



Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
City Hall Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive
Monday, July 14, 2025

1. Roll Call

Mayor Roe called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. Voting and Seating Order: Schroeder, Groff, Bauer, Strahan, and Roe. City Manager Patrick Trudgeon and City Attorney Rachel Tierney were also present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approve Agenda

Groff moved, Schroeder seconded, approval of the agenda as presented.

Roll Call

Ayes: Schroeder, Groff, Bauer, Strahan, and Roe.

Nays: None.

4. Public Comment

Mayor Roe called for public comment by audience members on non-agenda items. No one came forward to speak.

5. Recognitions, Donations, and Communications

a. Receive the Minnesota Recreation and Park Association Award of Excellence in Management Strategies for the 2024 Natural Resources Management Plan Update

Parks and Recreation Director Matthew Johnson received the Minnesota Recreation and Park Association Award of Excellence in Management Strategies for the 2024 Natural Resources Management Plan.

Mr. Johnson introduced Mr. Jason Hicks, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director of New Brighton, and a member of the Awards of Excellence Committee with the Minnesota Recreation and Parks Association.

Mr. Hicks gave a presentation to the city council and presented the awards to Mr. Johnson for the natural resources management plan update in the administrative or management strategies category.

Mr. Johnson recognized key stakeholders and partners who contributed to the project's success.

6. Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

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Recess

Mayor Roe recessed the meeting at approximately 7:09 p.m. and reconvened at approximately 7:11 p.m.

7. Business Items

a. Joint Meeting with Equity & Inclusion Commission

Mayor Roe introduced the Equity and Inclusion Commission.

Chair Prajwal Vemireddy discussed the Commission's history, challenges, and progress.

Commissioner Paul Stanley emphasized the significance of accessibility and accountability in the community.

Commissioner Nicole Singaram highlighted the importance of inclusivity and the idea of "ohana" (family).

Commissioner Amanda LaGrange discussed the importance of building trust and collaboration within the commission.

Commissioner Gabrielle Filip-Crawford highlighted the current priorities, including community engagement and open communication.

Commissioner Paul Stanley emphasized the practical advantages of DEI initiatives for local government effectiveness.

Commissioner Chris Taylor emphasized the importance of support and data collection in evaluating the commission's impact.

Councilmember Strahan appreciated the commission's efforts and inquired about its work plan and data collection.

Commissioner Filip-Crawford clarified the emphasis on community engagement metrics.

Councilmember Schroeder advised the commission to be patient and understand the complexity of the city and community.

Councilmember Bauer urged the commission to take ownership of their meetings and actively engage with the community.

Commissioner Taylor emphasized the importance of data in informing decisions and enhancing commission opportunities.

Mayor Roe and other councilmembers voiced their support and confidence in the commission's progress.

The Commission members thanked the council and staff for their support and guidance.

b. Discuss Close Proximity Building Regulations

Community Development Director Janice Gundlach briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated July 14, 2025.

Ms. Gundlach explained the issue of close-proximity building regulations in the Enclave development. She discussed the state building code and the challenges of implementing more restrictive regulations.

Councilmember Bauer questioned the timeline and the potential for regulations specific to Roseville.

Public Comment

Mayor Roe offered an opportunity for public comment.

Ms. Katlyn Barstad, Enclave resident, McCarrons Place West

Ms. Barstad expressed concerns about the timing, since it would not be adopted until March 2026, and about how close proximity regulations could affect current residents. She mentioned she was not at the meeting to delay the development process in Roseville. However, she asked that development be carried out in a way that best safeguards the safety of existing residents. She also noted a geological study done by an engineering firm, which she plans to submit to the council and staff for review, that could help justify the applicability of this specific clause.

Ms. Susan Follett, Enclave resident, McCarrons Place West

Ms. Follett also expressed her concern about the close proximity regulations and agreed with Ms. Barstad's comments. She explained that at the bottom of Attachment One is an excerpt from the city council minutes, which includes the resolution. Item B states, "The homeowner association shall prohibit new structures and additions to the principal structures that reduce such a side yard setback to less than 10 feet." She noted that she would like to raise the impracticality and feasibility of the homeowner's association and architectural control committee enforcing this, since they currently cannot regulate builders, which is why they rely on the permit process for enforcement.

Mr. John Barstad, 217 McCarrons Place West

Mr. Barstad, a civil engineer, stressed the importance of accurate soil classification and stable foundations. He pointed out the absence of insurance for soil movement and the possible financial risks.

The public comments emphasized the need to protect existing structures better and the importance of implementing timely code updates.

Council Discussion

Mr. Trudgeon talked about the city's response to the main water break and the need for improved documentation and standards.

The Councilmembers discussed potential solutions, including expediting state regulations and adding procedural requirements to the building permit process.

c. Discuss Street Light Policy

Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated July 14, 2025.

Mr. Freihammer explained the proposed updates to the city's streetlight policy, including the addition of a petition process for removing streetlights. He reviewed the current policy and the reasons for the proposed changes.

The council discussed the implications of the proposed changes and emphasized the need for consistent and fair street lighting, as well as the requirement for a petition process to request the removal of streetlights.

Mr. Freihammer shared examples of policies and procedures from other cities regarding street light removal.

Council members consider residents' feedback, the potential impact of proposed changes on public safety and community satisfaction, the feasibility of adopting a petition process, and how this might affect public safety.

Councilmember Strahan asked about how to reinstall street lights in areas where residents later request them.

Mr. Freihammer explained that most cities have standard lighting policies, and their policies are aimed at ensuring a fair distribution of lighting.

Councilmember Groff explained that most cities follow standard lighting policies, and previous policies required petitions for the removal of lights. He mentioned receiving more requests to remove lights than to install them and proposed a process

for residents to appeal decisions. He emphasized the issue of redundant lighting, especially near the freeway, where existing lights are already very bright.

Councilmember Groff argued that installing unnecessary lights wastes city money and creates visual clutter. He proposed involving the public works department in measuring light standards to prevent unnecessary installations.

Councilmember Groff emphasized the importance of resident feedback and the potential for visual clutter from unnecessary lighting.

Councilmember Bauer supported establishing a threshold for sufficient lighting and proposed involving the Public Works Commission.

Councilmembers Groff and Schroeder discussed the need for a standardized measurement, such as lumens, to determine whether additional lighting is necessary.

Councilmember Schroeder emphasized the importance of measurable standards and the possibility of exceptions based on current light levels.

Councilmember Groff proposed that a lumens standard could be used to decide if more lighting is necessary.

Mayor Roe and Mr. Freihammer discussed the feasibility of using light meters and the potential for standardizing lighting levels.

Mayor Roe wondered about the appeal process that could be used for streetlight decisions, suggesting the Board of Adjustments and Appeals might be able to handle it.

Mr. Trudgeon noted that the Board of Adjustments and Appeals handles zoning issues and whether the Board could take on other appeals would need to be reviewed.

Mayor Roe expressed concerns about making exceptions to safety rules, emphasizing the importance of intersection lighting for ensuring safety. He noted from observations how dark the street intersections south of highway 35W/36 are in the area in question, despite the lights on highway 35W/36.

Councilmember Strahan shared her experience as a pedestrian and emphasized the importance of consistent street lighting for safety. She cautioned against removing lights due to potential safety hazards and the risk of making reactive rather than proactive decisions. She supported upholding consistent safety standards and highlighted the need for equitable lighting throughout the city.

Councilmember Groff and Mayor Roe discussed the current policy of only installing intersection lights and the possibility of using a light meter to measure existing light levels.

The discussion addressed the need for legal guidance and explored the potential benefits of incorporating documentation requirements for building permits. The Council agreed to gather more information and seek legal advice on the issue.

Mr. Freihammer agreed to explore the feasibility of using light meters and standardizing lighting levels and bring the matter back for further discussion.

d. Receive the Preliminary 2026-2045 Capital Improvement Plan

Finance Director Michelle Pietrick briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated July 14, 2025.

Mr. Pietrick presented the 2026-2045 CIP, outlining the long-term plan for replacing city infrastructure. She explained that the CIP totals \$260 million, a \$26 million increase from last year's plan, representing an eleven percent rise. She noted changes in funding sources included decreases in the administration, finance, and Central Services equipment fund. The most significant portion of the CIP is in the water and sewer funds, followed by streets and pathways.

Ms. Pietrick discussed potential funding strategies, including raising property taxes, issuing debt, and pursuing franchise fees.

Mr. Trudgeon mentioned an aggressive pursuit of franchise fees and a meeting with Xcel Energy's representative to discuss implementing franchise fees this budget cycle.

Councilmember Schroeder requested modeling to assess the impact of issuing debt on various funds.

Ms. Pietrick discussed the advantages and disadvantages of issuing debt, emphasizing the importance of careful modeling.

e. Discuss Youth Commissioner Attendance Guidelines

City Manager Patrick Trudgeon briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request For Council Action and related attachments dated July 14, 2025.

Councilmember Bauer supported maintaining flexibility in attendance rules for youth commissioners.

Mayor Roe and Councilmember Schroeder agreed that the current policy offers enough flexibility and should not be made more restrictive.

Councilmember Strahan emphasized the importance of privacy and the necessity for staff to contact commissioners before presenting attendance issues to the council.

Public Comment

Mayor Roe offered an opportunity for public comment.

Equity and Inclusion Commissioner Amanda LaGrange

Commissioner LaGrange, a member of the Equity and Inclusion Commission, emphasized the importance of youth commissioners and their role in the community. She highlighted the benefits of including youth perspectives on commissions and stressed the need for flexibility in attendance requirements.

Mayor Roe and the Council concurred with Commissioner LaGrange's comments and voiced support for keeping the current policy.

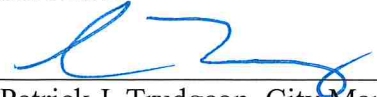
- 8. Council Direction on Councilmember Initiated Agenda Items**
- 9. Approve Minutes**
- 10. Approve Consent Agenda**
- 11. Future Agenda Review, Communications, Reports, and Announcements – Council and City Manager**
City Manager Patrick Trudgeon reviewed the July 21, 2025, City Council meeting, the August 2025 City Council meeting, and the September 2025 City Council meeting.
- 12. Adjourn**
Groff moved, Strahan seconded, adjournment of the meeting at approximately 9:24 p.m.

Roll Call

Ayes: Schroeder, Groff, Bauer, Strahan, and Roe.

Nays: None.

ATTEST:



Patrick J. Trudgeon, City Manager



Daniel J. Roe, Mayor