



City of Northfield

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Tuesday, July 7, 2026

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

After Housing & Redevelopment Authority Meeting

6:00 PM - CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Zweifel called the meeting to order at 6:28 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: City Administrator Ben Martig, Police Chief Jeff Schroepfer, Sustainability Coordinator Sara Pabich, Public Works Director/City Engineer David Bennett and City Clerk Lynette Peterson.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Seeberg, President of the Northfield Pickleball Association, addressed the Council giving background about the organization and thanking the City for the new fencing at the pickleball courts.

David DeLong addressed the Council regarding public comment being available for only certain agenda items and procedures for 1st and 2nd reading of ordinances.

Rich Graves addressed the Council regarding several items.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Zweifel noted Supplemental Agenda Background Memos No. 1 and 2. Zweifel noted switching agenda items 21 and 22 so the organics recycling discussion is the last item.

A motion was made by Council Member Sokup, seconded by Council Member Ness, to approve the agenda as amended. 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. [26-346](#) Northfield History Center Annual Presentation.

Northfield History Center Executive Director Sean Allen gave an update on the work of the Northfield History Center over the past year. Allen answered questions from the Council.

2. [26-347](#) Police Department Mentorship Program Presentation

Police Chief Jeff Schroepfer presented information regarding the Northfield Police Mentorship Program. Officers Kenna Eschenbach and Micaela Vaale presented on the expectations and program goals. Eschenbach, Vaale and Schroepfer answered questions from the Council.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Sokup, 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

3. [26-348](#) Consider Approval of June 16, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes.
4. [26-349](#) Consider Approving Disbursements totaling \$3,400,296.39
5. [Res. 2026-064](#) Consider Resolution Appointing Election Judges for the 2026 Primary and General Elections.
6. [26-350](#) Consider Approval of a Temporary Liquor License for Tanzenwald Brewing Company, LLC dba Tanzenwald Brewing Company for August 20, 2026 for the Friends of Downtown Northfield Third Thursday Event.
7. [26-351](#) Consider Approval of Temporary Liquor Licenses for the Defeat of Jesse James Days Committee.
8. [Res. 2026-065](#) Approve Application for Off-Site Gambling Permit for the Defeat of Jesse James Days Committee, Inc. at Northfield Ballroom, 450 Montessori Court, on September 9, 2026.
9. [Res. 2026-066](#) Approve the Northfield Fire Relief Association request for fire relief pension benefits
10. [26-352](#) Consider Approval of Service Agreement with EverStrive Solutions for City Administrator Performance Evaluation Facilitation.
11. [26-353](#) Consider Approval of Contract for Civil Legal Services - Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs)
12. [26-354](#) Consider Approval of Contract Extension for Prosecuting City Attorney Services.

13. [Res. 2026-067](#) Consider Resolution Accepting Public Improvements and Approving Final Payment for the Jefferson Parkway West Mill and Overlay and Mill Towns State Trail Improvements Project (STRT2024-A78).
14. [Res. 2026-068](#) Consider Resolution Accepting Bids and Awarding Contract for Northwest Area Water Tower Site.
15. [26-361](#) Consideration of Approval of Professional Services Contract with Bolton and Menk, Inc. for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Pretreatment, Primary and Generator Project.
16. [26-355](#) Consider Motion Authorizing Submittal of Application for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grant for Downtown Flood Improvements.
17. [Res. 2026-069](#) Consideration of a Conditional Use Permit for Off-Street Parking at 212 Division St. S.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND RELATED ACTION

18. [26-356](#) Public Hearing Related to Charter Commission Proposed Ordinance Amending Section 4.1 of the Northfield City Charter.

Mayor Zweifel declared the public hearing open at 7:04 p.m. City Administrator Ben Martig gave background on the public hearing procedure. Martig presented background information on the Ordinance Amending Section 4.1 of the Northfield City Charter including the timeline and process for the amendment.

David DeLong addressed the Council regarding the amendment.

A motion was made by Council Member Beumer, seconded by Council Member Holmes, to close the Public Hearing at 7:15 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

19. [Ord. 1095](#) Consider Ordinance 1095 Amending Section 4.1 of the Northfield City Charter (First Reading).

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 1095 Amending Chapter Four of the Northfield City Charter. 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

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

20. [26-357](#) Reports From the Mayor and Council Members.

*Council Member Ness - 911 Joint Powers Board Meeting; NAFRS Board Meeting; Northfield History Center 50th birthday celebration.
Council Member Peterson White - EDA Meeting.
Council Member Sokup - No report.
Council Member Beumer - No report
Council Member Holmes - No report.
Mayor Zweifel - EQC Meeting; Greenvale Nature Area Community Meeting; Oddfellows Park Open House, KYMN 4th of July Ice Cream Social.*

RECESS

Council recessed at 7:23 p.m. Council meeting resumed at 7:28 p.m.

REGULAR AGENDA

22. [26-359](#)

Consider Approval of Final Concept for Phase II of the Northfield Skate Park Project and Authorize Preparation of Plans and Specifications.

Public Works Director/City Engineer David Bennett introduced the item giving background on the project. Bennett presented design features of the park. Designer Mark Leski, Wizard Skateparks, LLC, pointed out aspects of the park giving definitions of the park including beginner, intermediate and advanced parts of the park. Tyler Westman, Northside Boards, LLC, and Leski provided information on trends of skateboarding in Northfield and the population that uses the park. Police Chief Jeff Schroepfer added comments regarding rules of the park and City Code. Bennett answered additional questions from the Council.

Aziel Mendoza-Garcia addressed the Council in favor of Phase II of the skate park.

Council commented on the park including hours, lighting, trash and shade.

A motion was made by Council Member Beumer, seconded by Council Member Holmes, to approve the final concept of Phase II of the Northfield Skate Park Project and authorize preparation of plans and specifications. 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

21. [26-358](#)

Discussion on Organic Recycling

Sustainability Coordinator Sara Pabich introduced the item giving background on organic recycling. Pabich presented 3 pathways forward with the options being the following: 1) staying status quo; 2) a phased expansion aligning with Dakota County adding expanded drop of sites for composting; and 3) universal composting where all residents pay for the service no matter what. Pabich presented rough costs to residents for the universal program.

Pabich, City Administrator Ben Martig and Public Works Director/City Engineer David Bennett answered questions from the Council and added additional clarifying information.

EXTEND THE MEETING

A motion was made by Council Member Holmes, seconded by Council Member

Sokup, to extend the meeting until 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

21. [26-358](#) Discussion on Organic Recycling

Council continued the discussion on organics recycling giving staff direction on pathways to further research.

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

23. [26-360](#) City Administrator's Update.

No report.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Beumer, to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 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