

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

Monday, August 4, 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, August 4, 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 provided 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. 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 announced 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" with respect 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.

Mayor Feeken opened the public hearing at 6:31 p.m. regarding the City of St. Paul's 2025 One (1) and Six (6) Year Street Improvement program.

Council member Wilson moved to approve the "Dugout Grill LLC" #157286 Special Designated Liquor (SDL) application regarding a St. Paul Senior Center Barbecue Challenge on Saturday, August 23, 2025, from 2:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Wristbands will be utilized for underage drinking. A Certificate of Insurance regarding the General and Liquor liability is current at the City Office. A street closure was also approved for the event on 8th Street between Howard Avenue and Indian Street from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Council member Woodgate seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. City cones are requested for the event.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items: (1) Minutes July 21, 2025 (regular), Minutes July 29, 2025 (special), Minutes July 31, 2025 (special); (2) Disbursements August 4, 2025; and (3) Investment/Transfer of Funds: (a) Street Series 2025 Middle Loup River funds to Street ICS #103349 = \$132,646.25 ; (b) City Heritage Bank (Utilities) #411025 (\$300,000) to Light ICS #103217 = \$150,000, Water ICS #103225 = \$75,000, and Sewer ICS #103241 = \$75,000; (c) Elmwood Cemetery Savings #753122 to Elmwood Cemetery ICS #103446 = \$15,000; (d) Senior Center Account #504882 to Senior Center ICS #103373 = 7,500; and (e) REDLG Checking #301465 to REDLG ICS #103381 = \$150,000. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

August 4, 2025 Disbursements

Gross Wages - July 2025	132581.56
Amazon Capital Services (books)	106.13
American Playground & Rec (supplies)	270.00
Automatic Systems (service)	1327.50
Barco Municipal Products (supplies)	148.56
Bomgaars (supplies)	912.39
Cengage Group (books)	173.96
Charter/Spectrum (service)	404.97
City Health Deductible Savings (insurance)	5445.00
City of St. Paul Investment of Funds: City Heritage Bank #411025 to City ICS (Light; Water; Sewer) Accounts (invest funds)	300000.00
City of St. Paul Transfer of 2025 Bond Funds to Street Interest Acct (funds transfer)	132646.25
City of St. Paul 125 Plan (insurance)	90.00
Consumer Deposit: Rental Deposit: Midland Area on Aging (rental deposit)	250.00
Core & Main (supplies)	108.06
Custer County Recycling (Service)	17.80
Dutton Lainson (supplies)	1113.49
Eakes Office Supply (contract)	136.10
Ecolab (service)	203.59
Elan Financial Services (supplies, meals, parking, fees, postage)	1851.42
Elsbury Construction Pay Request #11 (Middle Loup River Final Pay Request)	422955.63
Hamilton Information System (computers)	3546.00
Hawkins (chemicals)	6013.08
Heartland Disposal (service)	392.45
Heritage Bank (City) Utilities Bill ACH Fee (fee)	25.00
Hometown Market (supplies)	366.50
Howard Co. Treasurer (Dispatch Fee)	3334.89
Howard Greeley RPPD (supplies)	421.04
Hydro Tech (supplies, service)	559.85
iSolved (contract)	450.00
John Deere Financial (supplies)	97.76

Kelly Supply Company (supplies)	2582.27
Loup Valley Supply (supplies)	105.00
MacQueen Equipment (repair)	11527.76
Medica (insurance)	20364.04
Menards (supplies)	144.98
MARC (supplies)	341.03
MR Cleaning Service (service)	522.16
NE State Volunteer Firefighters (membership)	142.50
NE Public Health Environ (lab)	16.00
Omaha World Herald (subscription)	559.49
OverDrive (books)	204.96
Overland Ready Mixed (concrete)	2966.81
Parts Bin (supplies)	138.19
Petty Cash (postage, car wash, supplies, reimbursement)	45.07
Reams Sprinkler Supply (supplies)	776.12
SE Smith & Sons (supplies)	775.80
Sargent Drilling Co (service)	1400.00
Servi-Tech (lab)	273.00
SOS Portable Toilets (service)	840.00
State of NE Central Svcs (telephone)	4.10
Sun Auto Tire & Service (repair)	15.00
Van Diest Supply (chemicals)	1306.10
Vogel Auto Repair (service)	179.95
Wesco Distribution (supplies)	5032.26

Non-General Disbursements

Sales Tax: GH Construction LLC "N" Welcome Sign (service)	8725.00
Fire Station Construction: JEO Consulting Eng Fees (eng fees)	4323.50
Fire Station Construction ICS to Fire Station Construction (transfer of funds) Checking to Pay JEO Consulting Engineer Fees	4323.50
Fire Station Construction: Bierman Contracting Pay Req #13 (pay request)	69453.56
Fire Station Construction NPAIT to Fire Station Construction Checking (transfer) for Pay Request #13	69453.56
Insured Cash Sweep (ICS) General and Lights: Elsbury #11 Draw (Transfer of Funds) to Checking Account #100027	422955.63
TIF: City: MAD Dev. TIF 1/2 Proceeds to Pay Assessment (TIF Proceeds)	727.59
TIF: MAD Dev. TIF 1/2 Proceeds (TIF Proceeds)	727.58
TIF: S Squared Enterprises: TIF Proceeds (TIF Proceeds)	4481.29
Sales Tax: Street: Mtr Veh Tax: May 2025 Proceeds (Mtr Veh Tax)	8997.96
Sales Tax: Fire Station: May 2025 Proceeds (Fire Station)	19982.80
Sales Tax: 25% Infrastructure: May 2025 Proceeds (25% Infrast)	9991.40
Keno: 51C Quarterly Tax Return (tax)	4573.00
REDLG Checking to REDLG ICS (invest of funds)	150000.00

Senior Center M. Mkt to Senior Center ICS (invest funds)	7500.00
Elmwood Cemetery Savings to Elmwood Cemetery ICS (invest funds)	15000.00
Sales Tax: Dugout Grill LLC Property Improvement Program (signature)	4175.00

Mayor Feeken opened the public comment period at 6:37 p.m. regarding the City of St. Paul's 2025 One (1) and Six (6) Year Street Improvement plan. Brian Friedrichsen with Olsson's, Grand Island, NE presented the 2025 One (1) and Six (6) Year Street Improvement Plan maps for review on each individual street project. The One (1) Year Street plan consists of: **(1)** East & West Alley between Howard Avenue and Grand Street and 7th Street and 8th Street (east half only); **(2)** 3rd Street - "O" to north city limits; and **(3)** Kendall Street - 6th Street to 4th Street; Jay Street - 6th Street to 4th Street. The Six (6) Year Street plan consists of 31 projects; three (3) additional streets were added from the Council. Even though the projects are in the One (1) and Six (6) Year Street Improvement plan, the City is not obligated to complete them. This has always been a planning process that is completed each year for the City to receive allocated highway funding. Mayor Feeken closed the public comment period at 6:54 p.m. Council member Woodgate moved to approve the City's 2025 One (1) and Six (6) Year Street Improvement plan as amended, along with Resolution 2025-09, whereas the City of St. Paul conducted a public hearing in accordance with the requirements of the Board of Public Roads Classification Standards. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Council member Woodgate questioned why the one (1) block gravel streets weren't paved yet; Council member Woodgate requested a goal to be set to pave the streets.

Council member Peters moved to approve the 2025 Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classification and Standards (NBCS), along with Resolution 2025-10, whereas the governing body authorizes the signing of the 2025 Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance by Mayor Feeken. Council member Woodgate seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Chief of Police Howard was in attendance to discuss three (3) property cleanup nuisances. Chief of Police Howard voiced that 221 Jackson Street (McClay) has completed the nuisance process. The discussion tonight was to give two (2) property owners until Monday, August 18, 2025 to abate the nuisance. Council member Wilson moved to approve providing the residents until Monday, August 18, 2025 to complete the cleanup; this is due to the properties displaying improvements: (1) 521 7th Street (Rasmussen) and (2) 407 "L" Street (Weddle). Council member Woodgate seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve the City of St. Paul paying a Smith Welding invoice for the Street Dept. in the amount of \$12,680 in two (2) installments. The disbursements of funds will occur in the Fiscal Year of 2024-2025 = \$6,340 and Fiscal Year 2025-2026 = \$6,340. The invoice pertains to lining a dump box and for a box extension. Council member

Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Woodgate moved to approve Mayor Feeken's appointment of Judy Johnson and Andrew Costello to take the place of Sally Einspahr and Joe Mlinar on the Citizens Advisory Review Committee (CARC) Board. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. The Mayor and Council members thanked Ms. Einspahr and Mr. Mlinar for their dedicated service on the CARC Board.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve an increase in the City Police part-time hourly wage from \$21 to \$25, effective October 1, 2025. The item was discussed at the City's 2025-2026 Budget Workshop on July 29, 2025. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Howard County Deputy Paul Tartaglia was in attendance to discuss storing a Special Response Team (SRT) armored vehicle temporarily at the City north electrical yards. Council member Kowalski moved to approve the SRT armored vehicle to be stored at the City Electrical yards temporarily, along with Howard County Law Enforcement utilizing the NE State Patrol key for entry purposes. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council member Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. The Howard County Sheriff's Office will provide the City of St. Paul a Certificate of Insurance from the NE Intergovernmental Risk Management (NIRMA) pertaining to the Special Response Team (SRT).

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the south Middle Loup River Bridge erosion problem. Topics of discussion included: (1) City of St. Paul and Howard County undertaking a joint venture on the project; (2) the involvement of other entities; (3) forming of Interlocal Agreements; (4) selection of engineers; and (5) obtaining grant funding. City Officials want to ensure that St. Paul funds are expended for St. Paul; there was no voting on funding at tonight's meeting. A group of persons are to meet on Wednesday, August 6, 2025 regarding the Middle Loup River erosion problem. The Howard County Commissioners will discuss the issue on Tuesday, August 12, 2025. The City of St. Paul and Howard County currently will keep conversations open regarding the matter.

Chief of Police Dan Howard provided several nuisances pertaining to the first (1st) of the month: (1) 918 Custer Street (Wayne/Lorna Wood): weeds and junk; (2) 304 8th Street (Dave Eiberger): tree limb and weeds; (3) 404 Farnum Street (Tom Ummel): unsafe structure; needs temporary fence; and (4) 315 4th Street (Mike/Elizabeth Rawlings): two (2) unsafe manufactured homes and shed. Council member Woodgate moved to approve Chief of Police Howard sending out first (1st) notice letters to the above nuisances. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Chief of Police Howard provided updates: (1) performing inventory pertaining to the Police shop container; (2) the City excess sale of property will be on the agenda for Monday, October

6, 2025; and (3) model noise complaint ordinances; there will be a committee meeting in the near future.

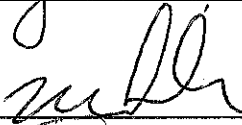
Utilities Superintendent Helzer updates: (1) "National Night Out" on Tuesday, August 5, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., by the Howard County Historical Park; the Electrical Dept. will provide two (2) bucket trucks for kids rides; (2) the City is required to retain 110% of the Total Annual Payment of the NE Dept. of Water, Energy & Environment (NDWEE) Sewer Loan in a reserve account until paid in full; (3) the City Swimming Pool will close on Sunday, August 10, 2025; and (4) the painting of the swimming pool will begin in the next two (2) weeks.

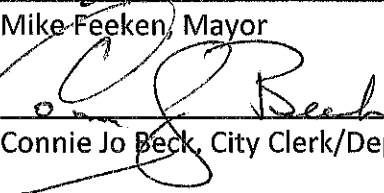
Mayor Feeken stated that the final approval of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) 1597 Agreement will be on the Council agenda, Monday, August 18, 2025; the Agreement is for a three (3) year term.

A special meeting will be held on Monday, August 18, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. prior to regular Council meeting (6:30 p.m.) to review the 2025-2026 Budget.

Mayor Feeken adjourned the City Council meeting at 7:57 p.m.

August 18, 2025
Date


Mike Feeken, Mayor


Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer