with a tentative construction year of 2031.


The Council discussed the study and recommendation and had clarifying questions for further understanding. No action was taken.

**3. Confirmation on Council Direction for Water Treatment Plant Project**

Public Works Director/City Engineer Matt Leonard wanted clarification on items selected for the Water Treatment Plant at the last special meeting on January 26. Council confirmed that there was consensus for Option 1 – Windows, Option B – South Elevation, and Option A – North Elevation.

**4. Adjournment**

By consensus, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Recorder: Jennifer Schreiber 

Attest:   
City Administrator