



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, December 3, 2025

3:30 PM

Council Chambers - 3rd Floor

Councilmember Johnson will be participating remotely.

ROLL CALL

Meeting started at 3:31 PM

Present 7 - Councilmember Rebecca Noecker, Councilmember Nelsie Yang, Councilmember HwaJeong Kim, Councilmember Anika Bowie, Councilmember Saura Jost, Councilmember Cheniqua Johnson and Councilmember Molly Coleman

COMMUNICATIONS & RECEIVE/FILE

Council President Noecker spoke to an upcoming resolution regarding the November 25 police activities on Rose Ave and stated that Councilmember Johnson was attending this meeting remotely.

- 1 [AO 25-71](#) Amending the 2025 spending budget in the Saint Paul Regional Water Services in the amount of \$75,000 for EAMS project.
Received and Filed
- 2 [AO 25-72](#) Amending CDBG Project Budgets: \$210,000 of funding for 30,000 Feet (1351 Arcade St).
Received and Filed
- 3 [AO 25-74](#) Approving the 2025 Fund 200 - Grants Fund for Emergency Management to more accurately record expenditures.
Received and Filed
- 4 [AO 25-75](#) Approving the 2025 Fund 100 - General Fund for the Fire Department to more accurately record expenditures.
Received and Filed
- 5 [AO 25-76](#) Moving budget from the Public Safety Aid contingency project to department-specific projects in alignment with the 2025 Adopted Budget.

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 Items 6 and 28 would be taken separately.

Councilmember Coleman moved approval.

Consent Agenda adopted as amended

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

- 7 [RES 25-1685](#) Authorizing the City to enter into a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for Local Road Improvement funding for the St. Peter & 4th Pedestrian Improvement, Cleveland Sidewalk and Marshall Sidewalk Projects.
Adopted
- 8 [RES 25-1710](#) Approving the 2025 Cultural Sales Tax Revitalization (STAR) Grant Program awards.
Adopted
- 9 [RES 25-1722](#) Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation to accept donations, with an estimated value of \$62,800, from Hope for the Brave, a non-profit organization, to provide necessities for kids and families at Dayton's Bluff Rec Center and to support a variety of special events on the East Side in 2026.
Adopted
- 10 [RES 25-1733](#) Approving the Mayor's appointment of Alina Hornfeldt to the Cultural STAR Board.
Adopted
- 11 [RES 25-1758](#) Authorizing execution and recording of a Memorandum of Phase 2 Plaza License, Operations and Maintenance Agreement between the City and Ecolab USA Inc.
Adopted
- 12 [RES 25-1763](#) Authorizing the City to apply for the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services 2026 Private Property Inflow & Infiltration Grant Program.

Adopted

- 13 [RES 25-1766](#) Authorizing the Department of Public Works to apply for the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services 2025 Municipal I/I Grant Program.
- Adopted**
- 14 [RES 25-1806](#) Authorizing the City to apply for \$85,709 from the Minnesota Department of Commerce's Solar on Public Buildings Grant Program for solar installation at Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center.
- Adopted**
- 15 [RES 25-1808](#) Authorizing the Department of Public Works to apply for a Planning Grant for the Stormwater, Wastewater, and Community Resilience program from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), which has a match requirement, to help local communities assess vulnerabilities and begin planning for the effects of Minnesota's changing climate.
- Adopted**
- 16 [RES 25-1810](#) Authorizing the Department of Public Works-Sewer Utility to enter into a Cooperative Maintenance Agreement with the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District for maintenance of the City-owned Hazel-Ross and Hazel-Nokomis Ponds.
- Adopted**
- 17 [RES 25-1833](#) Authorizing the City's conveyance of a perpetual easement to the Saint Paul Port Authority for a new dockwall near the Barge Terminal 2 facility to tie into the existing levee system.
- Adopted**
- 18 [RES 25-1834](#) Amending the 2025 budget to establish a transition team budget for Mayor-elect Her.
- Adopted**
- 19 [RES 25-1865](#) Authorizing the City to acquire permanent and temporary construction easements from property owners within the University Avenue Reconstruction Project.
- Adopted**
- 20 [RES 25-1873](#) Authorizing the Fire Department to pay for all costs incurred to host a graduation ceremony for firefighters on December 17, 2025 at the Minnesota History Center.
- Adopted**
- 21 [RES 25-1879](#) Approving the use of Neighborhood STAR grant funds for a change in scope of work for ArtStart.

Adopted

- 22 [RES 25-1880](#) Approving the Legislative Hearing Officer's recommendation for the application submitted by NS LLC (License ID# DSIBLLIQ-000216-2025), d/b/a Pizza Maya, for Liquor On Sale - 101-180 seats and Liquor On Sale - Sunday licenses, located at 1324 7th St W.

Adopted

- 23 [RES 25-1882](#) Approving the Mayor's reappointment of James Garrett Jr. and Hannah Hills to a four-year term on the Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board (CAAPB).

Adopted

- 24 [RES 25-1883](#) Approving the Mayor's appointment of Jenni Severson to the Workforce Innovation Board of Ramsey County.

Adopted

- 25 [RES 25-1884](#) Approving the Mayor's reappointments of Sheigh Freeburg, Alanna Galloway, and Nate Gurol to the Labor Standards Advisory Committee.

Adopted

- 26 [RES 25-1890](#) Approving the Mayor's appointment of Thi Nguyen to the Business Review Council.

Adopted

- 27 [RES 25-1894](#) Approving the Use of Grant Funds through the Ward 6 Neighborhood STAR Year-Round Program for the St. Paul Parks Conservancy and Chiro Health Clinic, P.A.

Adopted**FOR DISCUSSION**

- 6 [RES 25-1614](#) Approving the 2025 Neighborhood Sales Tax Revitalization (STAR) Grant Program awards.

Councilmember Yang gave remarks and moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

- 28 [RES 25-1896](#) Requesting a comprehensive relocation, renovation, and reopening plan for Rondo Community Library.

Councilmember Bowie gave remarks and withdrew the item.

Withdrawn

- 29 [RES 25-1752](#) Directing the Department of Safety and Inspections to revoke the Liquor On-Sale 100 Seats or Less, Liquor On-Sale Sunday license held by Damera Ethiopian Bar & Restaurant LLC d/b/a Damera (License ID #20110004770) for the premises located at 823 University Ave. W. (Laid over from November 19, 2025) (to be withdrawn)

Withdrawn**BUDGET ITEMS**

- 30 [RES PH 25-230](#) Establishing the Water Charges for 2026. (Public hearing closed and laid over from November 5, 2025)

Councilmember Noecker gave remarks.

Councilmember Yang moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

- 31 [RES PH 25-231](#) Establishing the Water Fees and Charges for 2026. (Public hearing closed and laid over from November 5, 2025)

Councilmember Kim moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

- 32 [RES PH 25-239](#) Setting the 2026 Sanitary Sewer and Storm Sewer rates. (Public hearing closed and laid over from November 5, 2025)

Councilmember Jost moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

- 33 [RES PH 25-253](#) Setting the Solid Waste Service Fee for 2026. (Public hearing closed and laid over from November 12, 2025)

Councilmember Coleman moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

- 34** [RES PH 25-254](#) Authorizing Public Works to request \$828,344 in SCORE grant funds from Ramsey County to support the curbside recycling program and setting the 2026 City Recycling Service Fees. (Public hearing closed and laid over from November 12, 2025)

Councilmember Bowie moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

- 35** [RES 25-1816](#) Approving the Regional Water Services 2026 Budget.

Council President Noecker gave remarks.

Councilmember Yang moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

- 36** [RES 25-1861](#) Approving the Final 2026 Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) Budget and certifying the Final HRA Property Tax Levy payable in 2026.

Councilmember Jost moved approval of Version 2.

Councilmember Johnson spoke in favor.

Council President Noecker spoke in favor.

Adopted as amended

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

- 37** [RES 25-1863](#) Approving and adopting the Saint Paul Public Library Agency Budget.

Councilmember Jost spoke in favor and moved approval.

Adopted as amended

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

- 38** [RES 25-1807](#) Approving the RiverCentre Convention and Visitors Authority 2026 Budget.

Councilmember Bowie moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

- 39** [RES 25-1853](#) Approving the 2026 City Tax Levy.

Council President Noecker moved approval of Version 2.

Councilmember Yang spoke in favor.

Councilmember Bowie gave remarks.

Adopted as amended

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

- 40** [RES 25-1814](#) Adopting the 2026 Budget.

Council President Noecker gave an introduction.

Councilmember Kim gave remarks.

Councilmember Yang gave remarks.

Kim moved the A1 budget chair's amendment. Approved 7-0.

Councilmember Bowie moved the A2 amendment and spoke in favor.

Tim Greenfield, City Council Chief Policy Officer, gave a staff report on the amendment.

Bowie withdrew her motion.

Kim moved approval of Attachment A. Approved 7-0.

Bowie renewed her motion to approved the A2 amendment. Approved 7-0.

Bowie moved the A5 amendment and spoke in favor.

Yang asked if these were opioid settlement dollars.

Bowie stated that they were opioid settlement dollars.

Yang spoke in opposition.

Councilmember Johnson spoke in opposition.

A5 amendment failed 3-4 (those opposed being Councilmembers Yang, Johnson, Kim, and Noecker)

Noecker moved the A4 amendment and spoke in favor.

Yang expressed concerns.

Jost agreed with Yang's concerns.

Johnson agreed with Yang's concerns.

A4 amendment approved 5-2 (those opposed being Councilmembers Bowie and Johnson)

Kim moved approval of the budget as amended.

Councilmember Coleman gave remarks.

Jost gave remarks.

Johnson gave remarks.

Bowie gave remarks.

Noecker gave remarks.

Adopted as amended

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

ROLL CALL

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

Absent 1 - Councilmember HwaJeong Kim

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

- 41 [Ord 25-77](#) Amending Section 220.05 of the Legislative Code to set rates for base level garbage service to be effective January 1, 2026.

Councilmember Yang moved approval.

Adopted

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Kim

PUBLIC HEARINGS

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

- 42 [Ord 25-72](#) Amending Chapters 60,61,68, and 72 of the Legislative Code pertaining to the Mississippi River Corridor Critical Area and the Flood Plain Management Overlay Districts.

Council President Noecker moved Version 4 and spoke to the amendment.

Councilmember Jost spoke in favor.

Councilmember Bowie spoke in favor.

Version 4 approved 6-0 (Councilmember Kim being absent).

5 people spoke during the public hearing.

Council President Noecker moved to continue the public hearing and lay over for one week.

Amended and laid over to December 10, 2025 for Final Adoption

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Kim

- 43** [Ord 25-78](#) Establishing Chapter 15 of the Administrative Code to establish and define structured quarterly reporting requirements for certain personnel vacancies and overtime utilization.
- Councilmember Bowie moved to close the public hearing and lay over for one week.*
- Laid over to December 10, 2025 for Final Adoption**
- Yea:** 6 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman
- Nay:** 0
- Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Kim
-
- 44** [RES PH 25-252](#) Amending the HOME project budgets to reflect the earned 2024 HOME program income of \$3,356.60.
- Councilmember Coleman moved approval.*
- Adopted**
- Yea:** 6 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman
- Nay:** 0
- Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Kim
-
- 45** [RES PH 25-258](#) Approving the adoption of a Second Amended and Restated Spending Plan for various Tax Increment Financing Districts (under Minnesota Statutes, Section 469.176, Subd 4n).
- Councilmember Jost moved approval.*
- Adopted**
- Yea:** 6 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman
- Nay:** 0
- Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Kim
-
- 46** [RES PH 25-259](#) Amending the 2025 Regional Water Services budget resulting in an increase in spending and financing of \$600,000 for Urgent 2024 lead replacement funds.
- Councilmember Yang moved approval.*
- Adopted**
- Yea:** 6 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Kim

- 47** [RES PH 25-263](#) Approving the application of Minnesota Sports and Events for a sound level variance in order to present amplified sound for the Bold North Breakaway-Rice Park event starting December 26, 2025, through January 5, 2026, at Rice Park - 109 W 4th St. (to be withdrawn)

Withdrawn

- 48** [RES PH 25-264](#) Approving a Five-Year Street Reconstruction Plan for the Fiscal Years 2026 through 2030 and granting preliminary approval to the issuance of certain General Obligation Street Reconstruction Bonds by the City.

Councilmember Bowie moved approval.

Adopted

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Kim

- 49** [RES PH 25-271](#) Amending the financing and spending plans in the Fire Department in the amount of \$29,333.99 for the Minnesota Task Force One (MNTF1) reimbursement from the City of Edina and accepting the donation of conference registration.

Councilmember Coleman moved approval.

Adopted

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Kim

- 50** [RES PH 25-272](#) Amending the financing and spending plans in the Fire Department in the amount of \$4,500 from the Minneapolis Fire Department.

Councilmember Jost moved approval.

Adopted

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Kim

- 51** [RES PH 25-273](#) Amending the Fire Department's financing plan to transfer funds from the HRA to the Fire Department for Catholic Charities response work.

Councilmember Yang moved approval.

Adopted

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Kim

- 52** [RES PH 25-274](#) Amending the City General Fund to budget a transfer in of available balances from the HRA.

Councilmember Jost moved approval of Version 2.

Adopted as amended

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Kim

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

Marcia Moermond, Legislative Hearing Officer, stated that she recommended the public hearing be continued for one week on Item 54.

Councilmember Yang moved approval as amended.

Legislative Hearing Consent Agenda adopted as amended

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

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Kim

- 53** [RLH RR 25-32](#) Ordering the razing and removal of the structures at 693 COOK AVENUE EAST within fifteen (15) days after the December 3, 2025, City Council Public

Hearing.

Adopted

- 54** [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)
- Public Hearing continued to December 10, 2025.**

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting ended at 5:03 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:

The public may 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:

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, and by telephone by registering to speak by noon on the day before the meeting. The registration link is located on the City Council website at www.stpaul.gov/council or <https://forms.office.com/g/TD3xN7WHy5>.

Council Meeting Information

The City Council is paperless which saves the environment and reduces expenses. The agendas and Council files are all available on the Web (see below). Council members use mobile devices to review the files during the meeting. Using a mobile device greatly reduces costs since most agendas, including the documents attached to files, are over 1000 pages when printed.

Web

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