

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

Monday, December 1, 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, December 1, 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 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.

Mayor Mike Feeken took nominations from the Council members regarding the appointment of a new Council President.

Council member Wilson moved to nominate Woodgate as Council President from December 1, 2025, to December 7, 2026. Council member Kowalski ceased nominations. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Council member Jerry Woodgate will be the Council President.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve Mayor Feeken signing letters to place the new Council President on the City of St. Paul's signature cards. The accounts include (1) Homestead Bank; (2) Citizens Bank & Trust; and (3) NPAIT. Council member Wilson seconded the motion.

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

Mayor Mike Feeken voiced his 2025-2026 City Appointments.

Council member Wilson moved to approve Mayor Feeken's 2025-2026 City of St. Paul Appointments. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Mayor Feeken extended his sincere appreciation to the volunteer members that dedicate their time to the City of St. Paul.

2025-2026 CITY OF ST. PAUL APPOINTMENTS

- CITY MAYOR MIKE FEEKEN (1-2-2024)
- COUNCIL PRESIDENT
(Per NE Stat. §17-148) GERALD "JERRY" WOODGATE
- CITY CLERK / DEPUTY TREASURER CONNIE JO BECK (4/2010)
- DEPUTY CLERK LAURA BERTHELSEN (4/2020)
- CITY ATTORNEY
(6/16/2025) DREW A. GRAHAM (Svehla Law)
- CITY TREASURER SALLY EINSPAHR (8/2020)
- CHIEF OF POLICE DANIEL K HOWARD (6/23/21)
- ZONING ADMINISTRATOR MATTHEW HELZER (12/2014)
- **CITY ENGINEER/STREET SUPER.** **BRIAN FRIEDRICHSEN, OLSSON**
Street Superintendent (Class A) S-1704;
Engineer License: E-17653
- UTILITIES SUPERINTENDENT MATTHEW HELZER (1/2015)
- LIGHT COMMISSIONER JAMES SUMMERS
- SEWER COMMISSIONER TRAE ANDERSON (2-9-24)
- FIRE CHIEF MICHAEL BECKER
- WATER COMMISSIONER JEREMY GORECKI (11-2022)

- ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF MARK WILSON; LEO HAGGERTY;
and CHAD AUGUSTYN
- STREET COMMISSIONER JAMIE KLANECKY (6/2020)
- CEMETERY SEXTON RONNIE SWITZER
- PARK / CEMETERY (MGR) RANDY JERABEK
- CITY PHYSICIAN DR. CHRIS TOMHAVE
- PLANNING BOARD DAN SCHEER (10-23-23)
TONY WALCH
CONNIE BECKER
TYLER SOLKO, Chairman (11-13-23)
ARVILLA JACOBS
MATTHEW HELZER (Zoning Adm)
LAURA BERTHELSEN (Minutes)
- BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT MEL FULLER, Chairman (2022)
BRIAN KNAPP
PLANNING & ZONING MEMBER
CHARLES "CHUCK" SCHMID (12-16-24)
Alt: MELVIN SCHMADERER (In Town)
Alt: GLEN KILLION (1 Mile)
- LIBRARY BOARD DAN NIELSEN 2024 (City)
(Every other month: 3rd Wed) DEB WELLS 2025 (City)
JANET ELSTERMEIER 2023 (City)
TARA SJUTES 2025 (School)
JILL PAULSEN 2023 (School)
ADAM RENSCH 2025 (School)
- HOUSING AUTHORITY TODD PETERS (2022 – 2026)
(2nd Wednesday of Month at 10 a.m.) PARKER KLINGINSMITH (Nov. 2021 to
Nov. 2025)
THEDA VANHORN (2022 – 2026)
SALLY EINSPAHR (2022 – 2026)
CINDI MENDYK (9-2021 TO 2024)
- LOUP CENTRAL LANDFILL BILL PETERS AND
(3rd Thursday of Month; KATIE KOWALSKI, ALT.
Dec-Mar 7pm / Apr-Nov 7:30pm at
Elba Community Center)
- HO. CO. DISPATCHER BOARD MIKE FEEKEN, MAYOR AND
DANIEL HOWARD, CHIEF OF POLICE

- CITIZENS ADVISORY LB840

EMILY VANIS (4-17-23)
 JUDY JOHNSON (2025)
 ANDREW COSTELLO (2025)
 JULIE GAWRYCH (2021)
 LARRY HURLBURT
 CONNIE JO BECK, Ex Officio
 LISA WOODGATE, SPDC Exe. Dir/
 St. Paul Civic Center Coordinator
- RURAL FIRE BOARD LIAISON
 (2nd Monday - even months)

MARK WILSON (12-16-24)
- REPRESENTATIVE TO ACE

MIKE FEEKEN, MAYOR AND
 COUNCIL PRESIDENT
- CITY HEALTH BOARD

MAYOR, COUNCIL PRESIDENT, CHIEF
 OF POLICE AND CITY PHYSICIAN
- SENIOR CENTER LIAISON

MIKE FEEKEN
- ELMWOOD CEMETERY BOARD
 (Meeting: 2nd Wed. of Month)

GERALD SOLKO, Treasurer (12-7-20)
 RANDY JERABEK, Cemetery Manager
 GENE RICE, Vice-President
 PAMILIA SWITZER, President
 TODD PETERS
 BETTY CZARNEK, Secretary
 TRACEY DIETZ
 BILL PETERS, City Liaison
 RONNIE SWITZER, Sexton
- ELMWOOD CEMETERY FOUND.
 (8/17/20)

JERRY WOODGATE, PRESIDENT (2024)
 GERALD SOLKO, SECRETARY
 STEFFANY TARTAGLIA, TREASURER
 GENE RICE, BOARDMEMBER
 RANDY JERABEK, BOARDMEMBER
- CITY TREE BOARD

ROBIN ELSTERMEIER
 GENE RICE
 AL BRENNAN
 LINDA FULLER
Vacancy
 JAMIE KLANECKY, Street Commissioner
 MATT HELZER, Utilities Superintendent
 LAURA BERTHELSEN (minutes)

Council member Kowalski moved to approve Resolution 2025-14; naming City of St. Paul Council member Bill Peters to the Loup Central Landfill board, and naming Council member Katie Kowalski as the alternate representative when the Loup Central Landfill representative cannot attend the meeting. 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 Resolution 2025-15; whereas by the State of Nebraska Statutes, Section 39-2302, and 39-2511 through 39-2515 details the requirements that must be met in order for a municipality to qualify for an annual incentive payment; and the State Dept. of Transportation (NDOT) requires that each incorporated municipality must annually certify (by December 31 of each year) the appointment of the City Street Superintendent to NDOT using the "Year End Certification of City Street Superintendent" form. 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 signing the "Year End Certification of City Street Superintendent" for determining the incentive payment from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025. Brian Friedrichsen is the City of St. Paul's 2025 City Street Superintendent, License Number S-1704, Class A and Engineer's License Number E-17653. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Woodgate introduced Ordinance No. 1065; amending Article 1 of Chapter 3 of the St. Paul Municipal Code; to amend Section 3-131 of Chapter 3 pertaining to the minimum rates to be charged to customers of the Municipal Water System; to repeal any ordinance, or parts of any ordinance in conflict with this ordinance; to provide for the effective date of such ordinance; and to provide for the publication of this ordinance. Council member Kowalski waived the three (3) readings of Ordinance No. 1065 on three (3) different occasions. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, & Woodgate voted aye, Council member Wilson voted nay. Motion carried 3/1. Council member Woodgate moved for final passage of Ordinance No. 1065. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, & Woodgate voted aye, Council member Wilson voted nay. Motion carried 3/1. Ordinance No. 1065 will be effective January 1, 2025.

Council member Woodgate introduced Ordinance #1066; amending Article 2 of Chapter 3 of the St. Paul Municipal Code; to amend Section 3-245 of Chapter 3 pertaining to the rates to be charged to customers of the Municipal Sewer System; to repeal any ordinance, or parts of any ordinance in conflict with this ordinance; to provide for the effective date of such ordinance; and to provide for the publication of this ordinance. Council member Kowalski waived the three (3) readings of Ordinance No. 1066 on three (3) different occasions. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Peters moved for final passage of Ordinance No. 1066. Council member Woodgate seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Ordinance No. 1066 will be effective January 1, 2025.

Council member Wilson moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items: (1) Minutes November 17, 2025; (2) Planning Commission Minutes November 17, 2025; and (3) Disbursements December 1, 2025. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

December 1, 2025 Disbursements

Gross Payroll - November 2025	112336.81
Amazon Capital Services (books)	908.56
Automatic Systems (supplies)	5442.60
Blackburn Manufacturing (supplies)	219.16
BOK Financial (bonds)	266131.93
Bomgaars (supplies)	3470.52
Cengage Learning (books)	65.58
City Health Deductible Savings (insurance)	5808.00
City 125 Plan (insurance)	90.00
Custer County Recycling (service)	16.60
Eakes Office Solutions (copier)	582.74
Elan Financial Svcs (postage, supplies, car washes, fees)	4940.66
Galls (uniforms)	801.44
Greenough, Jarod (uniform)	402.47
Grone's Outdoor Power (supplies)	28.81
Heartland Clerks Assn (dues)	20.00
Homestead Bank: Wire Fee Bond Pymts (wire fee)	8.00
Howard Co Reg of Deeds (fees)	30.00
Howard Co Treasurer (dispatch fee)	3481.65
Howard Greeley RPPD (supplies)	722.47
Island Sprinkler Supply (supplies)	112.80
Justice Data Solutions (service)	2150.00
Leth Auto Repair (service)	71.25
Madison Nat'l Life (insurance)	212.90
Medica (insurance)	20364.04
NE Dept of Water, Energy & Environ (loan)	100719.88
On The Spot Cleaning (service)	290.00
OverDrive (books)	290.28
Penworthy (books)	422.29
Petty Cash (fuel, supplies, fees)	27.00
Road Builders Machinery (supplies)	222.96
SE Smith & Sons (supplies)	13.18
Sample, Mathew (reimb)	13.00
Servi-Tech (lab)	327.00
Svehla Law Office (legal)	195.00
TASC (fees)	1327.24
Thiel Tire & Auto (service)	47.12

Wesco (supplies)	3707.05
Zig's Four Wheel Drive (repair)	2471.67

Non-General

Keno: St. Paul Development Corp: Civic Center Gym Divider (gym divider)	5000.00
Sales Tax: St. Paul Development Corp: Middle Loup Eng Fees (eng fees)	1829.04
Sales Tax: Street: Mtr Veh Tax: Sept 2025 Proceeds (Mtr Veh Tax)	4743.23
Sales Tax: Fire Station: Sept 2025 Proceeds (Fire Station)	16552.29
Sales Tax: 25% Infrastructure: Sept 2025 Proceeds (25% Infrast)	8276.15
Health Ded: Medica OneSource - reimb health deductibles (fees)	107.97
City Keno M. Mkt Transfer to City Keno ICS (invest funds)	30000.00
City Sewer M. Mkt Transfer to City Sewer ICS (invest funds)	15000.00
City 25% Infrast to City 25% Infrast. ICS (invest funds)	60000.00
City Fire Station Proceeds to City Fire Station Proceed ICS (invest funds)	75000.00
Park Grant: McCarty Construction - sidewalks/picnic shelters (contract)	49350.00
Park Grant: McCarty Construction - picnic shelter #2/concrete (contract)	27700.00

Council member Peters moved to approve transfer of funds to be invested into the Insured Cash Sweep (ICS) accounts at Citizens Bank and Trust: (1) Keno Money Market to Keno ICS in the amount of \$30,000; (2) Sewer Money Market to Sewer ICS in the amount of \$15,000; (3) 25% Infrastructure to 25% Infrastructure ICS in the amount of \$60,000; and (4) Fire Station Proceeds to Fire Station Proceeds ICS in the amount of \$75,000. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Chief of Police Dan Howard didn't present any new 1st of the month nuisances. There was a brief discussion regarding the cleanup of the Padrnos property at 1220 Farnum.


Chief of Police Dan Howard updates: (1) Activity Report; (2) St. Paul Police Dept. received a grant from the Suzanne and Walter Scott Foundation (Jack Lewis Safety Fund Grant) in the amount of \$11,000 for an Intoximeter; and (3) traffic fines are double for violations on streets by the St. Paul Public School; signage to be purchased.

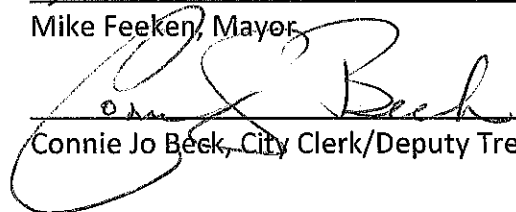
Utilities Superintendent Helzer updates: (1) City snow removal; (2) the America Tower lease will be reviewed at the Council meeting on Monday, December 15, 2025; and (3) Purple Wave auction deadline is Tuesday, December 2, 2025 pertaining to the selling of City property.

Mayor Feeken updates: (1) City Clerk Beck will move Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust (NPAIT) funds into an NPAIT three (3) month investment; (2) Skilled Gaming machines; and (3) IBEW 1597 Union language regarding the Sewer Commissioner and Sewer Operator increase in hourly wages; the language will be sent to Ed Thompson, IBEW 1597 Union Representative.

Mayor Feeken adjourned the City Council meeting at 7:01 p.m.

December 15, 2025
Date


Mike Feeken, Mayor


Connie Jo Beek, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer
