

**City of North Saint Paul
January 20, 2026
Approved Regular City Council Meeting Minutes**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Monge called the meeting to order at 6:30 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, Police Chief Ray Rozales, Community Development Director Ken Roberts, Electric Director John Wick, Public Works Director Ron Ritchie, and Public Works Supervisor Randy Miller

Police Chief Rozales addressed the council and the public regarding ICE policies and procedures. He stated the City's primary responsibility is to ensure the safety and security of all residents and read a message clarifying the role of the North St. Paul Police Department regarding the ongoing immigration enforcement in Minnesota.

Residents with concerns may contact the North St. Paul Police Department and will be directed to the appropriate staff.

IV. ADOPT AGENDA

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

V. RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING COMMISSION MEMBERS

A. Commissioner Appreciation

City Manager Brian Frandle and Mayor Monge acknowledged and expressed sincere appreciation to seven outgoing members for various Commissions.

VI. 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. 2026-009 consisting of:

- A. January 6, 2026 city council regular meeting minutes
- B. General Claims \$4,172,446.84
- C. HRA Claims \$128,019.46
- D. Parks and Recreation Commission Appointment **Resolution No. 2026-010**
- E. Reappoint Student Commissioner to the Arts & Culture Commission **Resolution No. 2026-011**
- F. Solar Rates Above 40kw
- G. Pay Equity Report
- H. Approve the 2026 Revised History Cruzers Car Show Agreement **Resolution No. 2026-012**

VII. MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC

Ben Jarman expressed his concern regarding ICE's impact on local communities.

Sabina Fritz expressed her concern regarding the businesses and support for the residents of North St Paul.

VIII. CITY BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Substation PLC System Replacement

Electric Director John Wick presented this item and described previous issues with the substation. The diagnosis showed several readers were responding with inaccurate numbers. An engineering company came out and described which pieces of equipment were failing and provided a rough estimate of the cost to replace the parts.

Mr. Wick suggested a new upgraded system versus replacing the failing equipment. He explained the reasons behind the choice of purchasing a new upgraded system. He also stated the current system is maxed out and cannot receive any more information. He added that the new upgrades would modernize the path in which the city receives information and would work well if future upgrades were needed. Mr. Wick stated PMG Engineering was highly recommended and was also the lowest bid. Mr. Wick stated the upgrade will be absorbed into the Electric Department's budget.

Council Member Woods inquired about the length of time to complete the upgrade and if residents would lose power during the installation. Mr. Wick stated residents will not lose power and will take approximately 23-30 days to acquire, and then two weeks after that for installation.

On motion by Council Member Schweer, seconded by Council Member McKenzie, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to recommend staff to award the bid to PMG Engineering to replace the existing PLC system at the Substation with a new RTAC Axion upgrade package.

IX. REPORTS OF CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENTS

Mr. Frandle provided an update on the water chlorination. He stated some areas have still failed testing and will require continued chlorination until retesting. The Electric Department continues to work on generator issues, and the Communications Department is working on the residential guide and booking events for 2026. The Finance Department is working with the auditors, and the Police Department is working with the new Motorola equipment for body and vehicle cameras. The Public Works Department continues maintaining ice rinks and tree removal. The Fire Department had a blood drive today and continues to work on code compliance. The Community Development Department should have result to the solid waste and recycling collection services RFP for within two weeks.

X. REPORTS OF COUNCIL, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Council Member Nordby noted the Planning Commission will interview for the open position, and the next meeting will be on February 5, 2026.

Council Member Woods noted that the Arts and Culture Commission's purchased a coin press.

Council Member McKenzie noted his attendance at Sweetie's for the façade program presentation and that the EDA will meet on March 10, 2026.

Council Member Schweer stated the Parks and Recreation Commission will meet on January 28, 2026.

XI. GENERAL BUSINESS

Council Member Nordby suggested allowing a student commission member to serve on all commissions.

Council Member Woods thanked Police Chief Rozales for his statement on ICE.

XII. CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13D.03, the North St. Paul City Council meeting shall be closed to conduct a performance review of City Manager Brian Frandle.

Mayor Monge recessed the regular meeting at 7:10 p.m. to conduct the closed session.

Mayor Monge called the closed session to order at 7:15 p.m.

Mayor Monge adjourned the closed session at 8:21 p.m.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion by Council Member Woods, seconded by Council Member Schweer, with all present voting aye (5-0), Mayor Monge adjourned the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

/s/ John Monge, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Brian Frandle, City Manager / Clerk