

City of St. Paul Regular Meeting
704 6th Street
St. Paul, NE 68873

Monday, June 16, 2025

A meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of St. Paul, Nebraska was held at City Hall in said City on Monday, June 16, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. Present were Mayor Mike Feeken and Council members Katie Kowalski, Bill Peters, Mark Wilson & Jerry Woodgate. Absent: None. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Phonograph Herald, a legal newspaper published in said City and County. Notice of the meeting was also posted in four (4) public places. Notice of this meeting was communicated in the advance notice. All proceeds thereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was opened to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Feeken opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. with thanking the public for attending and announcing that the City of St. Paul abides by the Open Meetings Act, which is posted on the west wall as required by Nebraska State Law §84-1407 through §84-1414. Mayor Feeken also stated that the City Council may vote to go into Closed Session on any agenda item as allowed by NE State Law §84-1410.

Mayor Feeken continued the meeting by announcing that individuals who have appropriate agenda items for City Council consideration should complete the "Request for Future Agenda Items" form located at the City Office. If the issue can be handled administratively without Council action, notification will be provided. If the item is scheduled for a meeting or study session, notification of the date will be given. Also, any City patrons that are requesting "Public Records" or have "Questions or Concerns" in regard to the City, they need to be submitted in writing to the City of St. Paul, so that it can be addressed appropriately. These forms are available online, in a file folder on the back wall of the Council Chambers or at the City Office.

There was an opportunity for individuals wishing to provide input on any of tonight's agenda items. Those individuals were asked to reserve time to speak; per Mayor Feeken, there will be a five (5) minute limit per person on speaking.

Marcus Paczosa with the St. Paul Royal Coachmen Car Club was in attendance to request utilizing the north City Park for the Grover Cleveland Alexander (GCA) Day event. Council member Wilson moved to approve the St. Paul Royal Coachmen Car Club hosting the Grover Cleveland Alexander (GCA) Days "Show and Shine" in the north City Park on Saturday, July 12, 2025, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Mr. Paczosa and Jordan Robinson (St. Paul Chamber of Commerce) will coordinate the plans for the event. The street closures include: (1) Jay Street between 4th and 6th Streets and (2) 4th Street between Jay and Indian Streets. A Certificate of Insurance will be on file at the City Office prior to the event. The cars will be moved to the downtown area regarding rain plans. There will be no drag racing this year. Council member Woodgate seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

A "street closure" application was submitted from the downtown businesses pertaining to Saturday, July 12, 2025 regarding the Grover Cleveland Alexander (GCA) Day parade from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and the evening street dance to be held on the west half (1/2) of Howard Avenue between 6th Street and 7th Street. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. The St. Paul Chamber of Commerce is requesting 20 cones for the event.

Council member Peters moved to DENY the City of St. Paul extending permissible FIREWORKS for the purposes of public exhibitions or displays until Saturday, July 5, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. Council member Woodgate

seconded the motion. Council members Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, Council member Kowalski voted nay. Motion carried 3/1.

Council member Woodgate moved to approve the request of Chief of Police Howard regarding: (1) purchasing a military surplus container in the amount of \$1,000 to be placed at the gun range in St. Paul; and (2) accept five (5) AR-15 rifles from Federal Surplus; (3) return two (2) Federal Surplus M14 rifles; the Greeley County Sheriff's Office will acquire the M14 rifles in July 2025; (4) sell two (2) Police Department-owned Federal Surplus Rock River AR-15 rifles to the highest public bidder; a resolution needs to be approved by City Council and (5) allow rifle (Rock River AR-15) gun proceeds to cover the container purchase cost. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

City Council member Woodgate departed the Council meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Chief of Police Howard was present to perform an overview of four (4) properties from the City Council meeting on Monday, June 2, 2025 that included: **(1)** 726 Howard Avenue (Tubbs) - cleanup is complete; **(2)** 1117 Elm Street (Rasmussen) - wood pile has been removed; cleanup has been completed; Chief of Police will check property again then email City Officials on his findings; **(3)** 1120 Custer Street (Gass) - cleanup has been completed; and **(4)** 810 Elm Street (Sonders) - Chief of Police Howard will assist with scrap metal cleanup. All the above nuisances will be removed from the nuisance process.

There was a brief discussion regarding the unregistered vehicles at 726 Howard Avenue. Council member Peters moved to approve requiring the vehicles be registered. The motion died for a lack of a second.

Municipal Code 4-315: Nuisances; Hearings.

The City Council was to hear testimony from all competent persons desiring to testify respecting the condition constituting the nuisance. At the conclusion of the hearing, the City Council shall, by resolution, declare its findings. The City Council may declare the condition existing to be a nuisance and direct the person owning the property to abate it within a reasonable time after the date of posting on the premises a notice of the adoption of the resolution and sending a notice. Council member Wilson moved to approve sending resolution abatement letters to the following properties listed below; the property owners are granted until Monday, July 21, 2025 to abate the nuisance. Failure to abate the nuisance will result in the nuisance being abated by the City, and the cost of abatement will be assessed against the property: **(1)** 1319 9th Street (Shriner - Resolution 2025-4); **(2)** 521 7th Street (Rasmussen - Resolution 2025-5); **(3)** 407 "L" Street (Weddle - Resolution 2025-6); and **(4)** 221 Jackson Street (McClay - Resolution 2025-7). Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters and Wilson voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items: (1) Treasurer's Report May 2025; (2) Minutes of June 2, 2025 (regular) and Minutes of June 10, 2025 (special); (3) Planning Commission Minutes June 9, 2025; and (4) Disbursements June 16, 2025, with the stipulation that the departmental code of Jim's Champlin's bill be changed from sewer to streets. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters & Wilson voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Disbursements June 16, 2025

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Amazon Capital Services (books) | 1060.39 |
| AT&T Mobility (service) | 443.6 |
| Aurora Cooperative (fuel) | 891.66 |
| Black Hills Energy (natural gas) | 886.62 |
| Charter/Spectrum (service) | 215.00 |
| Chesterman (concessions) | 229.94 |

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| City Lights (utilities) | | 8613.00 |
| Clearly (service) | | 198.35 |
| Consumer Deposit (DugOut Grille) Rental | (rental fee) | 250.00 |
| Core & Main (supplies) | | 23.98 |
| Custer County Recycling (service) | | 19.60 |
| Ecolab (service) | | 278.59 |
| Filter Care (supplies) | | 33.30 |
| First Concord Benefits (service) | | 135.00 |
| Hamilton Information Systems (contract) | | 1568.50 |
| Hawkins (chemicals) | | 4094.78 |
| Heartland Disposal (service) | | 5859.38 |
| Heritage Bank (City): Utility Billing ACH Fee | (fee) | 25.00 |
| Hesselgesser Electric (supplies) | | 477.30 |
| Homestead Bank (ACH fees) | | 24.00 |
| Homestead Bank (Petersen Bad Check Fee) | (fee) | 3.00 |
| Homestead Bank (Tjaden C) Bad Check Fee) | (fee) | 3.00 |
| Homestead Bank (Dubas M) Bad Check Fee) | (fee) | 3.00 |
| Hometown Leasing (contract) | | 39.12 |
| Hometown Market (supplies) | | 474.36 |
| Howard County Register of Deeds (fees) | | 10.00 |
| Howard Greeley RPPD (utilities) | | 126617.07 |
| Jerry's Sheet Metal (repair) | | 270.00 |
| Jim's Champlin (fuel) | | 2783.45 |
| Loup Valley Supply (supplies) | | 222.99 |
| MacQueen Equipment (supplies) | | 1177.17 |
| Mid-Nebraska Disposal (service) | | 5011.42 |
| MR Cleaning Service (service) | | 522.16 |
| NE Dept of Revenue: Submittal of Sales & Use Tax | (tax) | 12441.10 |
| One Call Concepts (service) | | 17.96 |
| Open Caret (service) | | 200.00 |
| Overland Ready Mixed (concrete) | | 1285.06 |
| Petty Cash (fees) | | 65.00 |
| Phonograph Herald (publish) | | 623.70 |
| Protective Equip Testing (supplies, testing) | | 411.58 |
| Quick Med Claims (service) | | 658.63 |
| S E Smith & Sons (supplies) | | 128.13 |
| Servi-Tech (lab) | | 203.00 |
| Smith Welding (repairs) | | 215.65 |
| T & R Electric (repair) | | 1867.56 |
| Triple T Disposal (service) | | 343.00 |
| US Post Office (postage) | | 525.00 |
| US Treasury (fee) | | 48.58 |
| Wesco (supplies) | | 885.39 |

Non-General Disbursements

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|---|------------------|----------|
| Sales Tax M. Mkt Transfer to Sales Tax Checking | (funds transfer) | 75000.00 |
| Sales Tax: St Paul Dev. Corp: Operating Draw #2 | (operating) | 35000.00 |
| Light ICS: Wesco - Middle Loup River (supplies) | | 57.23 |

Council member Kowalski moved to approve Bierman Contracting, Inc. (Fire Station Construction) Pay Request #12 in the amount of \$219,699.85. The pay request is regarding general conditions, site work, concrete foundations and flatwork, misc. steel fabrication and site items, casework material, finish carpentry, door and hardware material, aluminum storefront and canopies, acoustical ceilings, flooring, painting, Div. 10 - RR accessory and misc. materials, fire suppression systems, east storm drainage, plumbing, HVAC, and electrical. The funds will be disbursed from the Fire Station Construction Checking and Insured Cash Sweep (ICS) account. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters & Wilson voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Wilson moved to approve Dana F. Cole & Company LLP, Grand Island, NE 2025, 2026, and 2027 proposals regarding the (1) Financial Statement Audit; (2) Budget Compilation; (3) Keno Audit; and (4) Economic Development (Reconciliation of City and St. Paul Economic Development). The approval comes with the stipulation that the City doesn't need to go out for bids on the matter. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters & Wilson voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Wilson moved to approve Mayor Feeken's appointment of Attorney Drew A. Graham, Svehla Law Office P.C., York, NE as the City of St. Paul attorney effective immediately. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters & Wilson voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the City placing a liner inside an old clay sewer main pipe by the Hometown Market alley, 175 ft. east and 365 ft. west. The funds will be disbursed from the 25% Infrastructure fund in the amount of \$29,006.50. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters & Wilson voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0. The project will begin the first (1st) week of August 2025.

The City Officials were all in agreement to set the first 2025-2026 Budget Workshop on Tuesday, July 29, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

Utilities Superintendent Helzer updates included: (1) The Electric Dept. placed a light at Sheridan Street and "M" Street; and (2) the mosquito spraying machine has been calibrated and ready to be utilized.

Chief of Police Howard updates included: **(1)** the Police Dept. is applying for two (2) grants: (a) Preliminary Breath Test (PBT) Dry Gas grant and (b) Four (4) Preliminary Breath Test (PBT) devices; **(2)** two (2) City Police Officers will be attending the Police Officers Association of Nebraska (POAN) Conference this year; and **(3)** the St. Paul Police Dept. received new cell phones; they come with Statewide Radio System capabilities.


Mayor Mike Feeken updates: 1) Congratulations are in order regarding Deputy Clerk Laura Berthelsen receiving her "Certified Municipal Clerk" designation by the requirements prescribed by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC); (2) JEO Consulting Group will be performing the new Fire Station "punch list" on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the new Fire Station; and (3) Olsson's will be performing a Middle Loup River Subdivision and "M" Street walk-through and "punch list" on Thursday, June 19, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Intersection of Hwy 281 and Adams Street.

Public Announcements: There is a "Walk of Hope" on Saturday, June 21, 2025 for Angela Helzer at the St. Peter & Paul Catholic Church Life Center.

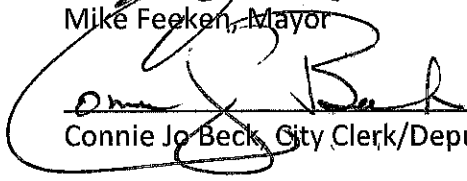
Mayor Feeken adjourned the City Council meeting at 7:49 p.m.

7-7-2025

Date



Mike Feecken, Mayor



Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer