



# 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 Mitra Jalali*  
*Councilmember Cheniqua Johnson*  
*Councilmember Saura Jost*  
*Councilmember Nelsie Yang*

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Wednesday, February 26, 2025

3:30 PM

Council Chambers - 3rd Floor

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#### 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 Cheniqua Johnson  
**Absent** 1 - Councilmember Mitra Jalali

#### COMMUNICATIONS & RECEIVE/FILE

- 1 [AO 25-11](#) Establishing three (3) new project through the Neighborhood STAR  
Year-Round Program as adopted via City Council RES # 25-200, 25-215,  
and 25-271.  
**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

*Councilmember Johnson moved approval.*

#### Consent Agenda adopted

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

- 2 [RES 25-196](#) Receiving a recommendation from the Board of Water Commissioners to  
make changes to Title XI of the Legislative Code regarding the organization

of water-related fees and charges.

**Adopted**

- 3      [RES 25-274](#)      Directing the Department of Safety and Inspections to proceed with the denial of the Second Hand Dealer-Motor Vehicle License and adverse action against Azak Auto Sales LLC d/b/a Azak Auto Sales LLC (License ID #20240000279) for the premises located at 817 Vandalia St Ste 1C.

**Adopted**

- 4      [RES 25-308](#)      Authorizing the Departments of Emergency Management and Public Works to apply for the FY2024 Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant programs from Department of Homeland Security - FEMA to support funding for the Lowertown Flood Mitigation project.

**Adopted**

- 5      [RES 25-312](#)      Authorizing the Fire Department to pay for all costs for Fire Department training and/or costs associated with unplanned emergency response incidents in 2025.

**Adopted**

- 6      [RES 25-330](#)      Adopting the Ramsey County All Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**Adopted**

- 7      [RES 25-331](#)      Approving the Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Saint Paul and the Tri-Council LIUNA Laborers, Local 363, to provide premium pay for the union employees holding the title Water Utility Worker in the Saint Paul Regional Water Service selected to the leads.

**Laid over to March 5, 2025**

- 8      [RES 25-345](#)      Approving the reimbursement funds used for the Heights Affordable Housing Partnership East Metro Local Business Networking Event.

**Adopted**

#### **FOR DISCUSSION**

- 10     [RES 25-341](#)      Approving the appointment of Biftu Adema-Jula as the Legislative Aide in Ward 1.

*Councilmember Bowie spoke in favor and moved approval.*

**Adopted**

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

- 11     [RES 25-342](#)     Approving the appointment of Megan Jekot as the Legislative Aide in Ward 2.

*Council President Noecker spoke in favor and moved approval.*

**Adopted**

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

- 12     [RES 25-343](#)     Approving the appointment of Jenne Nelson as the interim Legislative Aide in Ward 4.

*Councilmember Jost moved approval.*

*Council President Noecker spoke in support.*

*Councilmember Bowie spoke in support.*

**Adopted**

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

- 9       [RES 25-351](#)     Proclaiming February 26th, 2025 as Mike Smith Day in the City of Saint Paul.

*Councilmember Kim spoke in support and read from the resolution.*

*Butch Inks, Fire Chief, gave remarks.*

*Mike Smith, Fire Captain, gave remarks.*

*Councilmember Yang spoke in support.*

*Councilmember Bowie spoke in support.*

*Councilmember Johnson spoke in support.*

*Councilmember Jost spoke in support.*

*Council President Noecker spoke in support.*

*Kim moved approval.*

**Adopted**

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

## SUSPENSION ITEMS

### [RES 25-365](#)

Appointing the Public Rights Project as special counsel for the purpose of providing legal representation to the City of Saint Paul in the matter of City and County of San Francisco, County of Santa Clara, City of Portland, Martin Luther King, Jr. County, City of New Haven, City of Saint Paul v. Donald J. Trump, President of the United States, et al.

*Councilmember Jost spoke in support.*

*Councilmember Johnson spoke in support.*

*Councilmember Bowie spoke in support.*

*Councilmember Kim spoke in support and moved approval.*

#### **Adopted**

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

## ITEMS FOR RECONSIDERATION

### [ABZA 25-1](#)

Considering the appeal of Sean Ryan - Ryan Companies, US Inc. to a decision of the Board of Zoning Appeals denying four variance requests to construct a mixed-use development on the property at 2200 Ford Parkway.

*Council President Noecker moved reconsideration. Approved 6-0.*

#### **Laid over to March 5, 2025**

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

### [ABZA 25-2](#)

Considering the appeal of Sean Ryan - Ryan Companies, US Inc. to a decision of the Board of Zoning Appeals denying two variance requests to construct a commercial building on the property at 0 Cretin Avenue South (Highland Bridge Block 2C).

*Council President Noecker moved reconsideration. Approved 6-0.*

**Laid over to March 5, 2025**

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

**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**

- 13**    [Ord 25-4](#)            Amending Title IV of the Administrative Code to add Chapter 92, titled Tree Preservation for City Sponsored Projects.

*Council President Noecker moved to lay over for 6 months.*

**Laid over to August 27, 2025**

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

**First Reading**

- 14**    [Ord 25-6](#)            Amending Chapter 85 of the Legislative Code regarding Water Rates.

**Laid over to March 5, 2025 for Second Reading**

- 15**    [Ord 25-7](#)            Amending Chapter 87 of the Legislative Code pertaining to Water Service Connections.

**Laid over to March 5, 2025 for Second Reading**

- 16**    [Ord 25-8](#)            Amending Chapter 88 of the Legislative Code pertaining to Water Meters.

**Laid over to March 5, 2025 for Second Reading**

- 17**    [Ord 25-9](#)            Amending Chapter 89 of the Legislative Code pertaining to Fire Supplies.

**Laid over to March 5, 2025 for Second Reading**

- 18     [Ord 25-10](#)     Amending Chapter 90 of the Legislative Code pertaining to Fire Hydrants.  
  
             **Laid over to March 5, 2025 for Second Reading**
- 19     [Ord 25-11](#)     Amending Chapter 91 of the Legislative Code pertaining to Water Code miscellaneous provisions.  
  
             **Laid over to March 5, 2025 for Second Reading**
- 20     [Ord 25-12](#)     Amending Chapter 92 of the Legislative Code pertaining to Plumbing.  
  
             **Laid over to March 5, 2025 for Second Reading**
- 21     [Ord 25-13](#)     Amending Chapter 93 of the Legislative Code pertaining to Water Service Connections.  
  
             **Laid over to March 5, 2025 for Second Reading**
- 22     [Ord 25-14](#)     Amending Chapter 94 of the Legislative Code pertaining to Interior Work.  
  
             **Laid over to March 5, 2025 for Second Reading**
- 23     [Ord 25-15](#)     Amending Chapter 96 of the Legislative Code pertaining to Connection of Air Conditioning Equipment to City Water.  
  
             **Laid over to March 5, 2025 for Second Reading**
- 24     [Ord 25-16](#)     Amending Chapter 97 of the Legislative Code pertaining to Well Drillers.  
  
             **Laid over to March 5, 2025 for Second Reading**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

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

- 25     [Ord 25-5](#)     Granting the application of East Mall Associates & Wengler Family Limited Partnership to rezone the properties at 841 and 857 Grand Avenue from BC community business (converted) and B2 community business to T3 traditional neighborhood and amending Chapter 60 of the Legislative Code pertaining to the zoning map.  
  
             *Council President Noecker moved to close the public hearing.*  
  
             **Laid over to March 5, 2025 for Final Adoption**  
  
             **Yea:**   6 -   Councilmember Noecker, Councilmember Yang, Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost and Councilmember Johnson  
  
             **Nay:**   0  
  
             **Absent:**   1 -   Councilmember Jalali

- 26     [RES PH 25-21](#)     Amending the financing and spending plans in the Department of Public

Works Capital Budget for the 6th/Kennard and West Side Pedestrian Improvement Projects.

*Councilmember Jost moved approval.*

**Adopted**

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

**27**     [RES PH 25-22](#)

Amending the financing and spending plans in the Department of Public Works Capital Budget for the 2025 Lighting Improvements Program and the 2021 Wabasha Signal Project.

*Councilmember Johnson moved approval.*

**Adopted**

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

**28**     [RES PH 25-23](#)

Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation to accept Parks and Trails Legacy Funds, enter into grant agreements (which include an indemnification clause), and amend the financing and spending plan in the amount of \$3,151,341.

*Councilmember Yang moved approval.*

**Adopted**

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

**29**     [RES PH 25-29](#)

Accepting grant funds, authorizing execution of a grant agreement (with indemnity obligations and other documents related thereto), and amending the operating budget for the City's sponsorship of a Metropolitan Council Livable Communities Demonstration Account Transit Oriented Development ("TOD") Grant for the Hamm's Brewery Redevelopment (East End) at 680-694 Minnehaha Avenue East (District 4, Ward 7).

*Councilmember Johnson moved approval.*

**Adopted**

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

**30**     [RES PH 25-32](#)

Amending the financing and spending plans in the General Government Accounts in the amount of \$34,195.99 for Inflation Reduction Act tax credit services.

*Councilmember Bowie moved approval.*

**Adopted**

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

**LEGISLATIVE HEARING DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**54**     [RLH AR 24-98](#)

Ratifying the assessment for Rubbish and Garbage Clean Up services during June 12 to 24, 2024. (File No. J2504R, Assessment No. 258504)

*Marcia Moermond, Legislative Hearing Officer: I ask that 776 Desoto Street be removed for separate consideration in March 4, 2025 Legislative Hearing. The resolution is amended accordingly.*

*Councilmember Jost moved approval.*

**Adopted as amended (776 Desoto Street removed for separate consideration in March 4, 2025 Legislative Hearing)**

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

**55**     [RLH AR 24-99](#)

Ratifying the assessment for Tall Grass and Weed Removal services during July 1 to 22, 2024. (File No. J2504T, Assessment No. 258507)

*Marcia Moermond, Legislative Hearing Officer: I ask that 714 Lafond Avenue be removed for separate consideration in March 18, 2025 Legislative Hearing. The resolution is amended accordingly.*

*Councilmember Bowie moved approval.*

**Adopted as amended (714 Lafond Avenue removed for separate consideration in March 18, 2025 Legislative Hearing)**



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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

#### **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 Yang moved approval.*

#### **Legislative Hearing Consent Agenda adopted as amended**

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

**Nay:** 0

**Absent:** 1 - Councilmember Jalali

- 31**     [RLH FCO 25-1](#)     Appeal of Casandra and Patrick Bradley to a Correction Notice-Complaint Inspection at 365 BATES AVENUE.  
**Adopted**
- 32**     [RLH VBR 25-8](#)     Appeal of Paul Yang to a Vacant Building Registration Requirement at 985 BRADLEY STREET.  
**Adopted**
- 33**     [RLH TA 24-396](#)     Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1333 EDMUND AVENUE. (File No. J2503R, Assessment No. 258502)  
**Adopted**
- 34**     [RLH TA 25-78](#)     Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 463 FOREST STREET. (File No. J2504R, Assessment No. 258504) (Legislative Hearing on February 25, 2025)  
**Adopted as amended (assessment deleted)**
- 35**     [RLH TA 25-113](#)     Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 463 FOREST STREET. (File No. VB2504, Assessment No. 258803) (February 25, 2025 Legislative Hearing)  
**Adopted as amended (assessment ratified)**
- 36**     [RLH TA 25-111](#)     Amending Council File RLH TA 24-472 to Continue the Public Hearing for the

Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1055 FOURTH STREET EAST adopted by Council on February 12, 2025. (File No. J2505R, Assessment No. 258508) (Public hearing continued to September 10, 2025)

**Public hearing continued to September 10, 2025**

- 37     [RLH TA 25-54](#)     Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1452 HAZELWOOD STREET. (File No. VB2505B, Assessment No. 258817) (Amend to delete)  
**Adopted as amended (assessment deleted)**
- 38     [RLH TA 25-75](#)     Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 815 HOLTON STREET. (File No. J2503R, Assessment No. 258502)  
**Adopted**
- 39     [RLH TA 24-409](#)     Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 804 HUBBARD AVENUE. (File No. J2504T, Assessment No. 258507)  
**Adopted**
- 40     [RLH TA 24-423](#)     Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1528 HURON STREET. (File No. J2504T, Assessment No. 258507)  
**Adopted**
- 41     [RLH TA 24-410](#)     Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1982 LONGFELLOW AVENUE. (File No. J2504T, Assessment No. 258507)  
**Adopted**
- 42     [RLH TA 24-405](#)     Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 115 MAGNOLIA AVENUE WEST. (File No. J2504R, Assessment No. 258504)  
**Adopted**
- 43     [RLH RR 24-44](#)     Ordering the rehabilitation or razing and removal of the structures at 925 MAGNOLIA AVENUE EAST within fifteen (15) days after the December 4, 2024, City Council Public Hearing. (amend to grant 180 days)  
  
**Adopted as amended (granted 180 days)**
- 44     [RLH TA 24-473](#)     Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 2023 MAGNOLIA AVENUE EAST. (File No. J2503R, Assessment No. 258502)  
**Adopted**
- 45     [RLH TA 24-408](#)     Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 918 PARK STREET. (File No. J2504T, Assessment No. 258507) (Public hearing continued to April 16, 2025)  
**Public hearing continued to April 16, 2025**
- 46     [RLH SAO 25-14](#)     Making finding on the appealed nuisance abatement ordered for 801

PIERCE BUTLER ROUTE in Council File RLH SAO 25-4.

**Adopted**

- 47     [RLH TA 24-412](#)     Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 1412 PORTLAND AVENUE (1410 PORTLAND AVENUE). (File No. J2504R, Assessment No. 258504)  
**Adopted**
- 48     [RLH TA 24-413](#)     Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 460 PRIOR AVENUE NORTH. (File No. J2503R, Assessment No. 258502)  
**Adopted**
- 49     [RLH TA 24-411](#)     Ratifying the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 115 ROBIE STREET WEST. (File No. J2504T, Assessment No. 258507)  
**Adopted**
- 50     [RLH TA 24-415](#)     Deleting the Appealed Special Tax Assessment for property at 809 THOMAS AVENUE. (File No. J2503T, Assessment No. 258506)  
**Adopted**
- 51     [RLH SAO 25-15](#)     Appeal of Richard Howe to a Summary Abatement Order at 1670 YORK AVENUE.  
**Adopted**
- 52     [RLH AR 24-96](#)     Ratifying the assessment for Rubbish and Garbage Clean Up services during May 24 to June 10, 2024. (File No. J2503R, Assessment No. 258502)  
**Adopted**
- 53     [RLH AR 24-97](#)     Ratifying the assessment for Tall Grass and Weed Removal services during June 27 to 28, 2024. (File No. J2503T, Assessment No. 258506)  
**Adopted**

## ADJOURNMENT

**Meeting ended at 4:28 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](mailto:Contact-Council@ci.stpaul.mn.us), [CouncilHearing@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto: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](http://www.stpaul.gov/council) or <https://forms.office.com/g/TD3xN7WHy5>.

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