

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

Monday, August 17, 2026 (Regular)

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 17, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. Present were Mayor Mike Feeken and Council members Katie Kowalski, Bill Peters, Mark Wilson, and 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 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 Mike Feeken opened the City Council meeting at 6:30 p.m. with the "Pledge of Allegiance" and thanking the public for attending and announcing that the City of St. Paul abides by the "Open Meeting Act" as required by the NE State Statutes 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 Statute 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" regarding 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 City of St. Paul "Regular" City Council meeting at **6:30 p.m.**

The first item discussed on the agenda pertained to the consideration of Law Enforcement Services between the City of St. Paul and the Howard County Sheriff's Office. Currently, the City has not received any correspondence from City Attorney Graham regarding the "Interlocal Law Enforcement Services and Transition Agreement" from Howard County. In presenting the question of mailing a public engagement letter to receive public input regarding the consolidation of the two (2) agencies, many of the Council members were not in favor. There is also no Nebraska State Statute that supports placing this verbiage on an election ballot. The Mayor and Council members heard both supporting and opposing comments from the audience in attendance pertaining to this issue. Sheriff Hoff stated that he had no problems performing any of the City of St. Paul Police Department duties. Council member Kowalski

moved to approve merging the City of St. Paul Police Department and the Howard County Sheriff's Department into one (1) agency. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Wilson, and Woodgate voted aye, Council member Peters voted nay. Motion carried 3/1. Once the City receives a response from the City Attorney, then the consideration of the "Interlocal Law Enforcement Services and Transition Agreement" will be placed on a future City agenda.

Council member Wilson moved to approve Loren and Barb Wroblewski's at 124 5th Street Property Improvement Program (PIP) application regarding a home demolition in the amount of \$5,000. An attached PIP balance sheet was provided to the City Officials. Council member Peters seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Council member Kowalski moved to approve Ronnie Switzer's resignation effective August 31, 2026, as the Elmwood Cemetery Sexton with regret. Council member Woodgate seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Utility Superintendent Helzer stated that the City can keep the Elmwood Cemetery job responsibilities in house. The City Departments are willing to learn the Cemetery Sexton duties.

Council member Woodgate moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items: (1) Treasurer's Report July 2026; (2) Minutes August 3, 2026 (regular), Minutes August 4, 2026 (Special Law Enforcement), and Minutes August 11, 2026 (special); and (3) Disbursements August 17, 2026. Council member Wilson seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Disbursements August 17, 2026

911 Custom (supplies)	104.00
Amazon Capital Services (books)	320.12
AT&T Mobility (service)	577.74
Aurora Coop (fuel)	2094.64
Black Hills Energy (natural gas)	635.88
Bockmann Auto Sales (service)	953.84
Bound Tree Medical (supplies)	265.99
Charter Communications (service)	572.07
City Lights (utilities)	11433.73
Clearfly (service)	199.30
Consumer Deposit Rental Fee: Zeleski (rental deposit fee)	250.00
Crescent Electric (supplies)	309.52
Custer County Recycling (service)	49.90
Dutton Lainson (supplies)	739.49
Gumdrop Books (books)	299.40
Hamilton Information System (service)	1568.50
Heartland Disposal (service)	5460.45

Heritage Bank: Utility Billing ACH Fee July 2026 (UB ACH Fee)	25.00
Homestead Bank (fees)	46.20
Hometown Leasing (contract)	39.12
Hometown Market (supplies)	1022.90
Howard County Register of Deeds (fees)	20.00
Howard Greeley RPPD (utilities)	202972.23
Jennings, Delaney (reimb)	100.00
Jim's Champlin (fuel)	3491.76
John Deere Financial (supplies)	54.34
Kavan, Sawyer (reimb)	50.00
Klanecky, Madison (reimb)	100.00
Klinginsmith, Piepyr (reimb)	100.00
Leth Auto Repair (service)	274.01
Lewis, Zaya (reimb)	100.00
Mid-Nebraska Disposal (service)	5467.20
NE Dept of Revenue: Sales & Use Tax Submittal for July 2026 (tax submittal)	19542.10
On the Spot Cleaning (service)	290.00
One Call Concepts (service)	47.09
Open Caret (service)	200.00
Overland Ready Mixed (concrete)	2985.34
Phonograph Herald (publish)	811.33
Quick Med Claims (service)	477.49
S E Smith & Sons (supplies)	7.47
Sherwin Williams (supplies)	277.50
Sun Auto Tire & Service (tires)	5779.96
Svehla Law Office (legal)	714.00
Triple T Disposal (service)	588.50
US Post Office (postage)	540.00
Utilities Section of LONM (dues)	1766.00
Wilbert Memorials (service)	310.00

Non-General Disbursements

Health Ded: Medica OneSource - health ded (reimb)	567.63
Light ICS: Alpha Utility - boring costs (service)	2835.84
Health Ded: Medica OneSource - admin fee (fee)	64.00
Health Ded: Medica OneSource - health ded (reimb)	1193.47
TIF: S Squared Enterprises: August 2026 Proceeds (tif proceeds)	721.22
TIF: City of St. Paul: MAD Dev Half Share August 2026 (tif proceeds)	532.35
TIF: MAD Dev & Equitable Bank MAD Dev Half Share August 2026 (tif proceeds)	532.34

Council member Wilson moved to approve the attendance at the League of Nebraska Municipalities 2026 Annual Conference at the Cornhusker Marriott, Lincoln, NE on September 23 - 25, 2026 of Deputy Clerk Laura Berthelsen, Jody Hogan (new City Clerk position), and Council member Kowalski. Council member Woodgate seconded the motion. Council members Kowalski, Peters, Wilson & Woodgate voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 4/0.

Sergeant Thomas Holmes updates included: (1) nuisance grass letters will be sent out this week; and (2) the carpet donated for the St. Paul Police Department Office will be returned to Bryan Robinson.

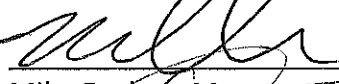
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF HOLIDAY: The first (1st) City Council meeting in September 2026, will be held on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, due to the Labor Day holiday.

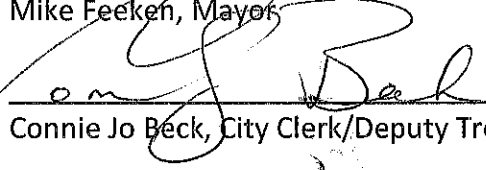
Utilities Superintendent Helzer reported on the 2026 City of St. Paul Swimming Pool season.

Public Announcements: The consideration of the proposed 2026-2027 Budget will be held at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Feeken adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:20 p.m.

September 8, 2026
Date


Mike Feeken, Mayor


Connie Jo Beck, City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer