

City of North Saint Paul
July 1, 2025
Approved City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Monge called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Nordby arrived at 5:17 p.m.
Council Member Woods
Council Member McKenzie
Council Member Schweer absent
Mayor Monge

Staff: City Manager Brian Frandle, Assistant to the City Manager Jennie Kloos, Finance Director Dan Winek, Public Works Director Ron Ritchie, and Public Works Superintendent Randy Miller

III. ADOPT AGENDA

On motion by Council Member McKenzie, seconded by Council Member Woods, with all present voting aye (3-0), motion carried to approve the agenda as submitted.

IV. TOPICS

A. 2026 Budget – Comprehensive Look

Finance Director Dan Winek provided a high-level look at the 2026 budget. This comes after meetings with department heads. He stated that currently, the 2026 levy is at a 6% increase for 2026. He briefly reviewed all of the approved budgeted funds and noted that the HRA and EDA are proposed to remain the same.

Mr. Winek explained the five levy components and how they fit into the 6% levy increase. He also stated the Community Center does not have a separate levy component. Mr. Winek reviewed the proposed 2026 general fund budget according to revenue and expenditures, with property taxes and personnel, respectively, taking up the most. He summarized the expenditures by department, with public safety taking up over half of the general fund.

Mr. Winek described each of the enterprise funds' (water, wastewater, electric, surface water, solid waste, fiber optic) revenue and expenditures and how each related to the 2026 budget. He also described the internal service funds (information technology, insurance, equipment, City mechanic, building maintenance) as they relate to revenue and expenditures.

Mr. Winek also described the other budgeted funds: community center fund, community event fund, fire relief fund, park fund, street maintenance fund, and asset preservation fund.

Mayor Monge inquired about the library using its fiber optic.

Council Member Nordby inquired about the number of fiscal disparities and suggested a system where residents can levy the same number of penalties and then refund those penalties back to residents. Mr. Winek explained that the one “safety net” the City has is the electric fund and the City’s transfer of those monies to the general fund.

Council Member McKenzie suggested offering up the old fiber optic if someone is interested. Mr. Winek stated he cannot speak to its potential resale value.

Mr. Winek also provided a high-level overview of the 2026-2035 Capital Improvement Plan with an estimated expenditure of \$100 million over a 10-year period of time and how the City would fund it.

Mayor Monge commented on the importance of public safety, infrastructure, and roads.

V. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Council Member Woods, seconded by Council Member McKenzie, with all present voting aye (4-0), the meeting is adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

/s/ John Monge, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Brian Frandle, City Manager / Clerk