



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 Cheniqua Johnson
Councilmember Saura Jost
Councilmember Matt Privratsky
Councilmember Nelsie Yang

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

3:30 PM

Council Chambers - 3rd Floor

ROLL CALL

Meeting started at 3:30 PM

Present 5 - Councilmember Rebecca Noecker, Councilmember Nelsie Yang,
Councilmember HwaJeong Kim, Councilmember Anika Bowie and
Councilmember Saura Jost

Absent 2 - Councilmember Cheniqua Johnson and Councilmember Matt Privratsky

ROLL CALL

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

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 20 would be taken separately.

Councilmember Bowie moved approval.

Consent Agenda adopted as amended

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

Nay: 0

1 [RES 25-666](#)

Authorizing the Department of Public Works Street Maintenance Division to apply for and accept a Workplace Wellness Micro Grant Physical Activity Station of up to \$700 from the Saint Paul Area Chamber with the funding

coming from the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP) through Saint Paul - Ramsey County Public Health.

Adopted

- 2 [RES 25-710](#) Approving the City's cost of providing Rubbish and Garbage Clean Up services during April 2 to 11, 2025, and setting date of Legislative Hearing for June 17, 2025 and City Council public hearing for July 23, 2025 to consider and levy the assessments against individual properties. (File No. J2522R, Assessment No. 258555)

Adopted

- 3 [RES 25-711](#) Approving the City's cost of providing Tall Grass and Weed Removal services during March 28, 2025 at 1173 Edgerton St, and setting date of Legislative Hearing for June 17, 2025 and City Council public hearing for July 23, 2025 to consider and levy the assessments against individual properties. (File No. J2512TW, Assessment No. 258550)

Adopted

- 4 [RES 25-724](#) Approving the City Council's appointment of Marquita Cammon to the Saint Paul Recovery Act Community Reparations Commission.

Adopted

- 5 [RES 25-744](#) Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation to apply for \$10,000 in Minnesota Historical Society grant funds for the restoration of the Justus Ohage Memorial at Harriet Island.

Adopted

- 6 [RES 25-760](#) Approving the Mayor's appointment of Jules Atangana and reappointment of Kizzie Downie to serve on The Family Housing Fund.

Adopted

- 7 [RES 25-769](#) Authorizing the Department of Emergency Management to apply for grant funds from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security through its Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

Adopted

- 8 [RES 25-770](#) Authorizing the City to enter into the attached Lease Amendment between the City and the Board of Water Commissioners for property at the Hillcrest Reservoir and to terminate the Lease.

Adopted

- 9 [RES 25-771](#) Authorizing the City to enter into the attached License Agreement between the City and The Sanneh Foundation to operate a community garden at Conway Park (2090 Conway St.).

Adopted

- 10 [RES 25-774](#) Authorizing the City to enter into the attached License Agreement between the City and Summit Hill Association ("District Council") to operate a community garden at Linwood Park (860 St. Clair Ave.).
Adopted
- 11 [RES 25-778](#) Authorizing the City to enter into the attached License Agreement between the City and Como Community Council ("District Council") to operate a community garden at Orchard Park (875 W Orchard Ave).
Adopted
- 12 [RES 25-779](#) Authorizing the City to enter into the attached License Agreement between the City and Hamline Midway Coalition ("District Council") to operate a community garden at Tatum Park (1939 W Taylor Ave).
Adopted
- 13 [RES 25-786](#) Authorizing the City to enter into the attached License Agreement between the City and Dayton's Bluff Community Council ("District Council") to operate a community garden at Skidmore Park (1085 4th St. E.).
Adopted
- 14 [RES 25-787](#) Authorizing the City to enter into the attached License Agreement between the City and Fort Road Federation ("District Council") to operate a community garden at St. Clair Park (265 Oneida St).
Adopted
- 15 [RES 25-791](#) Approving Ordinance Permit 20242010007a for Sanitary Sewer Infrastructure installed by the Saint Paul Port Authority on The Heights project site at the following locations: on Ivy Avenue: Howard (MH6201) to East of Howard (MH6200); on Howard Street: Ivy Avenue (MH6201) to Cottage Avenue (MH6204); on Cottage Avenue: Howard Avenue (MH6204A) to Winthrop Avenue (MH6204).
Adopted
- 16 [RES 25-802](#) Approving the expansion of a Liquor-Outdoor Service Area (Patio) license to the existing Liquor On Sale - 181-290 Seats and Liquor On Sale-Sunday licenses for 1881 By Lake Elmo Inn Inc d/b/a 1881 By Lake Elmo Inn (License ID# 20240000932) for the premises located at 214 4th St E.
Adopted
- 17 [RES 25-806](#) Accepting the gift of the costs of travel, food, and lodging from the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance for CRO Russ Stark and Climate Action Coordinator Liz Boyer to attend the annual gathering of the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance in Glasgow, Scotland, on June 16-19, 2025.
Adopted
- 18 [RES 25-807](#) Accepting the gift of travel, food, and lodging costs from the Global Philanthropy Partnership for Chief Resilience Officer Russ Stark to attend a

Midwest Leadership Delegation in Paris, France, from June 22-26, 2025.

Adopted

- 19 [RES 25-742](#) Approving the Memorandum of Agreement for the 2025 Wage and Fringe Adjustment between the City and the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers, Local 10.

Adopted

- 21 [RES 25-804](#) Honoring the legacy and service of Shongleng Yang and proclaiming May 31, 2025, as Shongleng Yang Day in the City of Saint Paul.

Adopted

FOR DISCUSSION

- 20 [RES 25-805](#) Approving the appointment of Laura Logsdon as Interim Director of the Office of Financial Services, effective Friday, May 16, 2025.

Councilmember Jost moved approval.

Laura Logsdon was sworn in and gave remarks.

Adopted

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

Nay: 0

- 22 [RES 25-788](#) Approving the renaming of Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary and Indian Mounds Regional Park to reflect Dakota cultural significance.

Ellen Stewart from the Department of Parks and Recreation gave a staff report and answered councilmember questions.

Andy Rodriguez, Director of Parks and Recreation, gave remarks.

Councilmember Johnson spoke in support and moved approval.

Councilmember Privratsky spoke in support.

Councilmember Bowie spoke in support.

Adopted

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

Nay: 0

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

- 23 [Ord 25-32](#) Considering the application of Matt Kenevan to rezone property at 959 Payne Avenue (southwest corner of Case Avenue) from B2 community business to T2 traditional neighborhood and amending Chapter 60 of the Legislative Code pertaining to the zoning map.
- Councilmember Yang moved approval.*
- Adopted**
- Yea:** 7 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Privratsky
- Nay:** 0

SUSPENSION ITEM

- [RES PH 25-94](#) Approving the application of Shine In The World Ministries for a sound level variance in order to present amplified sound for the Merge Twin Cities events on June 6-7, 2025 at 75 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Blvd - Minnesota State Capitol Grounds.
- Marketa Smith and Sydney Rheeder from Shine the World Ministries spoke during the public hearing.*
- Council President Noecker moved approval.*
- Adopted**
- Yea:** 7 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Privratsky
- Nay:** 0

PUBLIC HEARINGS

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

- 24 [RES PH 25-90](#) Amending the financing and spending plan in the Department of Parks and Recreation in the amount of \$2,500,000 to reflect funds awarded from the Department of Employment and Economic Development for a state bonding pass through grant of \$2,500,000 for the Victoria Park Universally Accessible Play Area project and authorizing the City to enter into a grant agreement (which includes an indemnification clause).

Councilmember Jost moved approval.

Adopted

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

Nay: 0

25 [RES PH 25-95](#)

Approving the application of Ordway Center for a sound level variance in order to present amplified sound on May 28 - May 31, 2025 at Rice Park - 109 4th St W and at Landmark Plaza - 379 St. Peter St.

Councilmember Yang moved approval.

Adopted

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

Nay: 0

26 [RES PH 25-98](#)

Amending the grant contracts for two State Auto Theft Prevention Program grants to change agencies from the Minnesota Department of Commerce to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety and adjusting activity for approved grant adjustments and current agency-approved budget.

Councilmember Privratsky moved approval.

Adopted

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

Nay: 0

27 [RES PH 25-100](#)

Amending the financing and spending plans in the Police Department grant fund in the amount of \$60,000 and adding \$237,000 activity budget for the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) grant.

Councilmember Johnson moved approval.

Adopted

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

Nay: 0

28 [APC 25-5](#)

Consider the appeal of the West 7th/Fort Road Federation to a decision of the Planning Commission approving a site plan review for a public works yard or maintenance facility including development of a compressed natural gas

garbage truck filling facility, truck fleet storage, and off-street parking at 560 Randolph Avenue.

Council President Noecker recused herself and left the Council Chambers.

Jaime Tincher, Deputy Mayor, gave an introduction.

Tia Anderson from the Department of Planning and Economic Development gave a staff report and answered councilmember questions related to her work on this project in her previous role as a planner in the Department of Safety and Inspections.

Julia McColley from the Fort Road Federation District Council spoke during the public hearing on behalf of the appellant.

Becky Yust, resident, spoke during the public hearing.

John Purdy, resident, spoke during the public hearing.

Sara Fleetham, resident, spoke during the public hearing.

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

Councilmember Yang asked for clarification.

Councilmember Kim stated that the applicant's representative was missed during the public testimony.

Councilmember Privratsky moved to reopen the public hearing. Approved 6-0.

Greg Revering from FCC Environmental Services spoke during the public hearing on behalf of the applicant.

Yang moved to close the public hearing. Approved 6-0.

Tincher addressed Yang's questions.

Privratsky moved intent to deny the appeal.

Johnson asked for clarification.

Tincher addressed Johnson's questions.

Yang asked for additional clarification.

Tincher addressed Yang's question.

Privratsky renewed his motion to deny the appeal.

Yang spoke in favor of denial.

Motion of intent is to deny the appeal

Yea: 6 - Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Privratsky

Nay: 0

Abstain: 1 - Councilmember Noecker

LEGISLATIVE HEARING DISCUSSION ITEM

- 29 [RLH TA 25-56](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 685 MINNEHAHA AVENUE EAST. (File No. VB2505C, Assessment No. 258818) (Public hearing closed and laid over from May 7, 2025)

Assessment ratified.

Marcia Moermond, Legislative Hearing Officer: I recommend ratifying the assessment. We were looking to see if the owner could verify cold storage as a permitted use under the building code. We are 9 months into this fee's term, and the intent is to have this be the last year of it being in the program as they move forward with the cold storage use.

Councilmember Yang: We've laid this over twice now while conversation continues, and I am wondering where things are at now, since this recommendation doesn't involve a reduction. Could you explain that? I would support a layover.

Moermond: This came forward as a vacant building assessment after being in the vacant building program for several years. The owner converted the building from a power plant use into cold storage. The initial hope was that a fire inspector could determine if this was an approved use based on the structure. The fire inspector was not able to make the determination and sent it to the building official. The owner now needs to work with an architect or designer of record to make sure they meet the building code requirements for cold storage. They are moving forward with that plan.

Yang: I support that and move your recommendation.

Adopted

Yea: 6 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Privratsky

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Bowie

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

Council President Noecker moved approval.

Legislative Hearing Consent Agenda adopted as amended

Yea: 6 - Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Privratsky

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Bowie

- 30** [RLH FCO 25-26](#) Appeal of Dan Schmidt, North Broadway Properties LLC, to a Correction Notice-Complaint Inspection at 1039 ARKWRIGHT STREET.
Adopted
- 31** [RLH SAO 25-20](#) Third Making finding on the appealed of JoAnn Lorvig Tsoumanis to a nuisance abatement ordered for 1400 CHARLES AVENUE in Council File RLH SAO 25-2.
Adopted
- 32** [RLH RR 25-10](#) Ordering the rehabilitation or razing and removal of the structures at 947 FREMONT AVENUE within fifteen (15) days after the May 14, 2025, City Council Public Hearing. (Public hearing continued to May 21, 2025)

Adopted as amended (granted 180 days)
- 33** [RLH VBR 25-19](#) Appeal of Laiyun (Larry) Yan to a Vacant Building Registration Renewal Notice at 680 GREENBRIER STREET.
Adopted
- 34** [RLH VO 25-7](#) Appeal of Josh Kirchert to a Condemnation and Order to Vacate at 1009 MAGNOLIA AVENUE EAST.
Adopted
- 35** [RLH TA 25-86](#) Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1033 MARYLAND AVENUE EAST. (File No. VB2506, Assessment No. 258805)
Adopted

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting ended at 4:53 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>.

Council Meeting Information

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Web

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