



City of Saint Paul

City Hall and Court House
15 West Kellogg Boulevard
Council Chambers - 3rd
Floor
651-266-8560

Meeting Minutes

City Council

Council President Rebecca Noecker
Vice President HwaJeong Kim
Councilmember Anika Bowie
Councilmember Molly Coleman
Councilmember Cheniqua Johnson
Councilmember Saura Jost
Councilmember Nelsie Yang

Wednesday, January 7, 2026

3:30 PM

Council Chambers - 3rd Floor

ROLL CALL

Meeting started at 3:31 PM

Present 6 - Councilmember Rebecca Noecker, Councilmember Nelsie Yang,
Councilmember HwaJeong Kim, Councilmember Anika Bowie,
Councilmember Saura Jost and Councilmember Molly Coleman
Absent 1 - Councilmember Cheniqua Johnson

COMMUNICATIONS & RECEIVE/FILE

Council President Noecker gave remarks regarding the killing of Renee Good.

- 1 [AO 26-1](#) Amending ONS project budget: Funding for a Fellowship from Harvard University approved by the City Council via RES PH 24-141.
Received and Filed
- 2 [AO 26-2](#) Establishing two (2) new projects through the Neighborhood STAR Year-Round Program as adopted via City Council Resolutions 25-1894 and 25-1905, and returning the balance of one (1) project to the Year-Round STAR Program.
Received and Filed

CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed under the Consent Agenda will be enacted by one motion with no separate discussion. If discussion on an item is desired, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Council President Noecker stated that Item 24 would be taken separately.

Councilmember Kim moved approval.

Consent Agenda adopted as amended

Yea: 6 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Johnson

- 3 [RES 26-1](#) Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation to expend an amount not to exceed \$25,000 for the purpose of providing refreshments, marketing materials, recognition items, and other incentives for various activities, programs, volunteers, and events throughout 2026.
Adopted
- 4 [RES 26-2](#) Approving the City's cost of providing Removal of Diseased and/or Dangerous Tree at 837 PEDERSEN STREET, and setting date of Legislative Hearing for February 3, 2026 and City Council public hearing for March 18, 2026 to consider and levy the assessments against individual properties. (File No. 2602T, Assessment No. 269001)
Adopted
- 5 [RES 26-3](#) Approving the City's cost of providing Removal of Diseased and/or Dangerous Tree(s) during July - October 2025, and setting date of Legislative Hearing for February 3, 2026 and City Council public hearing for March 18, 2026 to consider and levy the assessments against individual properties. (File No. 2601T, Assessment No. 269000)
Adopted
- 6 [RES 26-4](#) Approving an Auto Repair Garage and Auto Body Repair/Painting Shop new location license for Eagle Auto Body LLC d/b/a Eagle Auto Body LLC (License ID # 20250001040) for the premises located at 440 Minnehaha Ave W.
Adopted
- 7 [RES 26-5](#) Renaming Webster Park to Barack and Michelle Obama Park.
Adopted
- 8 [RES 26-6](#) Authorizing stipends for Audit Committee Community Advisors to engage with District Councils and community organizations to strengthen relationships at the community level and to solicit performance audit topic ideas.
Adopted
- 9 [RES 26-7](#) Amending the 2026 City Council meeting schedule to cancel a meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 8.
Adopted
- 10 [RES 26-8](#) Authorizing the Fire Department to accept the donation of one sauna valued at \$6,500 from the Saint Paul Fire Foundation.

Adopted

- 11 [RES 26-9](#) Approving and authorizing an agreement between the Metropolitan Council and the City to clarify redeployment of Livable Communities Act program funds, citywide.
- Adopted**
- 12 [RES 26-10](#) Authorizing the Fire Department to accept the donation of 15 LUCAS devices valued at \$303,538.80 from Dr. Demetris Yannopoulos, MD and the ECMO Team with the University of Minnesota.
- Adopted**
- 13 [RES 26-11](#) Approving the Collective Bargaining Agreement (January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2027) between the City of Saint Paul and the International Union of Elevator Constructors, Local 9.
- Laid over to January 14, 2026**
- 14 [RES 26-12](#) Approving the Memorandum of Agreement for 2026 January Wage and Fringe Adjustment between the City and the Sprinkler Fitters Local Union No. 417.
- Laid over to January 14, 2026**
- 15 [RES 26-13](#) Authorizing the City to enter into a cooperative agreement with Ramsey County for sidewalk construction on Marshall and Cleveland Avenues.
- Adopted**
- 16 [RES 26-14](#) Approving the City's cost of providing Replacement of Lead Water Service Line on Private Properties and setting date of City Council public hearing for February 4, 2026, to consider and levy the assessments against individual properties. (File No. 2502LDSRP, Assessment No. 254001)
- Adopted**
- 17 [RES 26-15](#) Approving the City's cost of providing Repair of Sanitary Sewer Service Line on Private Properties and setting date of City Council public hearing for February 4, 2026 to consider and levy the assessments against individual properties. (File No. SWRP2503, Assessment No. 253002)
- Adopted**
- 18 [RES 26-16](#) Designating the City's official newspaper for 2026.
- Adopted**
- 19 [RES 26-17](#) Amending the Transportation Committee Resolution 10-159 in accordance with the Planning Commission organizational changes and established practice.
- Adopted**

- 20 [RES 26-18](#) Amending Chapter A-11 of the Appendices to the Administrative Code to update the Early Notification System Policy and Procedures regarding Subdivisions.

Adopted

- 21 [RES 26-20](#) Authorizing the Department of Public Works-Sewer Utility to enter into a Cooperative Maintenance Agreement with the Capitol Region Watershed District for maintenance of the City-owned Arlington Business Park, Arlington-Arkwright, Atwater-Western, and Beacon Bluff Ponds.

Adopted

- 22 [RES 26-35](#) Directing the Department of Safety and Inspections to proceed with the 10-day license suspension adverse action against DDDSALYA LLC d/b/a East Market Grocery & Tobacco, (License ID # 20220001990) for the premises located at 913 Payne Avenue.

Adopted

- 23 [RES 26-49](#) Authorizing the third renewal of a license between the City and Twin City Refuse & Recycling Station, Inc. for the use of City park property and City levee property for a refuse and recycling business.

Adopted

FOR DISCUSSION

- 24 [RES 26-50](#) Celebrating St. Paul Family Medical Center's 25+ Years of Service and Milestones in the East Side Saint Paul Community & Declaring Saturday, January 10, 2026 as Dr. Phua Xiong Day in the City of Saint Paul.

Councilmember Yang moved approval. Resolution adopted 7-0.

Yang moved reconsideration after Item 27.

Yang spoke in favor, read from the resolution, and moved approval.

Dr. Phua Xiong gave remarks.

Adopted as amended

Yea: 6 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Johnson

- 25 [RES 26-38](#) Approving the appointment of the City Attorney. (to be amended)

Council President Noecker moved approval.

Irene Kao was sworn in as City Attorney.

Erica Schumacher, First Assistant Mayor, gave remarks.

Kao gave remarks.

Adopted as amended

Yea: 6 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Johnson

26 [RES 26-42](#)

Approving the Mayor's appointments of Senior Assistant Mayor - Executive Assistant to the Mayor, Assistant Mayors - Assistant to the Mayor VI, and Executive Director of Public Affairs & Communications - Assistant to the Mayor VI, effective January 2, 2026. (to be amended)

Councilmember Bowie moved Version 2.

Council President Noecker spoke in favor.

Adopted as amended

Yea: 6 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Johnson

27 [RES 26-43](#)

Approving the Mayor's appointment of _ to serve as Acting Mayor in the absence of Mayor Kaohly Her. (to be amended)

Councilmember Coleman moved Version 2.

Adopted as amended

Yea: 6 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Johnson

ORDINANCES

An ordinance is a city law enacted by the City Council. It is read at three separate council meetings and becomes effective after passage by the Council and 30 days after publication in the Saint Paul Pioneer Press. Public hearings on ordinances are generally held at the second reading.

Final Adoption

28 [Ord 25-79](#)

Amending Chapter 107 of the Administrative Code pertaining to improvements to the Planning Commission process.

Councilmember Yang moved approval.

Council President Noecker spoke in favor.

Adopted

Yea: 6 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Johnson

First Reading

- 29** [Ord 26-1](#) Modifying and establishing certain City Council staff positions in Chapter 16 of the Administrative Code.

Jay Willms, Director of Council Operations, gave a staff report and answered councilmember questions.

Laid over to January 14, 2026 for Second Reading

Yea: 6 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Johnson

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Live testimony is limited to two minutes for each person. See below for optional ways to testify.

- 31** [RES PH 26-8](#) Approving the petition of the Department of Parks and Recreation, on behalf of the City, to vacate public right-of-way in and around Merriam Park.

Councilmember Jost moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 6 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Johnson

- 30** [PH 26-1](#) Public hearing on grievances about federal immigration operations.

11 people spoke during the public hearing.

Councilmember Coleman moved to close the public hearing. Approved 6-0.

Councilmembers Noecker Yang, Kim, Bowie, Jost, and Coleman gave remarks.

Public hearing closed

ROLL CALL

- Present** 5 - Councilmember Rebecca Noecker, Councilmember Nelsie Yang, Councilmember Anika Bowie, Councilmember Saura Jost and Councilmember Molly Coleman
- Absent** 2 - Councilmember HwaJeong Kim and Councilmember Cheniqua Johnson

LEGISLATIVE HEARING DISCUSSION ITEM

- 44** [RLH RR 25-33](#) Ordering the rehabilitation or razing and removal of the structures at 810 MARYLAND AVENUE EAST within fifteen (15) days after the January 7, 2026, City Council Public Hearing. (Amend to remove by March 1, 2026)

Marcia Moermond, Legislative Hearing Officer, gave a staff report.

Adam Niblick, attorney for CVS, spoke during the public hearing and answered councilmember questions.

Three neighbors spoke during the public hearing.

Moermond answered councilmember questions.

Councilmember Yang moved to order the building removed by March 1, 2026.

Adopted as amended (remove by March 1, 2026)

Yea: 5 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 - Councilmember Kim and Councilmember Johnson

LEGISLATIVE HEARING CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed under the Consent Agenda will receive a combined public hearing and be enacted by one motion with no separate discussion. Items may be removed from the Consent Agenda for a separate public hearing and discussion if desired.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Councilmember Jost moved approval.

Legislative Hearing Consent Agenda adopted as amended

Yea: 5 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 - Councilmember Kim and Councilmember Johnson

- 32** [RLH SAO 25-62](#) Appeal of Deborah Ruberto to a Summary Abatement Order and Vehicle Abatement Order at 235 BATES AVENUE.

Adopted as amended (nuisance abated)

- 33 [RLH SAO 25-60](#) Appeal of Emmett J. Owens, Jr. to a Summary Abatement Order and Vehicle Abatement Order at 239 BATES AVENUE.

Adopted as amended (extension granted)

- 34 [RLH TA 25-410](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 511 BAY STREET. (File No. J2601R, Assessment No. 268601) (Refer to April 21, 2026 Legislative Hearing)

Referred to April 21, 2026 Legislative Hearing

- 35 [RLH TA 25-413](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 862 CLEAR AVENUE. (File No. J2601TW, Assessment No. 268701) (Refer to January 20, 2026 Legislative Hearing)

Referred to January 20, 2026 Legislative Hearing

- 36 [RLH CO 26-1](#) Making finding on the appealed nuisance abatement ordered for 927 DESOTO STREET in Council File RLH CO 25-15. (Legislative Hearing on January 6, 2026)

Adopted as amended (nuisance abated)

- 37 [RLH TA 25-416](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 913 EARL STREET. (File No. J2601TW, Assessment No. 268701) (Refer to January 20, 2026 Legislative Hearing)

Referred to January 20, 2026 Legislative Hearing

- 38 [RLH FCO 25-75](#) Appeal of Aychoeun Tea to a Fire Inspection Report at 318 EDMUND AVENUE.

Adopted

- 39 [RLH TA 25-275](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1762 ENGLEWOOD AVENUE. (File No. VB2510A, Assessment No. 258833)

Public hearing continued to January 21, 2026

- 40 [RLH SAO 25-58](#) Making finding on the appealed nuisance abatement ordered for 2016 FREMONT AVENUE in Council File RLH SAO 25-55.

Adopted as amended (nuisance abated)

- 41 [RLH TA 25-420](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 692 HAMLINE AVENUE NORTH AKA 1339 VAN BUREN AVENUE. (File No. VB2512B, Assessment No. 258835) (Refer to February 10, 2026 Legislative Hearing)

Referred to February 10, 2026 Legislative Hearing

- 42 [RLH TA 25-253](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1814 JAMES AVENUE. (File No. J2521R, Assessment No. 258549) (Public hearing

continued to January 7, 2026)

Adopted as amended (assessment reduced)

- 43 [RLH VBR 25-32](#) Appeal of Eng Tat Ng to a Registered Vacant Building placard plus Notice of Condemnation-Unfit for Human Habitation-Order to Vacate at 1032 MAGNOLIA AVENUE EAST. (January 6, 2026 Legislative Hearing)
Adopted as amended (appeal denied)
- 45 [RLH SAO 25-75](#) Appeal of Rashad Turner to a Vehicle Abatement Order at 805 MINNEHAHA AVENUE WEST.
Adopted
- 46 [RLH TA 25-223](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1624 SEVENTH STREET EAST. (File No. J2518R, Assessment No. 258534) (Continue public hearing to January 7, 2026)
Adopted as amended (assessment reduced)
- 47 [RLH TA 25-415](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 476 SHERBURNE AVENUE. (File No. J2601R, Assessment No. 268601) (Refer to April 21, 2026 Legislative Hearing)
Referred to April 21, 2026 Legislative Hearing
- 48 [RLH TA 26-10](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 554 STRYKER AVENUE. (File No. VB2512C, Assessment No. 258836) (Refer to February 10, 2026 Legislative Hearing)
Referred to February 10, 2026 Legislative Hearing
- 49 [RLH TA 25-282](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1240 VIRGINIA STREET. (File No. J2522R2, Assessment No. 258580) (Reduce and to continue public hearing to January 7, 2026)
Adopted as amended (assessment deleted)
- 50 [RLH TA 25-397](#) Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 101 WINNIPEG AVENUE. (File No. J2513TW2, Assessment No. 258595)
Adopted
- 51 [RLH TA 25-391](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 933 WOODBRIDGE STREET. (File No. J2601R, Assessment No. 268601) (Refer to January 20, 2026 Legislative Hearing)
Referred to January 20, 2026 Legislative Hearing
- 52 [RLH AR 25-92](#) Ratifying the assessment for Rubbish and Garbage Clean Up services during June 11 to July 11, 2025. (File No. J2601R, Assessment No. 268601)
Adopted as amended (935 Case Ave referred to March 3, 2026 for separate consideration)

- 53** [RLH AR 25-93](#) Ratifying the assessment for Tall Grass and Weed Removal services during June 12 to 24, 2025. (File No. J2601TW, Assessment No. 268701)
Adopted

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting ended at 5:10 PM

City Council meetings are open for in person attendance, but the public may also comment on public hearing items in writing or via voicemail. Any comments and materials submitted by 12:00 pm of the day before the meeting will be attached to the public record and available for review by the City Council. Comments may be submitted as follows:

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Written public comment on public hearing items can be submitted to Contact-Council@ci.stpaul.mn.us, CouncilHearing@ci.stpaul.mn.us, or by voicemail at 651-266-6805. Live testimony will be taken in person in the Council Chambers.

Council Meeting Information

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Web

Meetings are available on the Council's website. Email notification and web feeds (RSS) of newly released minutes, agendas, and meetings are available by subscription. Visit www.stpaul.gov/council for meeting videos and updated copies of the agendas, minutes, and supporting documents.

Cable

Meetings are live on St Paul Channel 18 and replayed at various times. Check your local listings.