

City of St. Paul Regular Meeting  
704 6<sup>th</sup> Street  
St. Paul, NE 68873

**Monday, October 20, 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, October 20, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. Present were Mayor Mike Feeken and Council members Katie Kowalski, Bill Peters, & Jerry Woodgate. Absent: Council member Wilson. 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 5:30 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 managed 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.

**5:30 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING:**

Mayor Feeken opened the public hearing at 5:31 p.m. regarding the recommendation from the LB840 (Sales Tax) Citizens Advisory Review Committee (CARC) report on Thursday, September 18, 2025, at the St. Paul Civic Center (423 Howard Avenue).

Council member Kowalski moved to approve Blake Schwartz's (Homeplate Market) request to extend the south parking at 222 "O" Street an additional five feet (5') into the "O" Street right-of-way. This will provide people with more space to back up. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0. Utilities Superintendent stated that there will be a concrete curb and gutter along "O" Street. Mr. Schwartz was present to answer questions.

Randy Hellbusch with the Nebraska Rural Water Association was in attendance to perform an overview of the Water and Sewer Rate study that was conducted for the City of St. Paul. Council member Woodgate moved to approve amending the water and sewer rates according to the recommendations of the NE Rural Water Association on Monday, November 3, 2025, by ordinance. The water will follow a three (3) year rate structure, and the sewer will follow a one (1) year rate structure for three (3) years. The effective date of the new water and sewer rates will be January 1, 2026. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Mayor Feeken opened the public comment period at 6:08 p.m. regarding the recommendations from the LB840 (Sales Tax) Citizens Advisory Review Committee (CARC) report from Thursday, September 18, 2025, that was held at the St. Paul Civic Center (423 Howard Avenue). St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) Executive Director Parker Klinginsmith was in attendance to perform a summary of the Citizens Advisory Review Committee (CARC) report. Mayor Feeken closed the public comment period at 6:23 p.m. Council member Kowalski moved to approve the recommendations from the LB840 (Sales Tax) Citizens Advisory Review Committee (CARC), along with the Citizens Advisory Review Committee (CARC) sending a letter of loan payment delinquency to the business referenced in the report. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the St. Paul Youth Sports Association request to install two (2) 200,000 BTU forced air gas heaters in the City batting cage building. This will allow the facility to be utilized safely and effectively during cold months and provide more opportunities for athletes to train. The item was tabled until the St. Paul Youth Sports Association can be in attendance to answer questions.

#### PUBLIC HEARING AT 6:30 P.M.

Mayor Feeken opened the public hearing at 6:34 p.m. regarding a Class D liquor license application pertaining to K S Plus, Inc. (Kwik Stop 21), Job Number #124554. A Nebraska Class D liquor license allows a business to sell alcoholic liquor (beer, wine, and distilled spirits) for consumption "off the premises" in the original unbroken package only.

**UNSAFE BUILDINGS:** Michael and Elizabeth Rawlings unsafe buildings located in Lots Two (2) and N 2/3 Lot Three (3), Block 100, Original Town, St. Paul, NE.

On August 4, 2025, Chief of Police Dan Howard had several 1st of the month nuisances on the Council agenda, which also included: two (2) unsafe buildings and a shed located at 315 4th Street. On Friday, August 8, 2025, a letter was delivered to 402 Custer Street (Michael & Elizabeth Rawlings) regarding Municipal Code 9-403: Unsafe Buildings; Determination and Notice. The letter stated that the condition must be remedied within sixty (60) days from the date of receipt of the notice. Also, the City Clerk did not receive a ten (10) day appeal letter from Mr. and Mrs. Rawlings pertaining to a hearing before the Governing Body. This condition has not been resolved. Items for discussion included: (1) back taxes on one (1) of the trailers; (2) NE Statute on abandoned property; and (3) bid letting regarding the removal of the trailers. The item was tabled, due to Chief of Police Howard contacting Howard County Commissioners

regarding removing the property tax debt, along with Council member Woodgate visiting with owner regarding the unsafe trailers and shed.

Mayor Feeken opened the comment period at 6:55 p.m. regarding K S Plus, Inc. (Kwik Stop 21) Class D Liquor License application. The Mayor and Council had a brief discussion on placing a condition on the Class D liquor license application, which included the removal of panels south of the business. Mayor Feeken closed the public comment period at 6:57 p.m. Council member Woodgate moved to approve the K S Plus, Inc. (Kwik Stop 21) Class D Liquor license application with the stipulation that the south panels next to the building be removed from the premises. Motion failed for a lack of a second. Council member Kowalski moved to approve the Class D Liquor license application, with no stipulations. Motion failed for a lack of a second. City Clerk Beck will contact the NE Liquor Control Commission regarding placing conditions on a liquor license application.

Council member Peters moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items: (1) Treasurer's Report September 2025; (2) Minutes of October 6, 2025 (regular); and (3) Disbursements of October 20, 2025. Council member Woodgate seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

**Disbursements October 20, 2025**

Amazon Capital Services (books)		424.23
AT&T Mobility (service)		502.26
Aurora Cooperative (fuel)		1058.32
Automatic Systems (service)		401.24
Black Hills Energy (natural gas)		732.82
BTS Communications (telephone)		1060.18
Central District Health Dept (lab)		156.00
Charter Spectrum (service)		215.00
Christensen Concrete (concrete)		500.80
City Lights (utilities)		8445.43
City of St. Paul Transfer from City #411025 to City #100027 (trfr to pay disb)		25000.00
Clearly (service)		198.75
Consumer Deposit Rental Fee (Benfield)	(rental fee)	250.00
Custer County Recycling (service)		15.30
Dutton Lainson (supplies)		1789.71
Ecolab (service)		145.81
Elmwood Cemetery (service)		100.00
Hawkins (chemicals)		3266.20
Heartland Disposal (service)		5623.26
Homestead Bank (fees)		29.60
Homestead Bank: Wire Fee Outgoing Bond Pymt 10-1-25	(wire fee)	8.00
Hometown Leasing (lease)		39.12
Howard Greeley RPPD (utilities)		151286.38
Jim's Champlin (fuel)		2306.86

John Deere Financial (supplies)	44.16
Menards (supplies)	51.54
Mid-Nebraska Disposal (service)	5138.04
Municipal Supply (supplies)	70.00
NE Dept of Agriculture (fees)	113.46
NE Dept of Revenue: Form 10: Sales Tax Submittal (sales tax submittal)	14047.14
NE Library Commission (fee)	500.00
Olsson (service)	933.82
One Call Concepts (service)	20.81
Overland Ready Mixed (concrete)	2712.94
Phonograph Herald (publish)	703.33
Pioneer Door (supplies)	116.10
Protective Equip Testing Lab (testing)	215.75
Pulse Finders LLC (supplies)	1200.00
Quick Med Claims (service)	1692.17
Road Builders (service)	1832.43
Rose Equipment (supplies)	223.32
Sample, Mathew (reimb)	13.00
Servi-Tech (lab)	143.50
SiteOne Landscape Supply (supplies)	1941.17
Smith Welding (service)	3522.51
St. Paul Public School (custodian, supplies)	2699.90
St. Paul Veterinary Clinic (fee)	400.00
Sun Auto Tire & Service (repair)	35.00
Svehla Law Office (legal)	716.50
Triple T Disposal (service)	407.00
US Post Office (postage)	540.00
Wesco Distribution (supplies)	1377.48

**Non-General Disbursements**

Park Grant: Olsson (engineering fees)	5903.95
Sales Tax: Leth Auto Repair: Property Improvement (improvements)	681.88
TIF: City of St. Paul: MAD Dev. 1/2 Share #8660 (tif proceeds)	813.34
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Fire Construction: JEO Consulting Group: Eng. Fees Inv #165131 (eng fees)	2379.00
ICS (Fire Construction) to CKG (Fire Construction) to Pay JEO Consulting (transfer)	2379.00
Park Alum Can Fund: American Fence: deductible for fence repair (repair)	1000.00
City ICS to Park Grant 505410 to pay Diamond Eng Draw #1 (transfer)	161332.47
Park Grant: Diamond Engineering (improvements)	161332.47
Park Money Mkt: American Fence: ballfield fence repair less deductible (repair)	23480.00

Council member Peters moved to approve Diamond Engineering Co. Pay Request #1 pertaining to the St. Paul Tennis and Pickleball Courts (Project #025-0534) in the amount of \$161,332.47. The pay request includes mobilization, 5-inch reinforced concrete court paving, a 10-foot-tall, galvanized chain link fence, and a 6-foot-tall, galvanized chain link fence. Funds will be disbursed from the General ICS to pay for the Diamond Engineering Drawdown #1, then be reimbursed back by the State of NE through the Park Improvement Grant fund. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve Resolution 2025-13, whereas the City of St. Paul Council directs the sale of surplus personal property by online bidding through Purple Wave Auction. There will be no reserve bidding. The City items will be sold from November 1 through November 30, 2025. The Clerk shall cause notice and terms of the sale to be posted pursuant to Neb Rev Stat. 17-503.02. It has been determined that the fair market value of such property is less than \$5,000 and notice of the sale of property will be posted in three (3) prominent places within the City for a period of not less than seven (7) days prior to the sale in accordance with Neb Rev Stat 17-503.01. Council member Woodgate seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 3/0.

Next on the agenda was the discussion regarding St. Paul Police Officer Matt Sample attending Basic SWAT training at Grey Group, Des Moines, IA. The cost of the training and related costs has been accounted for in the 2025-2026 Budget in the amount of \$4,000. The topic in question pertained to a Workman's Compensation issue. The item will be reviewed again in February 2026.

Utilities Superintendent Helzer updates included (1) Elsbury Construction to repair Middle Loup River Subdivision sand in sewer main; and (2) City is renting a crane from MRL Crane for tree removal in the south City Park on Wednesday, October 22, 2025; Park Improvement grant funds will absorb the \$1,500 cost.

Chief of Police Howard updates: St. Paul Police Department received from Federal Surplus four (4) rifles and four (4) Glock pistols; items need to be placed on insurance and inventory.

Mayor Mike Feeken updates:(1) City received a letter from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District dated October 8, 2025, regarding the Middle Loup River erosion problem; and (2) the State of NE sent a "Notice of Termination of Lease" letter pertaining to the City Northyards at 956 13th Avenue; the NE State Patrol was utilizing a City building.

Public Announcements: St. Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) Executive Director Parker Klinginsmith introduced Lisa Woodgate. Mrs. Woodgate will be replacing SPDC Executive Director Parker Klinginsmith at the end of this week.

Mayor Feeken adjourned the City Council meeting at 7:28 p.m.

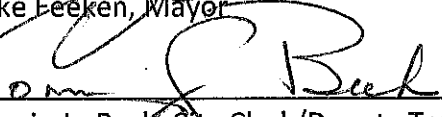
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Date



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Mike Feecken, Mayor



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Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer