



# AGENDA

## Human Rights Commission Meeting

5:15 PM - Wednesday, May 20, 2026  
City Hall Council Chambers

---

	Page
1. CALL TO ORDER	
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES	
2.1. Approve Minutes of the April 27, 2026 meeting.	3 - 4
<a href="#">2026.4.27 Human Rights Commission Minutes</a>	
3. BUDGET REPORT	
3.1. Review Monthly Financial Report.	5 - 6
<a href="#">2026.05.18 YTD</a>	
3.2. 2027 Budget Request for \$9,000 was submitted. City Council Work Session scheduled for July 21st. Preliminary Budget to be approved at the September 15, 2026 City Council meeting.	7
<a href="#">Budget Request for 2027</a>	
4. EVENTS COMMITTEE (HRC SPONSORED)	
4.1. Welcoming Week - September 14 - 18, 2026. Request to City Council authorizing use of 30 parking stalls located in the 2nd North Street and Broadway parking lot adjacent to City Hall for Welcoming Week Event on Friday, September 18, 2026.	
4.2. Human Rights Award presentation event. Report from May 20, 2026 HRC Events Subcommittee meeting.	
5. EVENTS COMMITTEE (PARTICIPATING EVENTS)	
5.1. Brown County Fair - Wednesday, August 12 - Sunday, August 16, 2026. Highest traffic in Civic Center during Brown County Fair:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thursday - Senior Day from 10am - 1pm and Thursday night 5-8pm</li><li>• Friday - Kid's Day from 10am- 3pm</li><li>• Saturday 1pm-6pm</li><li>• Sunday 1-4pm</li></ul>	
6. EDUCATION COMMITTEE	
6.1. Discuss the next Living Without Limits event	
7. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE	
8. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON	
8.1. Kristin Sprenger (April - June).	
9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
9.1. The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Monday, June 29, 2026.	

10. ADJOURNMENT

**New Ulm Human Rights Commission Minutes**  
**April 27th, 2026, 5:15 pm**  
**City Hall Council Chambers**

**Members Present:** Kristin Sprenger, Katie Dorschner, Sarah Leslie, Carl Zeidler, David Nissen, Obehi Okojie, Mayor Backer

**1. Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by chairperson, Kristin S.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

**2.1** A motion to approve the HRC Minutes from the 4/27/26 meeting as written was made by David and seconded by Carl Z. The motion was passed by unanimous consent.

**3. Budget Report:**

**3.1** 100% of the 2026 budget remains.

**3.2** Preparation of 2027 Budget Request. The Commission discussed upcoming expenses, including whether the Education Committee would consider expanding the Living Without Limits series, such as by funding a speaker or paying for materials. The series has so far incurred no expenses beyond refreshments for in-person attendees. Mayor Backer recommended that the Commission continue to monitor the budget requirement over the next few years before reducing the budget request. The Commission also discussed whether there could be a monetary component for the Human Rights Award. Mayor Backer recommended that the money should go to a local nonprofit designated by the recipient(s) vs to the recipient(s) themselves. Also discussed was exploring a partnership with the New Ulm Rec Center for their free family day. Kristin to contact Park and Rec to get further information on the date. A motion was made by Obehi to request the same amount, \$9000, and seconded by Katie. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

**4. EVENTS COMMITTEE (PARTICIPATING EVENTS)**

**4.1** Bavarian Blast 5k Fun Run sponsored by TBD - Date and time to be determined. An event sponsor has not yet been determined. Obehi shared that participation was high at last year's event, and the Wellness Collective is considering sponsoring the event again this year. The decision to sponsor the event was tabled pending further information from the sponsor.

**4.2** Bavarian Blast Parade - Sunday, July 19, 2026, at 12:30 p.m. Registration deadline is June 30th. Fee \$10. A motion to participate in the parade was made by Obehi, seconded by Sarah, and passed with unanimous consent.

**4.3** New Ulm Night Out - Date and time to be determined. Information regarding the event will be distributed in May. A motion to participate in the event was made by Obehi, seconded by Carl, and passed with unanimous consent.

**4.4** Brown County Fair - Wednesday, August 12 - Sunday, August 16, 2026. The Commission discussed that this event takes a lot of hours and has had trouble staffing the booth. Engagement with the booth has been relatively low. Obehi suggested a limited number of hours during the fair's busiest hours and that there is a benefit to the community in knowing that New Ulm has a Human Rights Commission, even if engagement is low. The Commission

discussed options to make the booth more engaging and to limit staffing to Friday and Saturday only. Sarah motioned that the Commission would participate in the fair from Wednesday through Saturday, with the schedule further refined based on the highest-attendance days, to be determined by the Events Committee. Seconded by Obehi and passed with unanimous consent.

**4.5** South Central Minnesota Pridefest Parade and Festival - September 10 - 13, 2026 - Parade information will be posted by June 2026. Tabled.

**5. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON**

5.1. Kristin Sprenger (April - June). Nothing to report.

**6. CURRENT HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES**

6.1 Nothing reported

**7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

7.1. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Wednesday, May 20, 2026, due to the Memorial Day holiday

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted, Sarah Leslie



New Ulm, MN

# Detail vs Budget Report

## Account Detail

Date Range: 01/01/2026 - 05/18/2026

Account	Name	Encumbrances	Fiscal Budget	Beginning Balance	Total Activity	Ending Balance	Budget Remaining	% Remaining
<b>101 - GENERAL FUND</b>								
Expense								
<a href="#">101-1000-355115</a>	Human Rights Commission	0.00	9,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,000.00	100.00%
	<b>Expense Totals:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>9,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>9,000.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
	<b>101 - GENERAL FUND Totals:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>9,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>9,000.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
	<b>Report Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>9,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>9,000.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

### Fund Summary

Fund	Encumbrances	Fiscal Budget	Beginning Balance	Total Activity	Ending Balance	Budget Remaining	% Remaining
101 - GENERAL FUND	0.00	9,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,000.00	100.00%
<b>Report Total:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>9,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>9,000.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION BUDGET REQ**

<b>Category</b>	<b>2027 Proposed</b>	<b>Description</b>
Community Events and Promotional Materials	\$ 3,900.00	Fair, Parades, Welcoming Week Event, Signs, Stickers, etc. Welcome Week is a new expense. Last year was funded by a one-time grant.
Human Rights Award	\$ 500.00	Reception - food and plaques
Living Without Limits Series	\$ 2,400.00	New event to replace poster and essay contest which received low participation the past years.
Program Expenses	\$ 2,200.00	Speaker Fees and Advertising
<b>Total Requested</b>	<b>\$ 9,000.00</b>	