



City of Blaine

Economic Development Authority

November 17, 2025 | 6:00 PM
Blaine City Hall
10801 Town Square Drive NE
Blaine, MN 55449

The purpose of the Blaine Economic Development Authority is to increase the City's commercial/industrial tax base, provide employment opportunities, undertake redevelopment to enhance and maintain neighborhood economic stability, and address special needs, such as senior housing. As authorized under Minnesota State statutes, the Blaine City Council also serves as the Blaine Economic Development Authority.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Minutes

- 3.1.** 2025-260 Approval of the October 6, 2025, Economic Development Authority (EDA) Minutes
Sponsors:

4. New Business

- 4.1.** RES 25-184 Resolution to Approve a Contract with the 3M Open
Sponsors: Erik Thorvig, City Manager

5. Old Business

6. Adjournment



City of Blaine

Economic Development Authority

October 6, 2025 | 8:00 PM
Blaine City Hall
10801 Town Square Drive NE
Blaine, MN 55449

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM by President Sanders followed by the Roll Call.

2. Roll Call

PRESENT: President Tim Sanders, Commissioners Chris Ford, Leslie Larson, Tom Newland, and Jess Robertson.

ABSENT: Commissioners Terra Fleming and Chris Massoglia.

Quorum Present.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Erik Thorvig; Deputy Police Joe Gerhard; Finance Director Jason Zimmerman; Director of Administrative Services Scott Johnson; Director of Engineering Dan Schluender; City Attorney Eric Larson; Communications Manager Ben Hayle; Community Development Specialist Elizabeth Showalter; Accounting Manager Haley Champman; Finance Analyst Nikki Beckers; and City Clerk Catherine Sorensen.

3. Approval of Minutes

- 3.1.** 2025-226 Approval of the September 3, 2025 Economic Development Authority (EDA) Minutes
Sponsors: Sheila Sellman, Interim Community Development Director

Moved by Commissioner Robertson, seconded by Commissioner Newland, that the minutes of September 3, 2025, be approved.

Motion adopted unanimously.

4. New Business

- 4.1.** RES 25-169 Resolution Appointing City Manager as Executive Director and Appointing Interim Community Development Director as Deputy Executive Director of the EDA
Sponsors: Sheila Sellman, Interim Community Development Director

Executive Director Thorvig stated at the September 15, 2025, Erik Thorvig, was formally hired as the City Manager by the City Council. At that same meeting Sheila Sellman was appointed Interim Community Development Director. The city manager also acts as the executive director for the Blaine Economic Development Authority and is authorized to execute necessary agreements related to expenditures, purchase agreements, etc. An action is required by the EDA to appoint Mr. Thorvig as the Executive Director. The EDA is also appointing Ms. Sellman as Deputy Executive Director, enabling her to assume the responsibilities of the Executive Director in their absence.

Moved by Commissioner Robertson, seconded by Commissioner Newland, to adopt a Resolution Appointing City Manager as Executive Director and Appointing Interim Community Development Director as Deputy Executive Director of the EDA.

Motion adopted unanimously.

5. Old Business

None.

6. Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner Robertson, seconded by Commissioner Newland, to adjourn the meeting at 7:33PM.

Motion adopted unanimously.



City of Blaine Staff Report

File Number: RES 25-184

Agenda Date	Status
November 17, 2025	
In Control	File Type
Economic Development Authority	Resolution
New Business - Erik Thorvig, City Manager	

Agenda Item # 4.1

Resolution to Approve a Contract with the 3M Open

Executive Summary

Council is being asked to approve a four-year sponsorship commitment through the end of 2029 with the 3M Open.

Background

The 3M Open will be held at the TPC Twin Cities in Blaine July 20-26, 2026. The 3M Open is a regular PGA Tour event with 156 of the world's best golfers competing.

The inaugural year of the 3M Open was 2019. It was estimated the tournament had an economic impact on the region of over \$50 million. The local, national and worldwide exposure of the event on social media and television was impactful. The four-day tournament has over 15 live hours and over 55 total hours of broadcast time on the Golf Channel and CBS.

In 2022, the EDA approved a four-year sponsorship (2022-2025). This sponsorship identified an initial sponsorship cost of \$115,000 with a 3% escalator each year. The EDA paid:

2022 - \$115,000

2023 - \$118,450

2024 - \$122,000

2025 - \$125,660

The tournament has requested the City of Blaine enter into a five-year sponsorship agreement through 2030. The tournament is secured as a tour event through 2030. The sponsorship will provide the City of Blaine with access to a hospitality tent on the 18th hole from Tuesday-Sunday, and 40 event tickets per day. With the event being high profile locally and worldwide, this is an opportunity to invite and host guests that play a direct role in economic development activity in Blaine. Revenue from the tournament, which includes Blaine's sponsorship, was part of the \$1.5 million in donations the 3M Open fund

contributed annually. The three largest recipients were the University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital, Science Museum of Minnesota and National Park Foundation. Local organizations that received donations include The First Tee Blaine, Stepping Stone Emergency Housing, Allina, SBM Fire, Panther Foundation, Blaine Police Explorers and TPC Rose.

In 2025, the City of Blaine hosted over 200 guests in the hospitality tent. Guests included real estate developers and brokers, existing and prospective Blaine businesses, financial institutions and other key community stakeholders. Staff intends to create a targeted invite list and examine the possibility of themed days (developer day, broker day, Blaine business day, etc.) and review this with the EDA/Council sometime this spring before invitations are sent out.

3M Open staff approached city staff about two different options for 2026-2030. Option 1 utilizes existing hospitality space size and allocates 40 tickets/day. Option 2 utilizes additional hospitality space and allocates 80 tickets/day. Expanding the space and number of tickets allows for expanded programming and invitations to guests that have been limited with just 40 tickets/day. Additional annual networking and leadership opportunities will also be made available through the 3M Open with Option 2. Below are the cost differences:

Option 1:

2026 - \$132,600
2027 - \$135,960
2028 - \$140,040
2029 - \$144,240
2030 - \$148,600

Option 2:

2026 - \$198,500
2027 - \$204,455
2028 - \$210,590
2029 - \$216,910
2030 - \$223,415

Either option can be funded through the existing EDA levy without the need to increase the levy.

Strategic Plan Relationship

Board/Commission Review

Not applicable.

Financial Impact

Financial impacts are outlined in the staff report. The EDA annual levy would not need to be increased to accommodate either option.

Public Outreach/Input

Not applicable.

Staff Recommendation

Attachment List

None



City of Blaine

Signature Copy

Resolution: RES 25-184

Resolution to Approve a Contract with the 3M Open

WHEREAS, the 3M Open is a PGA Tour event held in Blaine; and

WHEREAS, the 3M Open and the City of Blaine have partnered to the success of the tournament; and

WHEREAS, the city previously entered into a partnership contract which expired after the 2025 tournament; and

WHEREAS, the 3M Open has extended their contract with the PGA Tour through 2030; and

WHEREAS, the 3M Open and the City of Blaine desire to enter into a partnership contract from 2026–2030.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Blaine Economic Development Authority hereby approves entering into a contract with the 3M Open and authorizes the executive director and president to enter into said contract based on the terms approved on November 17, 2025.