

City of North Saint Paul
June 2, 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
Council Member Woods
Council Member McKenzie
Council Member Schweer arrived at 5:18 p.m.
Mayor Monge

Staff: City Manager Brian Frandle, Assistant to the City Manager Jennie Kloos, City Engineer Morgan Dawley, and Public Works Director Ron Ritchie

III. ADOPT AGENDA

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

IV. TOPICS

A. Water Tower Update

City Engineer Morgan Dawley presented this item and noted that the \$4.5 million originally slated for the community center was approved to be used for the water tower. He stated there has been a water storage deficiency in the north tower since approximately 2008. He described the recommended state standards regarding water storage and the increase in water demands. Mr. Dawley provided a high-level overview of the tower siting study, which was completed in 2020, that included potential types, locations, and costs of a new water tower.

Mr. Dawley described potential uses for the land around the water tower, including green space, a playground, and additional cellular towers. He stated that the plan would be to leave the old tower online until the new tower can be used in order to maintain water usage to residents.

Council Member Woods inquired about the timeline for the project. Mr. Dawley stated that the project from design to completion would take approximately two years. Mr. Dawley also added that there will be public engagements to keep residents informed.

Council Member Woods inquired about using a construction company with experience in water towers. Mr. Dawley stated that the contractor will need to show ability, capacity, references, and requirements to be considered for the contract. Mr. Dawley also added that specifications would be written into the contract regarding experience and proper knowledge of water tower construction.

Mayor Monge inquired about the water pressure with the new water tower. Mr. Dawley stated that the water pressure study determined there are lower pressure sites, but they are within the state standards, and there is no pressure deficiency in the City.

Council Member Nordby inquired if the water tower project could be revenue-generating. Mr. Dawley stated there would be room to increase the number of antennas, but that would be a conversation for a later date.

Council Member Nordby inquired about adequate water testing before usage. Mr. Dawley stated yes, all testing will be thorough and completed before the tower goes online.

Mr. Dawley suggested looking into particular details, such as graphics and design.

Mr. Frandle inquired about the study site and the potential for a larger water tower if the population were to increase. Mr. Dawley stated that an engineering study was done, and the 750,000-gallon water tower would be sufficient. Mr. Dawley noted that any changes will be looked at during the pre-design phase.

Mayor Monge inquired about the outbuildings. Public Works Director Ron Ritchie stated that the outbuildings will remain the same. Mr. Ritchie stated that future improvements will be taken into consideration during the construction process. Mr. Ritchie also explained the function of the SCADA (supervisory control and data acquisition) system.

Council Member McKenzie inquired about soil levels and the potential removal of the shelter at the location site. Mr. Dawley and Mr. Ritchie stated they did not know yet, and most questions or concerns can be addressed during the design process.

V. ADJOURNMENT.

On motion by Council Member Woods, seconded by Council Member McKenzie, with all present voting aye (5-0), meeting is adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

/s/ John Monge, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Brian Frandle, City Manager / Clerk