

**City of North Saint Paul**  
**March 17, 2026**  
**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 5:58 p.m.  
Council Member Woods  
Council Member McKenzie  
Council Member Schweer Arrived 6:13 p.m.  
Mayor Monge

Staff: City Manager Brian Frandle, Assistant to the City Manager Jennie Kloos, Fire Chief Jason Mallinger, and Electric Department Director John Wick

**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. Fire Department 2025 Year in Review and 2026 Outlook

Fire Chief Jason Mallinger presented this item and provided statistics on total incident responses for 2025. He also broke down the statistics monthly, daily, and hourly, and by incident types to include: medical, public service, fire service, non-emergency, hazardous situations, law enforcement support, rescue, and non-specific calls. He briefly described overlapping incidents where mutual aid was given and received. Fire Chief Mallinger discussed fire incident response times.

Council Member Woods inquired about specific mutual aid details and standards regarding response times. Fire Chief Mallinger provided information on the mutual aid process and stated that there are minimum fire response standards, and the City's fire response times fall well under the mandated minimum.

Mr. Mallinger provided statistics on fire inspections, code compliance checks, training hours, and accomplishments. He provided the current 2026 incident numbers and stated the 30% increase in calls over the last five years. He discussed the new data management system, the National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS) platform. He also outlined several priorities for 2026.

## B. Electric Department 2025 Year in Review and 2026 Outlook

Electric Department Director John Wick presented this item and provided statistics for 2025. He noted they provide inspections of all electrical equipment. He discussed power outages and restoration and completed projects. He highlighted the e-safety data tracker, upgraded current online mapping software, EV vehicle rebate, metering rates implementation, increase in solar customers, and MMUA apprenticeship. City Manager Brian Frandle inquired about the main line upgrade. Mr. Wick stated that the need for bigger wire helps with protection and increased capacity.

Mr. Wick also presented the mutual aid commendation for the service they provided in Florida and expressed congratulations to Easton Dale for the Rising Star Award.

Mr. Wick discussed the 2025 completed projects and briefly discussed the goals for 2026. Those goals include programs and incentives for residents, finishing updating the online mapping database, developing standard procedures for emergencies, participating in mutual aid/network with other utilities, engaging the community, keeping outage count and time low, and completing project areas for 2026. He discussed the department's challenges that include fiber optic providers, an increase in costs and supply chain interruptions, and the new technology of the industry.

Council Member McKenzie inquired about leasing out poles to new technology companies. Mr. Wick stated yes, each company that ties into the City's poles is required to pay the City. If the pole needs to be upgraded, it is the responsibility of the power company. He expressed that his department strives to keep rates and outages low, continue to convert the system to underground, keep staff safe and well informed, and that the department remains a place that people want to come to work.

Mr. Frandle expressed his appreciation for the Electric Department's low rate of injury and the quick turnaround of power during outages. Mayor Monge and the Council extended their thanks also.

## V. **ADJOURNMENT**

***On motion by Council Member Woods, seconded by Council Member McKenzie, with all present voting aye (5-0), meeting is adjourned at 6:26 p.m.***

/s/ John Monge, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Brian Frandle, City Manager / Clerk