



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 Mitra Jalali
Vice President HwaJeong Kim
Councilmember Anika Bowie
Councilmember Cheniqua Johnson
Councilmember Saura Jost
Councilmember Rebecca Noecker
Councilmember Nelsie Yang

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

3:30 PM

Council Chambers - 3rd Floor

ROLL CALL

Meeting started at 3:31 PM

Present 4 - Councilmember Mitra Jalali, Councilmember Anika Bowie, Councilmember Saura Jost and Councilmember Cheniqua Johnson

Absent 3 - Councilmember Rebecca Noecker, Councilmember Nelsie Yang and Councilmember HwaJeong Kim

COMMUNICATIONS & RECEIVE/FILE

- 1 [CO 24-30](#) Letter from the Department of Safety and Inspections declaring 929 York Avenue a nuisance property. (For notification purposes only; public hearings will be scheduled at a later date if necessary.)
Received and Filed

- 2 [AO 24-49](#) Establishing one (1) new project through the Neighborhood STAR Year-Round Program as adopted via City Council Resolution RES 24-685.
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 Jalali stated that Items 23 & 24 would be taken separately.

Councilmember Jost moved approval.

Consent Agenda adopted as amended

Yea: 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Kim

- 3** [RES 24-747](#) Memorializing the denial of the application of Mortho LLC to rezone property at 1984 Marshall Avenue from RM1 multiple-family residential to RM2 multiple-family residential.
Adopted
- 4** [RES 24-806](#) Approving the City's cost of providing Collection of Delinquent Garbage Bills for service during January to March 2024, and setting date of legislative hearing for July 11, 2024 and City Council public hearing for August 14, 2024 to consider and levy the assessments against individual properties. (File No. CG2402A1, Assessment No. 240113)
Adopted
- 5** [RES 24-807](#) Approving the City's cost of providing Collection of Delinquent Garbage Bills for service during January to March 2024, and setting date of legislative hearing for July 11, 2024 and City Council public hearing for August 14, 2024 to consider and levy the assessments against individual properties. (File No. CG2402A2, Assessment No. 240114)
Adopted
- 6** [RES 24-809](#) Authorizing the Sewer Utility to enter into a Cooperative Maintenance Agreement with the Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) for the maintenance of various City-owned rain gardens.
Adopted
- 7** [RES 24-817](#) Approving the application with conditions, per the Legislative Hearing Officer, for Dilla Sport Bar And Restaurant Inc, d/b/a same (License ID# 20240000267), which has applied for Liquor On Sale - 101-180 seats, Liquor On Sale - Sunday, Entertainment (B), and Gambling Location licenses, located at 1625 University Avenue West.
Adopted
- 8** [RES 24-823](#) Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation to accept a donation of \$5,000 from the Prioleau family toward the purchase of a new scoreboard to enhance the gym and offer opportunities to participants at the Martin Luther King Recreation Center.
Adopted
- 9** [RES 24-826](#) Approving the application for change of ownership to the Gas Station and Tobacco Shop (License ID #20240000349) for the premises located at 296 7th Street East.
Adopted
- 10** [RES 24-827](#) Approving a Wine on Sale, Malt on Sale (Strong) and Liquor Outdoor Service

Area (Patio) - New Location license to TKP LLC d/b/a Ruam Mit (License ID 20240000666) for the premises located at 367 Wabasha Street North.

Adopted

- 11 [RES 24-828](#) Approving a Parking Ramp - New Location license to Cedar Street Parking Partners d/b/a Cedar Street Parking Partners (License ID 20240000750) for the premises located at 379 Cedar Street.

Adopted

- 12 [RES 24-854](#) Authorizing the City to apply for \$72,000 from the Minnesota Department of Commerce's Solar on Public Buildings Grant Program for rooftop solar installation at Fire Station 51.

Adopted

- 13 [RES 24-865](#) Approving an Animal Boarding (Commercial) - New Location license to Mississippi Mutts LLC d/b/a Dogtopia of Saint Paul (License ID 20240000909) for the premises located 2418 University Avenue West.

Adopted

- 14 [RES 24-870](#) Adopting the 2023 Stormwater Permit Annual Report.

Adopted

- 15 [RES 24-872](#) Authorizing the proper City officials to execute and record an easement agreement for drainage purposes at the Southern Highland Bridge development site to benefit City parkland and the University of St. Thomas ballfield project.

Adopted

- 16 [RES 24-873](#) Approving a Liquor on Sale - 291 or more seats, Liquor on Sale - Sunday, Liquor Outdoor Service Area (Patio) and Liquor Outdoor Service Area (Sidewalk) - New Location license to Taher Inc d/b/a Forepaugh's Restaurant (License ID 20240000751) for the premises located at 276 Exchange Street South.

Adopted

- 17 [RES 24-680](#) Approving the Memorandum of Agreement for the 2024 Wage and Fringe Adjustment between the City and the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades District Council 82.

Adopted

- 18 [RES 24-788](#) Approving the Memorandum of Agreement between the City and the Saint Paul Manual and Maintenance Supervisors Association for the purpose of providing a shoe allowance for Senior Zookeepers at Como Park Zoo & Conservatory.

Adopted

- 19 [RES 24-889](#) Supporting The Heights Community Energy’s application for recognition as a 501(c)(3) organization and its project to provide an environmentally sustainable, cost-efficient energy system at The Heights.
Adopted
- 20 [RES 24-847](#) Approving adverse action against the Liquor Off Sale & Tobacco Shop license held by Mounds Liquor Corp d/b/a Mounds Liquor (License ID #20160003381) for the premises located at 1047 Hudson Road.
Adopted
- 21 [RES 24-868](#) Approving the Memorandum of Agreement between the City and the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 70, for the purpose of correcting pay upon promotion regarding the addition of new steps in the salary schedule of the 2023-2025 Labor Agreement.
Laid over to June 26, 2024
- 22 [Min 24-21](#) Approving the minutes of the Saint Paul City Council meetings of May 1, 8, 15, and 22, 2024.
Adopted

FOR DISCUSSION

- 23 [RES 24-825](#) Recognizing Flag Day in Saint Paul and encouraging the dignified disposal of American Flags.
Tom Miller from the City's Veteran Employee Resource Network gave remarks.
Councilmember Jost spoke in favor and moved approval.
Adopted
Yea: 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson
Nay: 0
Absent: 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Kim
- 24 [RES 24-849](#) Commemorating the 28th Annual Community Peace Celebration and declaring a day of Peace and Unity.
Councilmember Bowie spoke to the resolution.
Kirsti Feno and Respect Djunga from the Community Peace Celebration gave remarks.
Bowie spoke in favor and moved approval.
Adopted
Yea: 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Kim

25 [RES 24-883](#) Honoring and recognizing the national holiday of Juneteenth in the City of Saint Paul.

Councilmember Bowie spoke in favor.

Debbie Montgomery, former councilmember, gave remarks.

Khaliq Davis, Rondo resident, gave remarks.

Trahern Crews, chair of the St Paul Reparations Commission, gave remarks.

Lynn Graham Washington, Rondo resident, gave remarks.

Councilmembers Bowie and Johnson read from the resolution.

Council President Jalali spoke in favor.

Bowie moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Kim

26 [RES 24-835](#) Approving the appointment of Jon Berry as the Legislative Aide in Ward 1.

Councilmember Bowie spoke in favor and moved approval.

Jon Berry, Legislative Aide for Ward 1, gave remarks and was sworn in.

Adopted

Yea: 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Kim

27 [RES 24-843](#) Approving the appointment of Ploua Yang as the Legislative Aide in Ward 6.

Councilmember Johnson spoke in favor and moved approval.

Ploua Yang, Legislative Aide for Ward 6, gave remarks and was sworn in.

Adopted

Yea: 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Kim

- 28** [RES PH 24-121](#) Authorizing the Office of Neighborhood Safety to use fund balance, accumulated and unspent in 2023, to increase the financing and spending budgets in the Office of Neighborhood Safety Special Fund by \$3,598,936. (Public hearing closed, laid over from June 5, 2024)

Brooke Blakey, Director of the Office of Neighborhood Safety, gave a staff report and answered councilmember questions.

Councilmember Johnson moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Kim

PUBLIC HEARINGS

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

- 30** [RES PH 24-109](#) Final Order approving the reconstruction of streets in the 2024 Saint Paul Streets Program (2024 SPS).

Bruce Engelbrekt from the Office of Financial Services gave a staff report.

Nick Peterson from the Department of Public Works gave a staff report.

Leanna Stefaniak from At Home Apartments spoke during the public hearing.

Jason Mourning and Steven Kessler from the Downtown Alano Society spoke during the public hearing.

Angelica Granero, resident, spoke during the public hearing.

Council President Jalali asked about payment options.

Engelbrekt spoke to payment options.

Councilmember Jost moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Kim

- 31** [RES PH 24-128](#) Approving the petition of Wedum Lexington LLC to vacate the unimproved portion of old Lexington Parkway South between West 7th Street and the improved portion of old Lexington Parkway South. (Public hearing closed and laid over from June 12, 2024)
- Councilmember Bowie moved to lay over for two weeks.*
- Public hearing closed and laid over to June 26, 2024**
- Yea:** 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson
- Nay:** 0
- Absent:** 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Kim
- 32** [RES PH 24-129](#) Approving the petition of Ivystone Properties Limited Liability Company to vacate the unimproved portion of alley right-of-way behind 875 Prior Avenue North. (Public hearing closed and laid over from June 12, 2024)
- Councilmember Jost moved to lay over for two weeks.*
- Public hearing closed and laid over to June 26, 2024**
- Yea:** 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson
- Nay:** 0
- Absent:** 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Kim
- 33** [RES PH 24-135](#) Approving the application of Wabasha Brewing Co for a sound level variance in order to present amplified sound on Saturdays, June 15, July 6, July 20, and August 17, 2024 at 429 Wabasha St South.
- Steve Gammon, resident, spoke during the public hearing via call-in.*
- Council President Jalali reviewed the City's complaint process.*
- Councilmember Jost moved approval.*
- Adopted**
- Yea:** 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson
- Nay:** 0
- Absent:** 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Kim
- 34** [RES PH 24-139](#) Amending the financing and spending plans in the Fire Department in the amount of \$1,700 for a grant received from the Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce for health and wellness equipment for the firefighters at Fire Station 23.
- Councilmember Johnson moved approval.*
- Adopted**

Yea: 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Kim

- 35** [RES PH 24-140](#) Amending the financing and spending plans in the Fire Department in the amount of \$6,936.60 for the donation from the Saint Paul Fire Foundation for Peloton bikes for the fire stations.

Councilmember Bowie moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Kim

- 36** [RES PH 24-141](#) Authorizing the Office of Neighborhood Safety to formally accept a graduate Fellowship from Harvard University wherein the City would provisionally hire the Fellow, Manasa Acharya, as a Research Analyst in the Office of Neighborhood Safety.

Councilmember Johnson moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Kim

- 37** [RES PH 24-143](#) Giving host approval to the issuance by the City of Mounds View of conduit Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds for a project, approving a Joint Powers Agreement and Bond Compliance and Fee Agreement and authorizing the execution of documents relating thereto, all for the Sibley Park/Sibley Court Project, at 211 7th Street East and 484 Temperance Street (District 17, Ward 2).

Alex Leivermann, representing the bond underwriter, spoke during the public hearing.

Councilmember Jost moved to close the public hearing. Approved 4-0.

Councilmember Johnson spoke in favor and moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Kim

RECESS

Meeting recessed at 4:38 PM

ROLL CALL

Meeting resumed at 4:46 PM

Present 4 - Councilmember Mitra Jalali, Councilmember Anika Bowie, Councilmember Saura Jost and Councilmember Cheniqua Johnson

Absent 3 - Councilmember Rebecca Noecker, Councilmember Nelsie Yang and Councilmember HwaJeong Kim

29 [APC 24-2](#)

Considering the appeal of Daniel L. M. Kennedy on behalf of Advocates for Responsible Development to a decision of the Planning Commission denying the appeal of a zoning administrator decision to approve a site plan for a new multipurpose arena on the University of St Thomas campus at 2260 Summit Avenue.

Council President Jalali gave introductory remarks.

Tia Anderson, City Planner in the Department of Safety and Inspections, gave a staff report.

Dan Kennedy, appellant, presented arguments.

Tamara Deihm from Winthrop & Weinstein, Anthony Adams from Ryan Companies, and Jerome Benner from the University of St. Thomas, presented arguments on behalf of the applicant.

16 people spoke during the public comment portion of the public hearing.

Councilmember Bowie moved to close the public hearing. Approved 4-0.

Jalali spoke against the appeal.

Councilmember Jost spoke against the appeal.

Bowie spoke against the appeal.

Councilmember Johnson spoke against the appeal.

Jalali moved intent to deny the appeal.

Motion of intent is to deny the appeal

Yea: 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and 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

Councilmember Bowie moved approval.

**A motion was made by Councilmember Bowie to Approve the Consent Agenda
The motion carried by the following vote:**

Yea: 4 - Councilmember Jalali, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson

Nay: 0

Absent: 3 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang and Councilmember Kim

- 38** [RLH SAO 24-32](#) Appeal of Lucius A. Anderson to a Notice to Cut Tall Grass and Weeds at 400 AURORA AVENUE.
Adopted
- 39** [RLH SAO 24-35](#) Appeal of Dan Lissick to a Summary Abatement Order and Correction Notice at 2135 CASE AVENUE.
Adopted
- 40** [RLH VBR 24-30](#) Appeal of Lakeisha Lee to a Vacant Building Registration Requirement at 273 COTTAGE AVENUE WEST.
Public hearing continued to June 26, 2024
- 41** [RLH TA 24-37](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 850 FIFTH STREET EAST. (File No. J2410A, Assessment No. 248509) (Public hearing continued to June 12, 2024)
Adopted as amended (assessment decreased)
- 42** [RLH RR 24-20](#) Ordering the rehabilitation or razing and removal of the structures at 1156 LINCOLN AVENUE within fifteen (15) days after the June 12, 2024, City Council Public Hearing. (June 11, 2024 Legislative Hearing)
Referred to July 9, 2024 Legislative Hearing
- 43** [RLH SAO 24-30](#) Making finding on the appealed nuisance abatement ordered for 272 RICHMOND STREET in Council File RLH SAO 24-25.
Adopted

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting ended at 6:12 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, 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>.

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