

**City of North Saint Paul
December 2, 2025
Approved Regular City Council Meeting Minutes**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Monge called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

II. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Nordby
Council Member Woods
Council Member McKenzie
Council Member Schweer
Mayor Monge

Staff: City Manager Brian Frandle, Assistant to the City Manager Jennie Kloos, City Engineer Morgan Dawley, Finance Director Daniel Winek, Community Development Director Ken Roberts, and City Attorney Jack Brooksbank.

IV. ADOPT AGENDA

On motion by Council Member Schweer, seconded by Council Member Nordby, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to approve the agenda as submitted.

V. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Council Member Woods, seconded by Council Member McKenzie, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to approve the consent agenda, Resolution No. 2025-114 consisting of:

- A. November 18, 2025 city council meeting minutes
- B. General Claims \$263,886.15
- C. Resolution Approving the Reappointments of Commissioners **Resolution No. 2025-115**
- D. Approval of Temporary Liquor License and Charitable Gambling Permit – Church and School of St. Peter Annual Gala, February 7, 2026 **Resolution No. 2025-116**
- E. Resolution to Staffer Arts and Culture Commissioner Terms **Resolution No. 2025-117**
- F. Approve the Fiber Maintenance and Locate Services Agreement Cost between the City of North St. Paul and Zayo Group LLC.

VI. MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC

John Schmahl suggested an appreciation of electric utility customers of over 50 years and noted the lack of plowing with two inches of snow on the ground.

VII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Truth-in-Taxation Hearing – 2026 Tax Levy and Budgets

Finance Director Dan Winek presented this item. He defined, described, and reviewed why property taxes change, current Minnesota taxes, the 2026 truth in taxation notice, preliminary valuation changes, 2026 levy and budget, and potential property tax impacts.

Mr. Winek noted that property taxes change due to changes in market values, levies at various jurisdictions, debt issuance, special assessments, voter-approved referendums, changes in state and federal mandates, changes in aid and revenue from the State and Federal governments, and state legislative changes.

Mr. Winek stated there will not be charges for special assessments, and utility rates will remain the same.

Mr. Winek reviewed the Minnesota property tax process.

Mr. Winek added that the truth in taxation notice includes the estimated market value and taxable market value, taxes for all jurisdictions, tax and budget meeting location dates and times, but does not include the impacts from voter-approved referendums in the current year. He also described the distribution of preliminary total taxes. He showed that the market values have stayed relatively stable and provided the median value of home increases for 2023, 2024, and 2025.

Mr. Winek discussed that the city's total 2026 levy is an 8% or \$638,771 increase from 2025, which includes the general fund, the 2026-2026 debt levy summary, street maintenance, parks, facilities, HRA, and EDA levies. He provided a graphic showing the 2026 proposed general fund revenue and expenditures by category and departments. He provided information on valuation, property, classification, and status, and stated that all questions regarding these issues should be directed to Ramsey County. He also provided information on senior citizen property tax deferral and homestead deadline, and exclusion programs.

Council Member Schweer stated that all of this information is located in the agenda on the website.

Mayor Monge opened the public hearing at 6:40 p.m..

Sue Springborn expressed her need for the park improvements and is concerned about losing park money.

Ingrid Kohler expressed her desire for park improvements.

Pete Drake expressed his concern and confusion regarding the increase in tax valuation. Mr. Winek stated that property taxes are difficult to understand, and he would sit down with him and

show him how they are calculated. Mr. Winek also stated Ramsey County has a tax calculator online.

Michael Walt inquired about the calculation process of a median value home estimate and expressed his concern with the deteriorating storefronts. Mr. Winek stated that information is supplied by Ramsey County.

John Schmahl inquired about where certain monies are coming from.

Mark Nicollet expressed his confusion regarding his property tax increase. Mr. Winek stated he would provide an appointment to go over those numbers.

Mayor Monge inquired about new property owners' property values increasing after the sale of the property. Mr. Winek stated there is some correlation between a sale and a reevaluation.

Mayor Monge closed the public hearing at 7:21 p.m.

VIII. CITY BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS

There were no City Business Action Items & Recommendations.

IX. REPORTS OF CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENTS

City Manager Brian Frandle stated that the Electric Department has finished hanging the holiday lights, started inventory for the auditors and has hired an apprentice. The Community Development Department continues to work on the trash/solid waste RFP and will bring it back to the city council as soon as possible. They also continue to work on updating city ordinances. The Communications Department noted the Holly Jolly Night this Friday at Casey Lake Park. The Finance Department is wrapping up end of the end-of-the-year data. The Police Department's Shop with a Cop is on Sunday. The Public Works Department continues to work on the student-built house, flooding ice rinks, and plowing snow. The Fire Department finished up agility training and four recruits are in class with a possible January start.

Council Member Schweer left the meeting at 7:22 p.m. and returned at 7:25 p.m.

X. REPORTS OF COUNCIL, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Council Member Nordby noted the Planning Commission meets this Thursday, and there will be a recognition for the outgoing Commission member.

Council Member Woods stated the Arts and Culture Commission is interviewing for a new commissioner, reviewing and planning projects, and stated the next meeting is tomorrow night.

Council Member McKenzie noted his attendance at the new bakery and stated the next EDA meeting is next Tuesday.

Council Member Schweer stated the Parks and Recreation Commission met two weeks ago and discussed the budget, and stated they are confident that they are heading in the right direction.

XI. GENERAL BUSINESS

Council Member Nordby expressed his excitement for the Christmas tree project that finds local families in need and places tags on a tree at her property, and supplies them with gifts.

Council Member Woods noted Holly Jolly Night at Casey Lake Park and the Holiday Hop.

Council Member Schweer requested a performance evaluation for the city manager and to reevaluate the progress or planning for the community center.

Mayor Monge stated the need for a property for the next round of the student-built house and reminded residents to use civil etiquette when leaving voicemails for the City Council and city staff.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion by Council Member Schweer, seconded by Council Member Nordby, with all present voting aye (5-0), Mayor Monge adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

/s/ John Monge, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Brian Frandle, City Manager / Clerk