

City Hall and Court House 15 West Kellogg Boulevard

City of Saint Paul

Council Chambers - 3rd Floor 651-266-8560

City Council Minutes - Final

Council President Amy Brendmoen Councilmember Mitra Jalali Councilmember Rebecca Noecker Councilmember Jane L. Prince Councilmember Dai Thao Councilmember Chris Tolbert Councilmember Nelsie Yang

Wednesday, August 12, 2020

3:30 PM

Council Chambers - 3rd Floor

ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Council President Brendmoen at 3:33 p.m.

Present 7 - Councilmember Amy Brendmoen, Councilmember Dai Thao,
Councilmember Chris Tolbert, Councilmember Rebecca Noecker,
Councilmember Jane L. Prince, Councilmember Mitra Jalali and
Councilmember Nelsie Yang

COMMUNICATIONS & RECEIVE/FILE

1 AO 20-33

Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation to reallocate \$400,000 within its Right Track Grant accounting unit in the 2020 adopted budget to most accurately reflect the projected actual spending and provide the appropriate levels of spending authority.

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 (Items 2 - 11)

Items 3 and 4 were removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration. Item 6 was withdrawn.

Councilmember Jalali moved approval of the Consent Agenda as amended.

Consent Agenda adopted as amended

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

Nay: 0

2 RES 20-1078 Authorizing City officials to accept the gift of a demographic survey of immigrants and refugee populations residing in Saint Paul, from the New American Economy.

Adopted

5 RES 20-1088 Recognizing Anna Spurr on her retirement from the City of Saint Paul.

Adopted

6 RES 20-1031 Approving the Maintenance Labor Agreement (May 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021) between the City of Saint Paul and the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers, Local 10. (To be withdrawn)

Withdrawn

7

9

RES 20-1066

Approving the Labor Agreements between the Independent School
District 625 and the Bricklayers and Allied Craftsworkers Local Union No
1 Minnesota/North Dakota (May 1, 2019 - April 30, 2022), the
International Union of Painters and Allied Trades District Council
82/Local 1324 representing Glaziers (June 1, 2019 - May 31, 2022), the
Twin City Glaziers, Architectural Metals and Glass Workers Local 1324
(June 1, 2018 - May 31, 2019) and the Memorandums of Agreements
with the Twin City Glaziers, Architectural Metals and Glass Workers Local
1324 (June 1, 2017 - May 31, 2018 and June 1, 2016 - May 31, 2017).

Adopted

8 RES 20-1067 Approving the Revised Memorandum of Agreement for the 2020 Wage and Fringe Adjustment for the North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters.

Adopted

RES 20-1033 Authorizing the City of Saint Paul to approve the amendment to extend Wheel Fun Rentals' investment into the Como Miniature Golf Course timeline.

Adopted

10 RES 20-1069 Authorizing the Police Department to accept a gift from the Saint Paul Police K-9 Foundation.

Adopted

11 **RES 20-1049**

Approving the issuance of conduit revenue obligations by the Port Authority of the City of Saint Paul for the benefit of Hmong College Prep Academy Project, 1515 Brewster Street, and approving related documents. (District 10, Ward 4)

Adopted

FOR DISCUSSION

3 **RES 20-1113**

Urging the Minnesota State Board of Investment to divest from fossil fuels.

Councilmember Jalali spoke about and in support of the resolution. She moved approval of the resolution.

Adopted

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

Nay: 0

RES 20-1110

Amending Chapter Appendix A-2 of the Appendices of the Saint Paul Administrative Code to establish the creation of a Saint Paul City Council Audit Committee.

Council members Noecker, Prince, and Thao spoke about and in support of the resolution.

Councilmember Noecker moved Version 2 with some technical changes to the language.

Adopted as amended

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

Nay: 0

12 **RES 20-1101**

Accepting and approving the recommendations of the Chambers Artwork Taskforce.

Mollie Spillman, Ramsey County Historical Society, gave a staff report reviewing the process.

Council President Brendmoen made brief comments.

Councilmember Yang asked whether the original artwork would be taken down. Ms. Spillman said they were being covered up but not taken down. Councilmember Yang asked why they weren't being taken down. Ms. Spillman said it was discussed by the task force, but she wasn't part of that discussion.

Council President Brendmoen said they could follow up with Chad (Roberts, Ramsey County Historical Society President) and ask for an answer to that question. She said their was strong consensus among the Council members that the existing artwork was not appropriate for the People's Chamber, and a number of options were discussed. She technology caught up while that conversation was happening, and making the canvas and slipping it into the slot turned out to be very affordable and would allow flexibility to continue making new art from more community members in the future. It was the most cost-effective, simple, efficient way to move forward and get new artwork up.

Councilmember Prince asked Ms. Spillman whether the four artists had coordinated their subject matter. Ms. Spillman said they were independent artists. One artist was CLUES, and they worked together as a group. There were no real specifications given to the artists as to what they wanted to present in that space.

Councilmember Prince said when the Council approved this, the resolution approved selecting artists but always having at least one of the original murals as part of the display. She said she heard from the Dakota community that that was the part of the decision they could not abide. It was her understanding that it was after the George Floyd's tragic murder that the committee decided to eliminate that part of the plan.

Councilmember Tolbert asked whether there would be direction to artists going forward. He felt the art should reflect the ideals of the community. Ms. Spillman said she didn't think that had been decided upon. The third resolution (of the three City and County resolutions being considered this week) was to have the Council and Commission move forward, perhaps thinking of other communities that weren't represented yet. She didn't think there was a plan yet, but support for going forward. Councilmember Tolbert suggested a review committee and the establishment of a framework.

Council President Brendmoen said the community task force helped frame that for this first round, and something like that going forward would be good. She noted how difficult it was to be truly representative, and they were choosing these challenges and were choosing imperfection. The other option would be using plain colors or something benign like trees. She said what they would see when the artwork was unveiled is that the artists reflected parts of the community the community but the art itself was wildly interpretive in different ways and would change the entire feeling of the chambers. She agreed that any time you start putting faces and identities on people in murals, you ran the risk of future issues or offending or excluding.

Councilmember Noecker and Council President Brendmoen spoke about the importance and in support of the resolution. Councilmember Prince echoed the support, and spoke about the Dakota being exiled from their own land, which became St. Paul. She asked that the Council members, with their vote, pledge to understand more about the roots of the Dakota people in St. Paul and Ramsey County. She said the Dakota were here first and needed to be in the Council chamber.

Council President Brendmoen Thanked Councilmember Prince for her clarification of the process and how it changed along the way. She said she shared Councilmember Prince's commitment to continuing the process and ensuring they engaged all community members and most specifically the Dakota community members who stepped out of the process and who she understood would be willing now to step back in.

Councilmember Yang asked for a one-week layover to allow time to address concerns with members of the Dakota community, who she had begun to hear from the previous day. She said she came into the process after a lot of work had been done, but if she were to vote in support, she would feel uneasy and feel a lot of tension because of these outstanding concerns.

Council President Brendmoen said she appreciated that Councilmember Yang's concerns and that she was new to the Council, but this conversation was not a new one. The community task force had been working with the communities for 18 months. She said she would encourage the Council to vote on the resolution, which started the installation process, and they were planning to unveil the murals with the artists next Wednesday. She said she felt the timing was important to move the process forward, but it didn't preclude Ms. Yang or the rest of the Council continuing those conversations with community members. She said the Chambers was going to be a gallery that was living, changing, and adapting.

Councilmember Prince said she shared Councilmember Yang's concerns, and felt she and Councilmember Yang should work together to ensure the commitments made to keep the process ongoing and to include the Dakota community was something she and Councilmember Yang could spearhead. She said she would support a layover but also felt she and Councilmember Yang could move forward with the Dakota constituents, and keep the conversation top of mind.

Councilmember Thao asked what a one-week layover would do to the process. Council President Brendmoen said installation was imminent once the resolution was passed, and artists prepared to be present for a press conference next week. Councilmember Thao said he was inclined to give the one-week layover. He said he had received a letter from the Dakota County. He said he wanted to acknowledge the important work done to this point but recognized there were some feelings that were hurt in the Dakota Nation, and the least the Council could do was to give them a week to allow a heart-to-heart conversation. He said during that one week they should also have a conversation with those who may have misunderstandings, about how to move forward from here.

Council President Brendmoen said if the will was there to do a one-week layover and it would create peace, that was fine. She said this was not a new issue. She said she was concerned about what was lined up with Ramsey County and the artists, and the impact of a delay. She asked Ms. Spillman to speak about that.

Ms. Spillman said they were very cognizant of the Dakota friends and neighbors and constituents, and wanting to hear them and for them to feel they'd been heard. The change from the original task force plan, that was communicated over a year ago to the Dakota members of the task force, that all of the murals would not be visible for the foreseeable future. Plans could be cancelled, but we did have artists traveling from out-state and that had been underway for some time. This event was tied to the Council and Commissioner's votes. The result would be that things would have to be postponed, and likely for more than a week. It would take time to reschedule.

Councilmember Noecker said she appreciated appreciate conversation. She said the Council had committed to this process, and the process was followed and had integrity. There was disagreement but that didn't invalidate the process. Many groups were not included, and this was not the be all end all. This was a vote on the artwork that had been done. She said she would understand laying it over if something would change in the next week, but was cautious about the cynicism that came out when the community was told the Council was laying it over for a week to get input, but then we're just going to go ahead and vote for it a week later. She said she didn't know of that was a better, more fair process. She asked that people get to the place where they could vote for what was in front of them and not against what was not.

Councilmember Jalali said she wanted to be sensitive to the concerns but also understand the impact of a layover. She asked Ms. Spillman whether the artists who

were traveling would be financially or logistically impacted by a one-week layover.

Ms. Spillman said she couldn't say with any certainty.

Councilmember Tolbert said the overriding goal for all seven Council members was to finally not have the current art showing. He said he agreed this was a changing art gallery, and the changing art would allow many views and visions and voices to be displayed. He said he was concerned with making sure that, particularly the Dakota, but all people had the opportunity to be a part of the conversation and the group. He said with four artist's pieces already to go up, he didn't know what one week would accomplish, because they would have to tell one of those artists that their piece was no longer going to be up and the process was being paused to wait for another artist. He said the most important thing was they were getting rid of the current murals.

Ms. Spillman said if there were to be a change, for instance a new art piece, it would be a very long delay.

Councilmember Prince pointed out how much leadership the Council showed when they undertook the process. She said this work was hard and didn't go smoothly, and was inconvenient and it was not always achievable to get it into a deadline. She said she felt it was reasonable to take the time to talk about why the Dakota members dropped out when the decision was made to keep one or two of the original murals up. She said she hoped it didn't curtail the process going forward, but she felt they needed to listen to those voices.

Council President Brendmoen said several hands up and there was Interest in calling the question. There was a motion by Councilmember Yang to lay over. She said she felt it was sad that this was the conversation they were having. Yeas - 4 Nays - 3 (Yang, Prince, Thao)

Council President Brendmoen said she participated in the Ramsey County Commissioners meeting, and there was a very similar conversation and very similar commitment from all of the commissioners to commit to being fully engaged in the conversation and continue the outreach. She said she wanted to underscore and reiterate the verbal commitment and the resolution supporting the ongoing conversation and engagement of the Dakota community and all communities as the City and County continued to curate the new galleries.

Councilmember Jalali said if they were earlier in the process where conversations could be brought up in a way that was actionable, it would be different for her from an engagement standpoint, and she was taking a learning point away from that. She thanked Councilmember Yang for raising the issue. She spoke about the importance of making efforts to have a better account of history and do better storytelling about who St. Paul was. She said what she was thinking about with this vote was that she would like to be able to support the artists and their work, and to take the next steps in this process.

Council President Brendmoen said at the Ramsey County meeting, it was noted that there were plenty of other opportunities to do better with our art in City Hall and the Courthouse.

Councilmember Yang said to Councilmember Prince that she would love to work with her on engaging the Dakota tribe members about this. She said she was feeling disappointed that they continued to be in a place where they were stuck, and possibly because of the unwillingness of the people who had the voting power to take down the murals and commit to removing images that depicted racism and white supremacy that

were visible in City Hall. She said she would vote in support but thought there was a lot of work to be done.

Councilmember Thao asked Ms. Spillman if there were other nations at the table, and could she identify them. Ms. Spillman said one of the four artists was a member of the Ojibway tribe. Councilmember Thao said the tension in his heart was that we'd taken so much from the Native American nations. He said he understood the inclusion they were trying to do but felt they shouldn't stall the process. He said he felt like a like a vote of support from him went against all he was trying to fight for people who didn't have a voice. He said he didn't know how he was going to vote or if he would abstain.

Council President Brendmoen said the artists represented several indigenous nations, but she didn't know about the make-up of the task force. She noted that there was a motion for the resolution.

Councilmember Prince said she had fully intended to vote for this today, while raising the concerns of her Dakota constituents. She said she found this discussion disappointing and discouraging, and she wasn't sure how she'd vote. She said what she felt had emerged was a kernel of the problem in our white society. She thanked everyone for the work and thoughtful process.

There was no further discussion. Council President Brendmoen asked for a vote on Councilmember Noecker's motion.

Council President Brendmoen provided information about the press event for the unveiling of the new murals. She welcomed the offers of leadership from Council members Yang and Prince on how to move forward in a way that was purposeful and meaningful.

Adopted

Yea: 5 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

Nay: 1 - Councilmember Prince

Abstain: 1 - Councilmember Thao

ORDINANCES

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

First Reading

13 Ord 20-11

Amending the Appendix to Chapter 409 of the Legislative Code pursuant to Section 17.07.1 of the Charter, and Section 409.20 of the Legislative Code to create an additional Commercial Development District at 974 7th Street West.

Laid over to August 19 for second reading

14 Ord 20-25

Amending the Appendix to Chapter 409 of the Legislative Code Pursuant to Section 17.07.1 of the Charter, and Section 409.20 of the Legislative Code to expand the Commercial Development District at 1 Leech Street to include 200 Grand Avenue.

Laid over to August 19 for second reading

15 Ord 20-26

Granting the application of Houa Vang and Yia Thao to rezone property at 1428 East 7th Street from split RM1/RM2 to all RM2 Medium-Density Multiple-Family Residential, and amending Chapter 60 of the Legislative Code pertaining to the Zoning Map.

Laid over to August 19 for second reading

16 Ord 20-27

Granting the application of Chet Funk et al. to rezone property at 1074 to 1096 James Avenue from R4 One-Family Residential to RM2 Medium-Density Multiple-Family Residential, and amending Chapter 60 of the Legislative Code pertaining to the Zoning Map.

Laid over to August 19 for second reading

PUBLIC HEARINGS

17 RES PH 20-163

Amending the financing and spending plans in the Fire Department in the amount of \$4,711.70 for the Minnesota Task Force One team reimbursement from the City of Edina.

No testimony was received. Councilmember Tolbert moved to close the public hearing and approve the resolution.

Adopted

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert,
Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali
and Councilmember Yang

Nay: 0

18 RES PH 20-156

Amending the 2020 special fund budget and adding an activity for the BJA FY 20 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding grant from the Department of Justice in the amount of \$742,994 received by the City of Saint Paul to offset expenses due to the COVID-19 crisis.

No testimony was received. Councilmember Prince moved to close the public hearing and approve the resolution.

Adopted

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

Nay: 0

19 **RES PH 20-158**

Amending the 2018 Port Grant from the Federal Emergency

Management Agency to add budget and activity budget for this grant.

No testimony was received. Councilmember Jalali moved to close the public hearing and approve the resolution.

Adopted

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

Nay: 0

RES PH 20-160 20

Approving adverse action against the Auto Body Repair Garage and Second Hand Dealer License application held by A & M Auto Sales Inc., d/b/a A & M Auto Sales (License ID# 20110000794) at 845 Robert Street. (Public hearing continued from August 5 and August 12)

Councilmember Noecker asked to continue the public hearing for one week. She said they needed to get a little more information on the item.

Public hearing continued to August 19

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

0 Nay:

LEGISLATIVE HEARING ITEMS

Approval of the Consent Agenda

For the following cases, no objections to the Legislative Hearing Officer's recommendations were received, and therefore the recommendation is adoption of the items.

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

Nay: 0

21 **RLH FCO 20-69** Appeal of Andrew Eull to a Fire Certificate of Occupancy Approval With Corrections at 750 BAYFIELD STREET.

Adopted

22 **RLH VO 20-31** Appeal of Robert Radeke to a Revocation of Fire Certificate of Occupancy and Order to Vacate at 1157 DAYTON AVENUE and 1159 DAYTON AVENUE.

Adopted

23	RLH SAO 20-11	Appeal of Jessica Zimmerley to a Summary Abatement Order at 1088 FIFTH STREET EAST. Adopted
24	RLH FCO 20-60	Appeal of Deborah M. Narusiewicz, Highland Cafe and Bakery, to a Fire Inspection Correction Notice at 2012 FORD PARKWAY. Adopted
25	RLH VBR 20-48	Appeal of Joseph Kromer to a Vacant Building Registration Renewal Notice at 1093 FOURTH STREET EAST. Adopted
26	RLH VBR 20-49	Appeal of Nikki Knapp, JL Ventures, Land of Lakes Property Management, to a Vacant Building Registration Notice at 589 GOTZIAN STREET. Adopted
28	RLH TA 20-522	Amending Council Files No. RLH AR 20-30 to reduce the assessment for Collection of Delinquent Garbage Bills for services during July to September 2019 at 1122 JACKSON STREET. (File No. CG1904D3, Assessment No. 190158) Adopted
29	RLH TA 20-523	Amending Council Files No. RLH AR 20-76 to reduce the assessment for Collection of Delinquent Garbage Bills for services during October to December 2019 at 1122 JACKSON STREET. (File No. CG2001D3, Assessment No. 200114) Adopted
32	RLH VBR 20-51	Appeal of Kent Jefferson to a Vacant Building Registration Notice at 2081 LONDIN LANE. Adopted
34	RLH SAO 20-13	Appeal of Zoua Vang to a Summary Abatement Order at 1374 MCLEAN AVENUE. Adopted
35	RLH FCO 20-97	Appeal of Michael Hafner to a Fire Inspection Correction Notice at 926 PAYNE AVENUE. Adopted
36	RLH FCO 20-59	Appeal of Robert Anderson to a Reinspection Fire Certificate of Occupancy With Deficiencies at 968 PAYNE AVENUE. Adopted

37 **RLH VBR** Appeal of Blia Vang and Som Lee to a Vacant Building Registration 20-46 Notice at 765 REANEY AVENUE. **Adopted** 40 **RLH VBR** Appeal of Shirzad Raimi to a Vacant Building Registration Renewal 20-47 Notice at 740 TATUM STREET. **Adopted** 41 **RLH CO 20-10** Appeal of William Wilson to a Correction Notice and Summary Abatement Order at 1610 UPPER AFTON ROAD. **Adopted** Approval of the Consent Agenda For the following cases, no objections to the Legislative Hearing Officer's amended recommendations were received, and therefore the recommendation is amendment and adoption of the items. Yea: 7 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang **Nay:** 0 27 **RLH TA 20-387** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 37 HATCH AVENUE. (File No. CG1904D3, Assessment No. 190158) Adopted as amended (assessment reduced) 30 **RLH TA 20-46** Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 876 LAWSON AVENUE EAST. (File No. J2001E1, Assessment No. 208308) (Public hearing continued from February 19) Adopted as amended (assessment ratified)

raoptou de amendou (decessiment raumou)

31

RLH TA 20-65 Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 876

LAWSON AVENUE EAST. (File No. J2005E, Assessment No. 208304)

(Public hearing continued from February 19)

Adopted as amended (assessment ratified)

39 RLH TA 20-182 Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1504

SUMMIT AVENUE. (File No. J2012A, Assessment No. 208511)

Adopted as amended (assessment reduced)

The following cases may be contested, and therefore the Legislative Hearing Officer will present a staff report for the record.

33 RLH RR 19-29

Ordering the rehabilitation or razing and removal of the structures at 864 MARION STREET within fifteen (15) days after the December 18, 2019 City Council public hearing. (Public hearing continued from August 12) (Amend to remove within 15 days)

Legislative Hearing Officer Marcia Moermond said she had received a phone call at 3:30 from the property owner asking for the opportunity to testify, so she would be asking for a one-week layover. She had her first hearing on the property nine months ago and conducted nine Legislative Hearings, and it had last been before Council on February 26. In spite of phone calls and letters they had not heard from the property owner since June 23, although there had been multiple hearings since then. Because this had been in the vacant building program for ten years and they did not have plans for rehabilitate the property or evidence of financing, Ms. Moermond did not recommend laying over for more than one week.

Councilmember Thao moved to continue the public hearing for one week.

Pubic hearing continued to August 19

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

Nay: 0

38 RLH RR 19-23

Ordering the rehabilitation or razing and removal of the structures at 1179 SEVENTH STREET EAST within fifteen (15) days after the September 11, 2019 City Council public hearing. (Public hearing continued from October 9, 2019) (Amend to remove within 15 days)

Legislative Hearing Officer Marcia Moermond said this was a large and complicated case. She first heard it in August last year, and it was first before Council on September 11, 2019. It had been in front of the Council three times and in Legislative Hearings 11 times. She had not heard back from the fee owner or contract for deed holder to indicate they wanted to provide live testimony, and there had been no additional communication added to file. There was a hefty record of participation in Legislative Hearing process. Ms. Moermond said her recommendation was to order the building removed within 15 days, based on a lack of a plan for rehabilitation, any financing to do so, and the ongoing status as a nuisance property.

Councilmember Yang thank Ms. Moermond for her work and support for the property owners. She said she supported the recommendation, and was looking forward to finding ways to revitalize the property and block. She felt this was a pathway forward.

Adopted as amended (remove within 15 days with no option for rehabilitation)

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Prince, Councilmember Jalali and Councilmember Yang

Nay: 0

Council members shared information about events in their wards.

ADJOURNMENT

Council President Brendmoen adjourned the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

In-person meetings, or meetings conducted under Minn. Stat. § 13D.02 of the City Council, are not practical or prudent because of the COVID-19 health pandemic emergency declared under Minn. Stat. Chapter 12 by the Minnesota Governor Tim Walz and Saint Paul Mayor Melvin Carter. In light of the COVID-19 health pandemic, members of the City Council will participate in City Council meetings by telephone or other electronic means.

Public attendance at the City Council's regular meeting location is not feasible due to the COVID-19 health pandemic. Members of the public may view City Council meetings online at stpaul.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx or on local cable Channel 18.

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.

While the Council will make best efforts to decide all issues before them, the Council may delay decisions on certain matters where the members believe meeting in-person is necessary. All City Council public hearings will be held at 3:30 p.m. and there will be no separate 5:30 p.m. public hearings. More information is available at www.stpaul.gov/departments/city-council

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

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.