

**City of West St. Paul
City Council Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2026**

1. Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tem Berry called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Wendy Berry
Councilmembers Pat Armon, Lisa Eng-Sarne, Doug Fromm, Robyn Gulley and John Justen

Absent: Mayor Dave Napier, Junior Councilmember Elise Moga

Others Present: City Manager Nate Burkett
City Attorney Pam Whitmore
Assistant City Manager Dan Nowicki
Police Chief Brian Sturgeon
Public Works Director / City Engineer Ross Beckwith
Community Development Director Ben Boike
City Clerk Nicole Tillander

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Adopt the Agenda

Motion was made by Councilmember Gulley and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to adopt the agenda, as presented.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

5. OCWS Briefing

Open Council Work Session held March 9, 2026 at 5:45 PM:

1. Welcome and Note Attendance
2. Agenda Items
 - A. Parks and Recreation Facilities Operational Strategy
 - B. EAB and Ash Tree Removal Discussion
3. Regular Meeting Consent Agenda Review
4. Adjourn

6. Community Comments – In Person

- Eric Sutterlin, Ward 1 – concerns about Flock, provided a typed document of his comments which will be scanned and kept with the minutes of this meeting

7. Community Comments – Phone Line

- No one called in to address the council.

8. Council Comments

Mayor and Councilmembers addressed the public on various topics.

This is City Clerk Tillander’s last meeting. Council and staff had kind words and gratitude for her time in West St. Paul. Thank you for your service to the City, Nicole!

9. Proclamations, Presentations and Recognitions

10. Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Councilmember Eng-Sarne and seconded by Councilmember Gulley to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda, as presented:

- A. City Business Licensing
- B. City Rental Licensing
- C. List of Claims for March 9, 2026
- D. Boards and Commissions Policy
- E. Award Bid for the Emerson East Mill & Overlay Project 26-3
- F. Joint Powers Agreement with Dakota County for Oakdale Avenue Pavement Management Project

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

11. Public Hearings

12. General Business

- A. Final Reading - Ordinance Amendment to City Code Section 72.02 Regarding Parking Over 48 Hours

Public Works Director / City Engineer Ross Beckwith presented the final reading; first reading and public hearing was held at the February 23 council meeting. Staff asks that the council approve the final reading of an ordinance amending section 72.02 of the West St. Paul City Zoning Code.

Motion was made by Councilmember Fromm and seconded by Councilmember Armon to approve Ordinance No. 26-003 Amending Section 72.02 of the City Code Regarding Parking Over 48 Hours as presented.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried

- B. Mayor and Councilmember Salaries

Assistant City Manager Dan Nowicki presented the first reading of an ordinance amending City Code Section 30.04 Regarding Mayor and Councilmember Salaries. The Charter Commission reviewed elected officials salaries and is proposing a 3% increase for 2027 and a 2.5% increase for 2028. Staff asks that the council approve the first reading and set the final reading and public hearing for the April 13th city council meeting.

City Attorney Whitmore advised that passage of this amendment on city code side requires majority vote and on charter side requires unanimous approval and goes into effect after the next election.

Motion was made by Councilmember Gulley and seconded by Councilmember Justen to approve the first reading of an ordinance amending section 30.04 of the city code as presented.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried

C. Charter Amendment: First Reading of Ordinance Updating Entire City Charter

Assistant City Manager Dan Nowicki presented the first reading of an ordinance amending the city charter to include rewording section 1.02 for clarity, amending council and mayor salaries, and updating gender neutral language throughout. Staff asks that the council approve the first reading and set the final reading and public hearing for the April 13th city council meeting.

Motion was made by Councilmember Fromm and seconded by Councilmember Justen to approve the first reading of an ordinance amending the city charter as presented.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried

D. City Charter Summary Publication

Assistant City Manager Dan Nowicki presented. Staff asks that the council approve summary publication of the charter amendments in Item C. once passed to avoid publishing the entire city charter.

Motion was made by Councilmember Gulley and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to approve the city charter summary publication as presented.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried

13. Adjourn

Motion was made by Councilmember Eng-Sarne and seconded by Councilmember Justen to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

David J. Napier
Mayor
City of West St. Paul

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Nowicki
Assistant City Manager
City of West St. Paul