



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, September 24, 2025

3:30 PM

Council Chambers - 3rd Floor

ROLL CALL

Meeting started at 3:30 PM

Present 5 - Councilmember HwaJeong Kim, Councilmember Anika Bowie,
Councilmember Saura Jost, Councilmember Cheniqua Johnson and
Councilmember Molly Coleman

Absent 2 - Councilmember Rebecca Noecker and Councilmember Nelsie Yang

COMMUNICATIONS & RECEIVE/FILE

- 1 [AO 25-48](#) Moving funds from one account code to another within the Public Works Downtown Improvements F211 project to align with project spending.
Received and Filed
- 2 [AO 25-49](#) Amending the 2025 spending budget in the Department of Public Works Grants Electric Vehicle Charging Stations accounting unit.
Received and Filed
- 3 [AO 25-53](#) Amending CDBG, ESG, and HOME Annual Budgets: Adjusting predicted annual HUD grant budget amounts to align with actual FY2025 awards received September 9, 2025.
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: 5 - Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 - Councilmember Noecker and Councilmember Yang

- 4 [RES 25-1244](#) Authorizing the City to enter into an Interconnection Agreement with Xcel Energy, which includes an indemnification clause, for solar at North End Community Center.
Adopted
- 5 [RES 25-1247](#) Authorizing the City to enter into an Interconnection Agreement with Xcel Energy, which includes an indemnification clause, for solar at Animal Services.
Adopted
- 6 [RES 25-1434](#) Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation to apply for up to \$250,000 in Minnesota Historical Society grant funds for the design and construction of a mural and statue honoring Tou Ger Xiong at Phalen Regional Park.
Adopted
- 7 [RES 25-1435](#) Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation to apply for \$500,000 from the 3M PFAS Settlement Priority 2 Grant Program for the Duluth and Case Revisioning project.
Adopted
- 8 [RES 25-1443](#) Authorizing the Department of Planning and Economic Development to apply to the Metropolitan Council for Livable Communities Demonstration Account for Affordable Homeownership projects at: 0 Bush Avenue (Amani Construction and Development), 968 Payne Avenue (African American Community Development Corporation), and 642 Selby Avenue (The Rondo Community Land Trust).
Adopted
- 9 [RES 25-1449](#) Accepting the donation of registration, travel, and lodging expenses from the League of Minnesota Cities (LMC) for Councilmember Anika Bowie to attend the LMC 2025 Annual Board Retreat in Bemidji, MN from September 17-19, 2025.
Adopted
- 10 [RES 25-1465](#) Approving polling location changes for the November 4, 2025 election (wards 2, 3 and 5).
Adopted
- 11 [RES 25-1468](#) Directing the Department of Safety and Inspections to proceed with the denial of the Tree Trimmer-1 Vehicle license and adverse action against North

Country Tree Solutions d/b/a North Country Tree Solutions, (application ID #20250000582) located at 28268 120th Street Northwest, Zimmerman.

Adopted

- 12 [RES 25-1477](#) Approving the Mayor's appointment of Molly Coleman (as an alternate) to serve on the Metropolitan Transportation Advisory Board.

Adopted

- 13 [RES 25-1480](#) Approving the Proposed Issuance of Conduit Charter School Lease Revenue Bonds by the Housing and Redevelopment Authority (the "HRA") for the Metro Deaf School Project Located at 1125 Energy Park Drive (District 10, Ward 4).

Adopted

FOR DISCUSSION

- 14 [RES 25-1447](#) Approving the City of Saint Paul Audit Committee's next study related to the data practices process and authorizing Wilder Research to conduct the study. (Laid over from September 17, 2025)

Councilmember Coleman moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 5 - Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 - Councilmember Noecker and Councilmember Yang

- 15 [RES PH 25-203](#) Authorizing the Police Department to accept the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program grant from the Office of National Drug Control Policy, authorizing the execution of the grant agreement, and amending the 2025 grant fund budget and add activity budget. (Public hearing closed and laid over from September 17, 2025)

Paul Ford, Deputy Police Chief, gave a staff report.

Councilmember Jost moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 5 - Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 - Councilmember Noecker and Councilmember Yang

RECESS

The City Council will recess to convene as the Library Board to take up RES 25-1490, Requesting that the City levy property taxes for the Saint Paul Public Library Agency. They will then adjourn the Library Board meeting and reconvene as the City Council.

Meeting recessed at 3:35 PM

ROLL CALL

Meeting resumed at 3:37 PM

Present 5 - Councilmember HwaJeong Kim, Councilmember Anika Bowie, Councilmember Saura Jost, Councilmember Cheniqua Johnson and Councilmember Molly Coleman

Absent 2 - Councilmember Rebecca Noecker and Councilmember Nelsie Yang

BUDGET ITEMS

- 16** [RES 25-1473](#) Approving a 2026 maximum property tax levy for the Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA).
- Councilmember Johnson moved approval.*
- Adopted**
- Yea:** 5 - Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman
- Nay:** 0
- Absent:** 2 - Councilmember Noecker and Councilmember Yang
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- 17** [RES 25-1489](#) Approving a 2026 maximum property tax levy for the City.
- Councilmember Johnson gave remarks.*
- Councilmember Jost gave remarks.*
- Councilmember Bowie gave remarks.*
- Councilmember Kim read remarks from Councilmember Yang, gave her own remarks, and moved approval.*
- Adopted**
- Yea:** 5 - Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman
- Nay:** 0
- Absent:** 2 - Councilmember Noecker and Councilmember Yang

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

- 18 [Ord 25-49](#) Establishing the classification titled City Council Communications Lead in the unclassified service pursuant to Section 12.03.2(H) of the City Charter (must be approved by Civil Service Commission after adoption by City Council and prior to Mayor signature).

Councilmember Bowie moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 5 - Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 - Councilmember Noecker and Councilmember Yang

- 19 [Ord 25-53](#) Amending Chapter 441 of the Legislative Code to adjust the electric-vehicle charging station rates.

Councilmember Jost spoke in favor and moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 5 - Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 - Councilmember Noecker and Councilmember Yang

First Reading

- 20 [Ord 25-54](#) Amending Chapter 11 of the Administrative Code to update the responsibilities of the Department of Human Rights and Equal Economic Opportunity.

Beth Commers from the Department of Human Rights and Equal Opportunity gave a staff report and answered councilmember questions on Items 20 - 23.

Laid over to October 1, 2025 for Second Reading

- 21 [Ord 25-55](#) Amending Chapter 224 of the Legislative Code to align with State law changes.

Laid over to October 1, 2025 for Second Reading

- 22 [Ord 25-56](#) Amending Chapter 224A of the Legislative Code to clarify record production processes.

Laid over to October 1, 2025 for Second Reading

- 23 [Ord 25-57](#) Amending Chapter 233 of the Legislative Code to align with State law changes.

Laid over to October 1, 2025 for Second Reading

PUBLIC HEARINGS

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

- 24** [RES PH 25-186](#) Accepting grant funds, authorizing execution of a grant agreement (with indemnity obligations and other documents related thereto) and amending the operating budget with respect to the City's sponsorship of a Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Contamination Cleanup grant for the benefit of The Rondo Community Land Trust's Mixed-Use Redevelopment at 642 Selby Avenue (District 16, Ward 1).

Councilmember Bowie moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 5 - Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 - Councilmember Noecker and Councilmember Yang
- 25** [RES PH 25-211](#) Authorizing the Office of Financial Services - Fleet, in partnership with the Fire Department to accept the \$1,457,381.84 Heavy Duty On-road Replacement grant and authorizing the execution of a grant agreement (which includes an indemnification clause) with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to remove older diesel vehicles from operations and partially fund the replacement of them with new, less polluting vehicles.

Councilmember Coleman moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 5 - Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 - Councilmember Noecker and Councilmember Yang
- 26** [RES PH 25-212](#) Authorizing the Police Department to accept the 2026 Enforcement grant from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Office of Traffic Safety, authorize the execution of the grant agreement, amend the 2025 grant fund budget and add activity budget.

Councilmember Johnson moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 5 - Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 - Councilmember Noecker and Councilmember Yang

- 27 [RES PH 25-206](#) Approving the application of University of St. Thomas - Campus Life, Erin Whipkey, for a Homecoming Event, Friday, October 3, 2025, for a sound level variance in order to present live amplified sound at 2115 Summit Ave - University of St. Thomas, Lower Quad.

Jerome Benner from the University of St. Thomas spoke during the public hearing.

Councilmember Coleman moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 5 - Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 - Councilmember Noecker and Councilmember Yang

- 28 [RES PH 25-207](#) Approving the application of Twin Cities in Motion for a sound level variance in order to present amplified sound for announcements, speakers, and music on Saturday, October 4, 2025, and Sunday, October 5, 2025, during the Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon at the MN State Capitol Complex, 75 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard.

Councilmember Jost moved approval.

Adopted

Yea: 5 - Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 - Councilmember Noecker and Councilmember Yang

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.

Legislative Hearing Consent Agenda adopted as amended

Yea: 5 - Councilmember Kim, Councilmember Bowie, Councilmember Jost, Councilmember Johnson and Councilmember Coleman

Nay: 0

Absent: 2 - Councilmember Noecker and Councilmember Yang

- 29 [RLH CO 25-9](#) Appeal of Parker Hoen to a Correction Notice at 1635 MONTREAL AVENUE. (September 23, 2025 Legislative Hearing)

Referred to October 14, 2026 Legislative Hearing

- 30** [RLH VBR 25-21](#) Appeal of Gladys Igbo to a Vacant Building Registration Fee Warning Letter at 385 UNIVERSITY AVENUE WEST.
Adopted as amended (appeal granted)

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting ended at 4:15 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

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.