



City of Northfield

City Hall
801 Washington Street
Northfield, MN 55057
northfieldmn.gov

Meeting Minutes - Final City Council

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

6:00 PM - CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Zweifel called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Present: 7 - Council Member Brad Ness, Council Member Kathleen Holmes, Council Member Davin Sokup, Council Member Jessica Peterson White, Council Member Chad Beumer, Council Member Peter Dahlen, and Mayor Erica Zweifel

Also present: Associate City Planner Mathias Hughey, Public Works Director/City Engineer David Bennett, Community Development Director Jake Reilly, Police Chief Jeff Schroeffer, City Administrator Ben Martig and City Clerk Lynette Peterson.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Patrick Tomczik, 1203 Woodland Trail, addressed the Council opposed to the new ice hockey arena.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Beumer, seconded by Council Member Dahlen, to approve the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Ness, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, C. Peterson White, C. Beumer, C. Dahlen, and Mayor Zweifel

PRESENTATIONS

1. [25-188](#) Presentation from Earth Day Steering Committee.

Sarah Fortner, member of the Northfield Earth Day Celebration Committee, presented background on the event and highlighted activities for the 2025 Earth Day event on Saturday, April 26.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Dahlen, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Ness, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, C. Peterson White, C. Beumer, C. Dahlen, and Mayor Zweifel

2. [25-189](#) Consider Approval of March 18, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Dahlen, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

3. [25-190](#) Consider Approving Disbursements totaling \$1,726,042.84

Enactment No: M2025-038

4. [25-191](#) Consider Approval of Mayoral Board and Commission Appointments.

Enactment No: M2025-039

5. [Res. 2025-035](#) Consider Resolution Approving Hearing Officers.

6. [25-192](#) Consider Approval of a Temporary Liquor License for Imminent Brewing, LLC dba Imminent Brewing for May 15, 2025 at the Friends of Downtown Northfield Third Thursday Block Party.

Enactment No: M2025-040

7. [25-193](#) Approve miscellaneous/concessions license for Northfield Youth Baseball Association at Sechler Park.

Enactment No: M2025-041

8. [Res. 2025-036](#) Consider Resolution Proclaiming the month of April 2025 Fair Housing Month.

9. [Res. 2025-037](#) Consider Resolution Proclaiming April 26, 2025 as Earth Day in Northfield.

10. [Res. 2025-038](#) Consider Resolution Proclaiming Less Mow May in the City of Northfield for 2025.

11. [25-194](#) Consider Motion for Contract Amendment #2 for Professional Services for the Wall Street Road Improvements Project.

Enactment No: M2025-042

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND RELATED ACTION

12. [25-195](#) Public Hearing on Ordinance 1075 to Designate Central Park (421 4th St. E.) as a Local Heritage Preservation Site.

Mayor Zweifel declared the public hearing open at 6:13 p.m.

Mathias Hughey, Associate City Planner, presented information on the Central Park designation as a local heritage preservation site.

Barb Evans, 800 St. Olaf Avenue, addressed the Council in support of the Central Park designation as a Local Heritage Preservation Site.

Paul Hager, 110 Maple Street, addressed the Council in support of the Central Park designation as a Local Heritage Preservation Site.

Barbara Wornson, 1605 Independence Drive, addressed the Council in support of the Central Park designation as a Local Heritage Preservation Site.

Jennifer Edwins, 106 Nevada, addressed the Council in support of the Central Park designation as a Local Heritage Preservation Site.

Alice Thomas, 418 College, addressed the Council in support of the Central Park designation as a Local Heritage Preservation Site.

Christie Clark, 501 3rd Street East, addressed the Council in support of the Central Park designation as a Local Heritage Preservation Site.

Cliff Clark, 718 4th Street East, addressed the Council in support of the Central Park designation as a Local Heritage Preservation Site.

Paul Krause, 214 Fremont Street E., addressed the Council in support of the Central Park designation as a Local Heritage Preservation Site.

Hughey answered questions from the Council.

Community Development Director Jake Reilly added additional comments.

A motion was made by Council Member Beumer, seconded by Council Member Dahlen, to close the Public Hearing at 7:18 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Ness, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, C. Peterson White, C. Beumer, C. Dahlen, and Mayor Zweifel

- 13. [Ord. 1075](#)** Consideration of Second Reading of Ordinance 1075 Designating Central Park (421 4th St. E.) as a Local Heritage Preservation Site.

A motion was made by Council Member Dahlen, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 1075 Designating Central Park as a Local Heritage Preservation Site. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Ness, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, C. Peterson White, C. Beumer, C. Dahlen, and Mayor Zweifel

RECESS

Council recessed at 7:32 p.m. Council meeting resumed at 7:43 p.m.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

- 14. [25-196](#)** Reports From the Mayor and Council Members.

Councilor Ness - Loon Liquor Closing; Hockey Arena Open House.

*Councilor Peterson White - No Report.
Councilor Sokup - Council Finance Policy Subcommittee Meeting.
Councilor Holmes - Planning Commission Meeting.
Councilor Dahlen - Council Finance Policy Subcommittee Meeting.
Councilor Beumer - EDA Meeting.
Mayor Zweifel - No report.*

REGULAR AGENDA

15. [Res. 2025-039](#) Consider Accepting Bids and Awarding Contract - 2025 Reclamation and Overlay Project.

Public Works Director/City Engineer David Bennett introduced the item stating the City received five (5) competitive bids which were publicly opened and tabulated on March 20, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. The bids ranged from \$2,074,927.77 to \$2,494,474.50 with the lowest responsible bidder being Crane Creek Asphalt with a total bid amount of \$2,074,927.77. This compared to the engineer's estimate of \$2,743,260.20. Bennett answered questions from the Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Holmes, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve Resolution No. 2025-039 Accepting Bids and Awarding Contract for 2025 Reclamation and Overlay Project to Crane Creek Asphalt for the total bid amount of \$2,074,927.77. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Ness, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, C. Peterson White, C. Beumer, C. Dahlen, and Mayor Zweifel

16. [25-197](#) Review and Discuss 2026-2027 Proposed Budget Calendar.

City Administrator Ben Martig introduced the item giving background information and a summary on the proposed 2026-2027 Budget Calendar. Council discussed the budget process and Martig answered questions from the Council.

17. [Res. 2025-040](#) Consider Resolution Ordering a Financial Model for Twenty Years (2022-2042) for All City Projects (Councilor Dahlen Request).

Council Member Peter Dahlen introduced the item giving background on the Council resolution he is requesting ordering a financial model for twenty years (2022-2042) for all City projects.

Council discussed and commented on the resolution. Dahlen answered questions from the Council. City Administrator Ben Martig added comments regarding the resolution and answered questions from the Council also.

A motion was made by Council Member Dahlen, seconded by Council Member Beumer, to approve Resolution 2025-040 Ordering a Financial Model for Twenty Years (2022-2042) for All City Projects.

EXTEND THE MEETING

A motion was made by Council Member Holmes, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to extend the meeting until all business is complete. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Ness, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, C. Peterson White, C. Beumer, C. Dahlen, and Mayor Zweifel

17. [Res. 2025-040](#) Consider Resolution Ordering a Financial Model for Twenty Years (2022-2042) for All City Projects (Councilor Dahlen Request).

Council discussion continued on the proposed resolution.

Council Member Dahlen withdrew his motion to approve Resolution 2025-040 Ordering a Financial Model for Twenty Years (2022-2042) for all City Projects.

18. [25-198](#) Council Consideration of Ordinance Amendment Related to 1% for the Arts Ordinance to reduce to .5% and Establish an Annual Maximum Limit of Funding (Councilor Beumer and Council Dahlen Agenda Item Request).

Emery John, 115 Winona, addressed the Council in support of the 1% for the Arts and not cutting it to 0.5%.

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Sokup, to postpone the Council request to review 1% for Arts to an upcoming work session for further discussion. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Ness, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, C. Peterson White, C. Beumer, C. Dahlen, and Mayor Zweifel

19. [25-199](#) Comprehensive Plan Draft Review and Discussion.

Community Development Director Jake Reilly gave an update on the Comprehensive Plan draft review highlighting the background, general policy direction and approach, and next steps. Reilly answered questions from the Council.

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

20. [25-200](#) City Administrator's Update.

City Administrator Ben Martig updated the Council on the strategic plan retreat on Saturday, April 5 and public claims regarding the ice arena.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Sokup, to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Ness, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, C. Peterson White, C. Beumer, C. Dahlen, and Mayor Zweifel