



City Council Meeting

August 25, 2025

7:00 PM

Fridley City Hall, 7071 University Avenue NE

Minutes

Call to Order

Mayor Ostwald called the City Council Meeting of August 25, 2025, to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present

Mayor Dave Ostwald
Councilmember Patrick Vescio
Councilmember Ryan Evanson
Councilmember Luke Cardona
Councilmember Ann Bolcom

Absent

Others Present

Walter Wysopal, City Manager
Jim Kosluchar, Public Works Director
Melissa Moore, Assistant City Manager

Pledge Of Allegiance

Proclamations/Presentations

1. Proclamation for Constitution Week (September 17-23, 2025)

Mayor Ostwald presented the proclamation designating September 17th through the 23rd as Constitution Week.

Approval of Proposed Consent Agenda

Motion made by Councilmember Bolcom to adopt the proposed Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Evanson.

Upon a voice vote, all voting aye, Mayor Ostwald declared the motion carried unanimously.

Approval/Receipt of Minutes

2. Approve the Minutes from the City Council Meeting of August 11, 2025.
3. Receive the Minutes from the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of June 2, 2025.

4. Receive the Minutes from the HRA Commission Meeting of June 5, 2025.
5. Receive the Minutes from the Environmental Quality and Energy Commission (EQEC) Meeting of July 8, 2025.
6. Receive the Minutes from the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of July 9, 2025.

New Business

7. Resolution No. 2025-103, Accepting the 2025 Joint Powers Agreement Crimes Against Children (ICAC).

Claims

8. Resolution No. 2025-102, Approving Claims for the Period Ending August 20, 2025.

Open Forum, Visitors: (Consideration of Items not on Agenda – 15 minutes.)

Derek Lind, Ramsey resident, stated that he is part of the Anoka County Election Integrity Team and spoke about city autonomy.

Mike and Kathy Lee, Mounds View residents, commented that they are Springbrook Nature Center Foundation members and spoke about the upcoming Autumn Sampler Event.

Adoption of Regular Agenda

Motion made by Councilmember Evanson to adopt the regular agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Vescio.

Upon a voice vote, all voting aye, Mayor Ostwald declared the motion carried unanimously.

Regular Agenda

New Business

9. Resolution No. 2025-101, Authorizing a 2025 Budget Amendment for the Public Works Rooftop Solar Array

Jim Kosluchar, Public Works Director, provided information on the project history, changes to the project timeline, and recommendation.

Councilmember Evanson for information on the break-even point and the useful life of the panels. Mr. Kosluchar estimated that the break-even point would occur around seven years and noted that

the presentation included information on the savings the City would see over 25 years. He estimated the useful life of the panels to be about 25 years.

Councilmember Vescio referenced the project delay from 2017 to 2025 and asked if there had been a decrease in the cost of installation during that time. Mr. Kosluchar stated that there has been a cost reduction in installation as well as upgraded technology.

Councilmember Evanson asked if the break-even figure is for the total cost, or just the cost to the City. Mr. Kosluchar replied that if the project began in 2025, the City would match with \$12,000, but if the project were delayed to 2026, the City's portion of the cost would be \$48,000. He commented that the break-even point was related to the total project cost and acknowledged that it would take less time to reach the break-even point for the City's cost.

Mayor Ostwald recognized that this would be a direct usage system and asked whether any surplus could be sold back to the power company. Mr. Kosluchar stated that the City can absorb the power consumption of this system on a regular basis, and there would be a detriment to the system to go larger. He recognized that things are constantly changing, and the City could consider expanding the system in the future if desired.

Councilmember Cardona asked for information on the size of the system that would be needed for Moore Lake compared to the Public Works Facility. Mr. Kosluchar commented that the systems are of the same capacity, although the array will be more compact at Public Works.

Motion made by Councilmember Cardona to approve Resolution No. 2025-101, Authorizing a 2025 Budget Amendment for the Public Works Rooftop Solar Array. Seconded by Councilmember Bolkcom.

Upon a voice vote, all voting aye, Mayor Ostwald declared the motion carried unanimously.

10. Ordinance No. 1433, Creating Title No. 7 (Licensing) of the Fridley City Code and Updating the Chapters Contained Therein and Updating Chapter 209 (Fees) – First Reading

Melissa Moore, Assistant City Manager, provided information on the recodification process. She provided an overview of the proposed creation of Title No. 7, Licensing, and other changes contained within the draft ordinance. She reviewed the next steps for adoption of the ordinance.

The Council acknowledged the work of staff throughout the recodification process. It was also acknowledged that these changes would help to alleviate the burden on staff to review things that are already being reviewed by other entities, such as the State or County.

Motion made by Councilmember Evanson to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 1433, Creating Title No. 7 (Licensing) of the Fridley City Code and Updating the Chapters Therein and Updating Chapter 209 (Fees). Seconded by Councilmember Vescio.

Upon a voice vote, all voting aye, Mayor Ostwald declared the motion carried unanimously.

Informal Status Reports

Councilmember Bolkcom thanked members of City staff and the Lions who volunteered at the Touch a Truck Event, which was a success. She noted that the Leopard Frog dedication will occur on September 10th at Moore Lake, which is the beginning of public art in Fridley.

Councilmember Cardona commented that his son enjoyed the Touch a Truck Event. He recognized Deputy Chief Patrick Faber and retired Community Development Director Scott Hickok for a recent tour they took him on.

Councilmember Vescio commented on his recent volunteer involvement with the backpack event at the high school and thanked the Lions for their donations and involvement with the event. Councilmember Bolkcom agreed that it is a great event, recognizing the different churches and organizations that are involved in the event.

Councilmember Evanson commented on the parks that will reopen soon, noting that more information can be found on the City website.

Mayor Ostwald noted that the work on the roundabout at 7th and Mississippi has begun. It was noted that it will be a great improvement once construction is completed.

Adjourn

Motion made by Councilmember Vescio to adjourn. Seconded by Councilmember Evanson.

Upon a voice vote, all voting aye, Mayor Ostwald declared the motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Moore
City Clerk

Dave Ostwald
Mayor