

City of North Saint Paul
April 7, 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 absent
Mayor Monge

Staff: City Manager Brian Frandle, Assistant to the City Manager Jennie Kloos,
Community Development Director Ken Roberts, and City Attorney Jack
Brooksbank

IV. ADOPT AGENDA

On motion by Council Member Woods, seconded by Council Member McKenzie, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to approve the agenda as submitted.

V. PRESENTATIONS

A. Medallion Hunt Presentation

Nick Casci presented the idea of a medallion hunt within the parks of North St. Paul. He stated it would involve the business and community members of the City. He described and detailed his proposal and provided information on how small businesses would be involved. He provided examples of clues and clue locations.

Mr. Casci stated he has discussed this idea with residents, property owners, and small business owners to get their opinions and concerns on it and has received good feedback.

Mayor Monge recommended presenting this information to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Casci was more than willing to discuss it with the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Mr. Casci also discussed donations from small business owners. City Attorney Jack Brooksbank stated that City staff would not be able to accompany Mr. Casci in the requests as the City does not have fundraising authority and cannot participate in the fundraising, but stated that a

resolution from the Parks and Recreation Commission would be easy to get and would provide enough information to local businesses.

Mr. Casci described his ideas of prizes, sponsorship, and promotional ideas for North St. Paul's small businesses.

Council Member Nordby inquired about insurance and liability concerns. Mr. Casci stated that the medallion hunt itself has a large disclaimer regarding where it can and cannot be. Mr. Brooksbank stated that the disclaimer should be enough and would ask for the chair of Parks and Recreation to approve the locations. City Council agreed to refer it back to the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on April 22nd for approval. Mr. Casci expressed his excitement to move forward.

B. Invisible Wounds Project

Russ Hanes, Executive Director of the Invisible Wounds Project, presented information on his idea regarding the Invisible Wounds Project. His idea is to fill in the open Friday car show dates. He also provided dates, ideas, rules and regulations, food vendors, music, a potential farmers' market, volunteers, funding, and how it could help the City of North St. Paul.

Mr. Hanes inquired about potential liability. Mr. Brooksbank stated that the City requires City property insurance, but it tends to be inexpensive and would cover the Invisible Wounds Project.

Mr. Frandle thanked him for pulling this project together in a short period of time. City Council thanked him for his work with the Invisible Wounds Project.

VI. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Council Member Nordby, seconded by Council Member Woods, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to approve the consent agenda, Resolution No. 2026-038 consisting of:

- A. March 17, 2026 city council workshop and regular meeting minutes
- B. General Claims \$747,996.57
- C. HRA Claims \$141.12
- D. Special Event Permit – Wilderness Inquiry Canoemobile Event ***Resolution No. 2026-039***
- E. Fee Schedule Updates ***Resolution No. 2026-040***
- F. Electric Department – Landis Gyr Purchase Request
- G. Approve Fiber Optic Use Agreement
- H. Approve the 2026 Invisible Wounds Project Agreement

VII. MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC

John Schmahl discussed the qualifications surrounding Casey Lake as a lake and expressed frustration with winter maintenance activities causing damage to mailboxes and lawns.

VIII. CITY BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Mobile Food Vendor Ordinance Update

Mr. Roberts presented this item and described the proposed updates. Staff approved the recommended updates.

Mayor Monge clarified that the Lions Club vendor would not be considered a mobile food vendor under the new ordinance updates.

Council Member Nordby clarified that mobile food vendors' activities outside of the City do not have any impact on what they do inside the City.

On motion by Council Member Nordby, seconded by Council Member Woods, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to adopt Ordinance No. 855, Amending Chapter 127 of the North St. Paul City Code Regarding Mobile Food Vendors.

B. Ordinance Update to Chapter 92: Parks and Lakes

Mr. Roberts presented this item and reviewed the proposed changes. He noted that changes and updates have not been made since 1989. Highlights of the updates include protection of vegetation, littering section addition, garbage and recycling updates, prohibited activities, animal restrictions, glass beverages, and vehicle restrictions within parks.

Council Member Woods inquired about animals in the parks and whether that affects the potential petting zoo for the Autumn Arts Festival. Mr. Roberts stated no, the petting zoo falls under a different permit.

Council Member Nordby inquired if these changes have been reviewed by the Chief of Police Rozales and if photography for a commercial purpose affects a person's First Amendment rights. Mr. Roberts stated he has not reviewed it with Chief of Police Rozales. Mr. Brooksbank noted that photography for commercial purposes does not violate any law as it is written.

On motion by Council Member Woods, seconded by Council Member Nordby, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to adopt Ordinance No. 856, Amending Chapter 92 of the North St. Paul City Code Regarding Parks and Lakes.

C. Ballfield Agreement between North St. Paul and ISD 622

Mr. Roberts presented this item and noted the update to the agreement. He stated the proposed changes are outlined in the staff report. He stated that school district staff must email the City regarding schedule changes and have proper documentation. He also added that the agreement proposes a \$300 charge to the school district if City staff must take down and/or store temporary fencing if they are left behind. He stated the school district has reviewed the agreement and approved the changes.

On motion by Council Member McKenzie, seconded by Council Member Woods, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to adopt Resolution No. 2026-041, Approving the Updated Ball Field Agreement between North St. Paul and ISD 622.

IX. REPORTS OF CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENTS

Mr. Frandle stated the Electric Department has 33 applications for the open lineman position. The Communications Department is finalizing the 2026 road letter to residents, developing a small business promotional video, and finalizing the Autumn Arts Festival bookings. The Human Resource Department continues to work on updating the personnel policy. The Fire Department has a badge pinning ceremony for newly hired firefighters next Tuesday, and the carbon dioxide alarm installation and access control system is underway. The Finance Department is moving on to the CIP and budget discussions. The Police Department completed the body camera audit certification and has 37 applicants for the open position. The Public Works Department continues hydrant flushing and pot hole patching. The Community Development Department continues to work on the addition at Cowern Elementary School and is working on the finishing touches to the clean-up day.

X. REPORTS OF COUNCIL, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Council Member Nordby noted the Planning Commission passed two items at the last meeting, and those items will come in front of the City Council.

Council Member Woods stated that the Arts and Culture Commission met on April 1, 2026.

Mayor Monge noted that the Parks and Recreation Commission discussed the medallion hunt and the parks clean up on April 16th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

XI. GENERAL BUSINESS

Mr. Roberts discussed the May 6th bulk City clean-up. He provided load and size limits, prohibited items, and updated fees for prohibited vehicles and items. Mr. Frandle stated the Ramsey County Recycling Center will take those prohibited items.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion by Council Member Woods, seconded by Council Member McKenzie, with all present voting aye (4-0), Mayor Monge adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

/s/ John Monge, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Brian Frandle, City Manager /Clerk