

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

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

A meeting of the Mayor and City Council of the City of St. Paul, Nebraska was held at City Hall in said City on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, 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 Feeken opened the "Public Hearing" at 6:31 p.m. to consider a Development Agreement between the City of St. Paul and Troy and Delcie Lukasiewicz regarding the deferral of paving special assessment related to the vacated Third (3rd) Street lying between Blocks 34 and 35, Original Town, St. Paul, NE as referred to in the City ordinance record filed in Miscellaneous Book 26, Page 385.

Bryan Robinson was in attendance to discuss the donation of carpet/glue to the City of St. Paul. Mr. Robinson provided two (2) carpet color samples to choose from. Chief of Police Dan Howard will install the carpet as time permits once he is cleared from workman's comp. light duty. Council member Wilson moved to approve the donation of carpet/glue from Bryan Robinson. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters,

Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Mayor Feeken extended his appreciation for the carpet and apologized for the timing issue. The carpet will be delivered Friday, February 20, 2026.

St. Paul Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jordan Bottolfson was in attendance to request the Grover Cleveland Alexander (GCA) Days street closures and barricade request. Council member Kowalski moved to approve the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce "Grover Cleveland Alexander" (GCA) Days street closings and request for City barricades on Saturday, July 11, 2026. The street closings include: (1) Parade from 6:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Howard Avenue between 4th and 8th Streets; (2) Street dance from 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. on Howard Avenue between 6th and 7th Streets; (3) Other closings: Indian Street between 4th and 6th Streets from 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; 5th Street between Howard Avenue and Indian Street (food trucks); and 4th Street between Indian and Jay Streets. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Mrs. Bottolfson stated that the Bed Head Coffee Shop alley will remain open for customer service. The City is requesting a list of business name signatures regarding the closing of Howard Avenue pertaining to the GCA Day events.

Mayor Feeken opened the public comment period at 6:47 p.m. to consider a Development Agreement between the City of St. Paul and Troy and Delcie Lukasiewicz regarding the deferral of paving special assessment related to the vacated Third (3rd) Street lying between Blocks 34 and 35, Original Town, St. Paul, NE as referred to in the City ordinance record filed in Miscellaneous Book 26, Page 385. City Utilities Superintendent Helzer provided a brief history of the easement between Block 34 and Block 35, Original Town, St. Paul, NE. Mayor Feeken closed the public comment period at 6:56 p.m.

Council member Woodgate moved to approve the Development Agreement between the City of St. Paul, NE and Troy M. Lukasiewicz and Delcie L. Lukasiewicz, husband and wife, regarding the deferral of paving special assessment related to all the vacated Third (3rd) Street lying between Blocks 34 and 35, Original Town of St. Paul, Howard County, NE, as referred to in the City Ordinance Record filed in Miscellaneous Book 26, Page 385 (the "Vacated Right-of-Way"). Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. The next step is for Olsson's to create a paving district for the area. Utilities Superintendent Helzer stated that 25% Infrastructure (sales tax) funds can be utilized for the project; the funds will be compensated back when the land is developed or when the lots are sold.

St Paul Development Corp. (SPDC) Executive Director Lisa Woodgate was in attendance to discuss the St. Paul Grocery, LLC. Property Improvement project pertaining to signage on the east and south side of the building. Mrs. Woodgate stated that SPDC did not take this application lightly when they recommended denying the application. Council member Kowalski moved with regret to deny the St. Paul Grocery, LLC. (Home Plate Market) Property Improvement application regarding the exterior signage in the amount of \$10,000. Council member Woodgate seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson and Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0. Blake Schwartz, St. Paul Grocery store stated that he respects SPDC's recommendation to deny.

A brief discussion ensued regarding City Police Officer Mathew Sample attending the "Special Weapon and Tactics" (SWAT) course in Des Moines, Iowa on May 4-8, 2026. Chief of Police Howard stated that SWAT training is mandatory for all Officers on the Central Nebraska "Special Response Team" (SRT). A breakdown of cost was provided to the Mayor and Council; funds are allocated in the 2025-2026 Budget. Council member Wilson moved to approve Officer Sample attending the SWAT training in Des Moines, IA. Council member Kowalski seconded the motion. Council member Kowalski and Wilson voted aye, Council member Peters and Woodgate voted nay. Mayor Feeken voted aye to break the tie, motion carried 3-2.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the operations of lightweight E-Scooters, E-Bikes and Hoverboards. Topics included: (1) marked crossings; (2) no other passengers allowed on the above devices; (3) arm signals; (4) walking your device across US Hwy 281, instead of riding; and (5) public safety in educating kids in school. The item was tabled until the Mayor and Council members provide Chief of Police Howard with their additions, deletion, and changes. The agenda item will be discussed again at the City Council meeting on Monday, March 2, 2026.

Council member Woodgate moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items: (1) Treasurer's Report of January 2026; (2) Minutes of February 2, 2026 (regular); (3) Disbursements of February 17, 2026, with the stipulation that the LARM invoice is pulled from the disbursement, due to clarification regarding the Rural Economic Development Loan Grant (REDLG) insurance policy; and (4) Matt Helzer, Trevor Kowalski, and Dillon Paczosa attending the NE Rural Water Association (Wastewater) training on Wednesday, February 18, 2026, in Wood River, NE; Trae Anderson attending a Grade 3 Water Operator Class on April 13-17, 2026 in Grand Island, NE; and Dillon Paczosa attending a Grade 3 Water Operator Class on October 19-23, 2026, in Lincoln, NE. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

February 17, 2026, Disbursements

Amazon Capital Services (books)	244.32
AT&T Mobility (service)	631.41
Aurora Coop (fuel)	734.17
Black Hills Energy (natural gas)	4243.92
Bockman Auto Sales (service)	108.62
Charter Communications (service)	510.00
City Lights (utilities)	9748.74
Clearly (service)	198.97
Consumer Deposit: Bonilla Rental Fee (rental fee)	250.00
Custer County Recycling (Service)	34.20
Danko Emergency Equip (service)	1937.50
Dutton Lainson (supplies)	70.58
Elmwood Cemetery (service)	300.00
FedEx (fees)	27.75
Hamilton Information (service)	1568.50
Hamilton Infor Sys Aurora NE: Cyber Grant #1: (cyber grant #1)	18050.00

Hansen International Truck (supplies)	29.11
Heartland Disposal (service)	5531.76
Heritage Bank: Utility Bill ACH Fee for Jan 2026 (UB ACH Fee)	25.00
Holiday Inn Kearney (lodging)	259.90
Homestead Bank (fees)	21.80
Homestead Bank: Bad Ck Fee Kim B (bad check fee)	3.00
Hometown Leasing (contract)	39.12
Howard Greeley RPPD (utilities)	172746.28
HTM Sales (supplies)	190.00
Jim's Champlin (fuel)	1323.21
LARM (insurance)	856.50
Menards (supplies)	68.37
MicroMarketing LLC (books)	41.98
Mid-Nebraska Disposal (service)	5262.71
NE Dept of Revenue: Sales & Use Tax Submittal (tax submittal)	17001.28
NE DWEE (education)	400.00
NE DWEE (permit)	40.00
On the Spot Cleaning (service)	290.00
One Call Concept (service)	11.87
Open Caret (service)	200.00
Phonograph Herald (publish)	501.98
Platte Valley Communications (service)	596.75
Quick Med Claims (service)	395.93
S E Smith & Sons (supplies)	164.54
Sample, Mathew (reimb)	13.00
Servi-Tech (lab)	177.00
St. Paul Vet Clinic (fees)	155.00
Svehla Law Office (legal)	476.00
Thiel Tire & Auto (service)	150.55
Triple T Disposal (service)	450.50
US Postal Service (postage)	540.00
Utilities Section of LONM (education)	690.00
Wells Plumbing (service)	2503.05
Wesco (supplies)	1920.00

Non-General Disbursements

Health Ded: Medica OneSource - reimb health ded (fees)	31.59
Sales Tax Transfer: M. Mkt to Ckg (transfer funds)	75000.00
Sales Tax: Homestead Bank: Civic Center Loan Pymt (loan pymt)	70000.00
Sales Tax (#504420) check order fee (check order fee)	16.33
Sales Tax: Cline Williams Law-TIF issues (legal)	432.00

Sales Tax: Svehla Law Office - Rasmussen Auto (legal)	2550.00
Park Grant: McCarty Construction (labor)	4250.00
Park Grant: MccCarty Construction (labor)	1250.00
TIF: St. Paul Development Corp (BedHead Coffee Febr 2026 TIF) (tif proceeds)	3306.56
TIF: City of St. Paul: MAD Dev TIF 1/2 Febr 2026 Share (tif proceeds)	3647.49
TIF: MAD Development: TIF 1/2 Febr 2026 Share (tif proceeds)	3647.49
TIF: S Squared Enterprises: Febr 2026 TIF Proceeds (tif proceeds)	5534.32
Health Ded: Medica OneSource - Admin (fees)	64.00
Park Grant: Wesco-park lighting (supplies)	36630.00
Park Grant: Kay Park Recreation (supplies)	22902.50

Council member Woodgate moved to approve the transfer of \$4,674 from the City Checking account to a City Park investment fund for future special projects. The funds originated from the ACE Choice Gas Member Distribution for 2025. 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 did not have any nuisances to report on.


Chief of Police Dan Howard updates: (1) St. Paul Police Dept. taking stray animals to the Palmer, NE Vet Clinic; (2) Pet chip reader; (3) Crime Commission accreditation policy; (4) Police Dodge Charger went into the shop regarding a catalytic converter repair; and (5) the City will be having CPR classes on Tuesday, February 24, 2026.

Mayor Mike Feeken updates: (1) Election filing: Bill Peters filed on February 11, 2026; and (2) there is a burn ban in place until further notice.

Public Announcements: (1) Council member Peters stated that on Wednesday, February 18, 2026, the Loup Central Landfill is performing a ribbon cutting at 10:00 a.m. pertaining to the metal recycling building; and (2) St. Paul Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jordan Bottolfson asked the Mayor and Council members if they would participate in the St. Paul Chamber promotional video; the Mayor and Council members were receptive to the idea. The City Officials are to be present 15 minutes earlier prior to the City Council meeting on Monday, March 2, 2026.

Mayor Feeken adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:06 p.m.

March 2, 2026
Date


Mike Feeken, Mayor


Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer