



City of Northfield

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

Meeting Minutes - Final City Council

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

6:00 PM - CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Zweifel called the meeting to order at 6:00 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: Public Works Director/City Engineer David Bennett, Engineering Manager Sean Simonson, City Administrator Ben Martig, City Clerk Lynette Peterson and Police Chief Jeff Schroepfer.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Zweifel noted items in Supplemental Agenda Background Memos Nos. 1 and 2.

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Beumer, 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. [25-279](#)

Presentation - Stormwater Pollution Prevention Poster Contest Winners.

Engineering Manager Sean Simonson introduced the item along with James McDermott, Water Quality Technician and Heron Mahr, Clean River Partners. The City of Northfield and Clean River Partners host an annual poster contest with local elementary schools. This year, second through fifth grade students from Prairie Creek Community School, Greenvale Park Elementary, Spring Creek Elementary, St. Dominic Elementary and Bridgewater Elementary schools were asked to design a poster with the theme: "Stormwater Pollution Solutions". This year, 92 posters were submitted for the contest. 2025 Winners are as follows:

Grades 2-3

1st place - Addison Blumhoefer, 3rd Grade, Bridgewater Elementary; 2nd place - Charlie

Rieland, 3rd Grade, Spring Creek Elementary; 3rd place - Lucy Strand, Spring Creek Elementary; Honorable Mention - Evan Estrella Hamp, 3rd Grade, Greenvale Park Elementary and Grayson Davis, 3rd Grade, Spring Creek Elementary.

Grades 4-5

1st place - Elise Detert, 4th Grade, Spring Creek Elementary; 2nd place - Lola Wilhelm, 4th Grade, Spring Creek Elementary; 3rd Place - Odin Meza, Franklin Pursell and Edwin Berg, Spring Creek Elementary; Honorable Mention - Jezzie Voegelé, 5th Grade, Spring Creek Elementary and Willa Rieland, 5th Grade, Spring Creek Elementary.

A group photo was taken after the presentation.

2. [25-280](#) Recognition of service for our graduating Northfield High School Seniors and youth coming off Boards and Commissions.

Mayor Zweifel presented background information on the youth on boards and commissions program. Zweifel, Council Member Sokup and Martha Lundin, Youth Engagement Coordinator, recognized the graduating seniors that have served on boards and commissions and those no longer serving on a board/commission from Northfield High School.

A group photo was taken after the presentation.

3. [25-281](#) Presentation of Northfield Hospital and Clinics 2024 Audit.

City Administrator Ben Martig introduced Eric Guth, Chief Financial Officer and Zander Abbott, Chief Executive Officer of Northfield Hospital and Clinics. Guth and Abbott introduced CPA Korey Boelter, Clifton Larson Allen. Boelter presented the 2024 Northfield Hospital and Clinics Audit reporting on significant events and transactions, unpredictability tests, audit adjustments, subsequent events and internal control. Guth added additional information.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

4. [25-282](#) Consider Approval of May 5, 2025 City Council Closed Meeting Minutes.

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

5. [25-283](#) Consider Approval of May 6, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes.
6. [25-284](#) Consider Approval of May 13, 2025 City Council Work Session Minutes.
7. [25-285](#) Consider Approving Disbursements totaling \$983,119.11

Enactment No: M2025-060

8. [25-286](#) Consider Approval of Mayoral Board/Commission Youth Appointments.
Enactment No: M2025-061
9. [25-287](#) Consider Approval of the Strategic Plan (2025-2028).
Enactment No: M2025-062
10. [25-288](#) Consider Approval of Detour Agreement with Rice County for Highway 19 Detour related to Mill Towns State Trail - Woodley Street to Waterford Bridge Project.
Enactment No: M2025-063
11. [Res. 2025-053](#) Consider Resolution Accepting Monetary Donation Received for New Ice Arena Project.
12. [Res. 2025-054](#) Consider Resolution Approving Naming Rights Agreements for Donation toward New Ice Arena.
13. [Ord. 1077](#) Second Reading of amendments to Chapter 34 - Land Development Code related to cannabis.
14. [25-289](#) Consideration of Summary Publication of Ordinance No. 1077 - Amending Chapter 34 - Land Development Code related to Cannabis.
Enactment No: M2025-064
15. [Ord. 1078](#) Second reading of ordinance updating Chapter 34 - Land Development Code related to rental licenses, tenant protections, and affirmatively furthering fair housing
16. [25-290](#) Consideration of Summary Publication of Ordinance No. 1078 - Amending Chapter 34 - Land Development Code related to Rental Licenses, Tenant Protections, and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.
Enactment No: M2025-065

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

17. [25-291](#) Reports From the Mayor and Council Members.

Council Member Ness - Age-Friendly Northfield Meeting.
Council Member Peterson White - Friends of Downtown Northfield 3rd Thursday Event; Information session on Downtown Special Services District; Hospital Board Community Engagement Committee Meeting.
Council Member Sokup - Mayor's Youth Council Meeting.
Council Member Holmes - Planning Commission Meeting - Cancelled; Friends of Downtown Northfield 3rd Thursday Event; Park and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting -

*cancelled; Council Employment Policy Subcommittee Meeting.
Council Member Dahlen - No report.
Council Member Beumer - Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Meeting.
Mayor Zweifel - Clean River Partners Annual Meeting.*

REGULAR AGENDA

18. [Res. 2025-050](#) Consideration of the Comprehensive Plan 2045 Adoption.

Community Development Director Jake Reilly introduced the item giving background on the Comp Plan process and on the passed motion and the postponed motion at the May 6, 2025 Council meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Sokup, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to amend the motion to include the Natural Resources Map in the Comprehensive Plan 2045. 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

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Holmes, to take from the table the motion from the May 6, 2025 meeting to approve Resolution 2025-050 Adopting the Comprehensive Plan 2045. 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

After discussion regarding the 2045 Comprehensive Plan, the original motion to approve the 2045 Comprehensive Plan was considered for approval.

The original motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - C. Holmes, C. Sokup, C. Peterson White, C. Dahlen, and Mayor Zweifel

No: 2 - C. Ness, and C. Beumer

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

19. [25-292](#) City Administrator's Update.

City Administrator Ben Martig gave a legislative update.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Beumer, to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 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