City of ROSEVILLE Minnesota, USA

Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
City Hall Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive
Monday, September 15, 2025

1. **Roll Call**

Mayor Roe called the meeting to order at approximately 7:18 p.m. Voting and Seating Order: Bauer, Groff, Strahan, Schroeder, and Roe. City Manager Patrick Trudgeon and City Attorney Rachel Tierney were also present.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Approve Agenda**

Councilmember Schroeder requested that the vote on the campus project's maintenance center and license passport center be considered separately.

Mayor Roe explained to Councilmember Schroeder that this would stay as one agenda item, but the decision could be split into two motions by a motion to divide the question.

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

Roll Call

Ayes: Bauer, Groff, Strahan, Schroeder, and Roe.
Nays: None.

4. **Public Comment**

Mayor Roe called for public comments by audience members on non-agenda items.

Mr. Roger Hess Jr., Wagener Place explained that he would like the council to consider closing the leaf facility to make room for the Public Works' new outdoor storage in that area and relocating the license center elsewhere. He suggested that the city could then build a proper maintenance facility all in one location. He believed the city should construct an adequate maintenance facility instead of splitting it up, which would be inefficient.

5. **Recognitions, Donations, and Communications**

6. **Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

7. **Business Items**

   a. **Public Hearing to Consider Approval of Request for a Noise Variance for the County Road D Pavement Project**

Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Jeniffer Lowry briefly highlighted this item as detailed in the Request for Council Action and related attachments dated September 15, 2025.

Ms. Lowry explained the noise ordinance and the request for longer work hours. The city of New Brighton and MnDOT have already approved the work, and off-ramp closures will take place during overnight hours.

Mayor Roe reviewed public hearing protocol and opened and closed the public hearing at approximately 7:26 p.m. for the purpose of receiving public input on the above-referenced noise variance, with no one appearing for or against.

Schroeder moved, Strahan seconded, the adoption of Resolution No. 12172 (Attachment 1), titled "Resolution Requesting a Variance from City Code Section 405.03, Noise Variance on Construction Activity Hours for the County Road D Pavement Project."

Roll Call
Ayes: Bauer, Groff, Strahan, Schroeder, and Roe.
Nays: None.

Recess
Mayor Roe recessed the meeting at approximately 7:28 p.m., and reconvened at approximately 7:30 p.m.

b. Joint Meeting with the Parks and Recreation Commission
Mayor Roe introduced Parks and Recreation Commission Chair Matts-Benson, who then introduced the Commission Members at the meeting.

Highlights included updates to the Natural Resources plan, community outreach events, and capital improvement plans for various parks.

The commission discusses the importance of collaborating with auxiliary organizations and the Roseville volunteer program. The Parks and Recreation System Master Plan was also reviewed, with a request for an update.

Mayor Roe and the Councilmembers appreciated the commission's work and offered feedback on their recommendations.

Councilmember Strahan proposed adding more bike racks, community gardens, and a city dog park.

Councilmember Schroeder emphasized the importance of inclusive playground equipment and the value of collaborating with auxiliary organizations.

Councilmember Groff emphasized the commission's role as the community's eyes and ears, urging them to collaborate with other commissions.

Councilmember Bauer proposed using the commission-initiated items option to raise discussions and make recommendations.

Mayor Roe explained he didn't realize it had been so many years—2010—since the last update to the system plan, and he thought it was something important that needed to be addressed by the community.

Chair Matts-Benson reviewed the Commission's work on consideration of the Aldine Right of Way as potential parkland over two meetings and a site visit. Based on that work the Commission is reporting the following to the City Council:

1) The Parks and Recreation Commission acknowledges that the Aldine right-of-way has value for the Parks and Recreation System.
2) The Parks and Recreation Commission recommends that the City Council direct staff as expeditiously as possible, arrange with a third party to conduct a detailed study of a non-traditional path that includes:
   a. Pathway alignment options and;
   b. Specific tree impacts

   and that a final decision be made immediately following the receipt of the study.

Mayor Roe thanked the Commission for its work and that the City Council will be considering the recommendation at a future City Council meeting.

Recess

Mayor Roe recessed the meeting at approximately 8:04 p.m., and reconvened at approximately 8:07 p.m.

c. Receive Finance Commission Recommendations on the 2026 Budget, Levy, and Scenarios

Finance Commission Chair Bester presented a comprehensive recommendation on the 2026 Budget, Levy, and Scenarios to the City Council.

Chair Bester presented the commission's recommendations for the 2026 budget and tax levy. He noted that the commission suggested a levy increase of no more than ten percent. He explained why the commission decided not to recommend franchise fees, citing their regressive nature and non-deductibility.

Commissioner Kanzenbach noted the absence of information on the franchise fee such as the amount of tax-exempt properties.

Mayor Roe stated that the city was working on the number of tax-exempt properties, suggesting it was not a large number.

The commission discussed the major staffing requests for the police and fire departments and how they impact the budget.

Councilmember Strahan questioned the commission's assessment of FTEs and the impact of the Paid Family Medical Leave Act on public safety staffing.

Councilmember Schroeder inquired about the actual impact of franchise fees on property tax credits and how franchise fees can be deducted.

Councilmember Bauer inquired about the budget process and the commission's need for additional data and information.

Councilmember Groff appreciated the perspective of the Finance Commission and stated that more council discussion on the budget is needed.

Mayor Roe tallied the line items for budget reductions as presented by the City Manager in August, totaling approximately $2 million, comprising $1.6 million in capital cuts and $300,000 in operating savings. He discussed the challenges of staffing and cost-cutting, emphasizing that staffing was the city's most significant expense. He referenced the Axtell Group report on the police department, highlighting the city's lean staffing and excellent work. He pushed back on the idea of significant cuts, suggesting a reasonable variance for the budget.

Chair Bester recommended cutting overtime and hiring new staff to save premium costs.

Mayor Roe mentioned the quarterly financial reports and recommended a pre-review by the commission to keep them informed.

Chair Bester recognized the blind spot and appreciated the effort to keep the commission updated.

The council emphasized the importance of understanding the financial implications of franchise fees and the need for detailed reports on the city's finances. They acknowledged the Finance Commission's recommendations and planned to review them further in upcoming meetings.

Mayor Roe thanked the commissioners for their input and noted the complexity of this year's budget process. He suggested including the franchise fee in the budget discussions to evaluate its impact on public safety positions.

d. Select Architect for Civic Campus Project

Public Works Director Jesse Freihammer briefly highlighted this item, as detailed in the Request for Council Action and related attachments dated September 15, 2025.

Mr. Freihammer presented the selection of an architectural services provider for the Civic Campus project. He explained the process, including the RFP for architect services and construction manager at risk, along with the scoring matrix used for evaluation. The top three firms recommended for interviews were BKV, LHB, and HCM, with LHB chosen as the architect for the campus master plan. He detailed the costs and hours associated with the selected firms, highlighting LHB's overall best value.

Mayor Roe discussed incorporating sustainable design into the project, noting the potential additional cost.

Councilmembers Groff and Schroeder emphasized the need for flexibility in the design to incorporate sustainable efforts without requiring specific certifications.

Mr. Freihammer suggested that sustainability efforts could be incorporated into the design process later, as needed.

Mayor Roe and Mr. Trudgeon discussed ongoing discussions on sustainability without requiring official certification.

Public Comment

Mayor Roe offered an opportunity for public comment.

Mr. Roger Hess, Jr., Wagener Place
Mr. Hess recommended exploring options for improved public works and outdoor storage to meet the police department's needs.

Strahan moved, and Groff seconded, approving the selection of LHB for architectural services related to the maintenance facility and license & passport center and dance studio, totaling approximately $2.63 million.

Schroeder moved, and Bauer seconded, dividing the question between approval of the contract for the maintenance facility and for the license & passport center and dance studio.

Roll Call

Ayes: Bauer, Groff, Strahan, Schroeder, and Roe.
Nays: None.

Strahan moved, and Groff seconded, approving the selection of LHB for architectural services related to the maintenance facility, totaling approximately $2 million.

Roll Call
Ayes: Bauer, Groff, Strahan, Schroeder, and Roe.
Nays: None

Strahan moved, Groff seconded, approving the selection of LHB for architectural services related to the license and passport center and dance studio facility, for approximately $630,000.

Roll Call
Ayes: Groff, Strahan, and Roe.
Nays: Bauer, Schroeder

8. Council Direction on Councilmember Initiated Agenda Items

9. Approve Minutes

10. Approve Consent Agenda

At Mayor Roe's request, City Manager Trudgeon briefly reviewed the items under the Consent Agenda, as outlined in specific Requests for Council Action dated September 15, 2025, and related attachments.

Groff moved, Strahan seconded, approval of the Consent Agenda, including claims and payments as presented and detailed.

Roll Call
Ayes: Bauer, Groff, Strahan, Schroeder, and Roe.
Nays: None.

a. Approve 2026 Insurance Benefit Renewals and City Cafeteria Contributions
b. Approve Final Payment for 2024 Sanitary Sewer Main Lining 24-06
c. Approve Animal Service Contract with the Companion Animal Center

11. Future Agenda Review, Communications, Reports, and Announcements – Council and City Manager

City Manager Patrick Trudgeon reviewed the City Council meetings from September 22, 2025, and October 13, 2025, as well as upcoming meetings in 2025.

12. Adjourn

Schroeder moved, Strahan seconded, adjournment of the meeting at approximately 9:13 p.m.

Roll Call
Ayes: Bauer, Groff, Strahan, Schroeder, and Roe.
Nays: None.

Daniel J. Roe, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patrick J. Trudgeon, City Manager