



City of Duluth

411 West First Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

Minutes - Final

City Council

MISSION STATEMENT: *The mission of the Duluth City Council is to develop effective public policy rooted in citizen involvement that results in excellent municipal services and creates a thriving community prepared for the challenges of the future.*

TOOLS OF CIVILITY: *The Duluth City Council promotes the use and adherence of the tools of civility in conducting the business of the council. The tools of civility provide increased opportunities for civil discourse leading to positive resolutions for the issues that face our city. We know that when we have civility, we get civic engagement, and because we can't make each other civil and we can only work on ourselves, we state that today I will: pay attention, listen, be inclusive, not gossip, show respect, seek common ground, repair damaged relationships, use constructive language, and take responsibility. [Approved by the council on May 14, 2018]*

MN Statutes, 13D.02. *Members may participate by interactive technology*

Tuesday, May 26, 2026

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

Tuesday - Day After Memorial Day

ROLL CALL

All members present at roll call.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [26-016](#) MEETING MINUTES OF THE DULUTH CITY COUNCIL

Indexes:

Attachments: [2026-05-11 City Council Minutes](#)

Minutes were approved without objection by the City Council.

REPORTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION

FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (AGENDA ITEMS)

David Schimpf, Kristi Stokes, Jnana Hand, and Shaun Floerke spoke regarding the Downtown Strategy (26-0450R) item.

SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

Olin Pogorels spoke regarding the Library remaining downtown. Peter Krause spoke regarding the new parking system and the removal of the parking meters. Craig Sheets regarding radioactive detectors being placed in the port, rail yards, and weigh stations. Loren Martell spoke regarding the lead lateral replacement project and his appreciation for the work done to replace the line to his house.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Councilor Johnson, seconded by Councilor Tomanek. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

BY COUNCILOR RANDORF (FINANCE)

2. [26-0451R](#) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE CRIME VICTIM SERVICES PROSECUTORIAL GRANT FROM THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS, EXTENDING THE TERM OF THE AGREEMENT THROUGH DECEMBER 2026 AND PROVIDING AN ADDITIONAL \$17,500 TO PARTIALLY FUND THE VICTIM SERVICES SPECIALIST POSITION IN THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR 2026.

Indexes:

Attachments: [20260514 Cover Memo](#)
 [Exhibit A](#)

This Resolution was adopted.

BY COUNCILOR DURRWACHTER (PURCHASING & LICENSING)

3. [26-0459R](#) RESOLUTION APPROVING APPLICATIONS FOR LAWFUL GAMBLING

Indexes:

Attachments: [Irving Community Club, Premises Permit](#)
 [Southern SLC Fair Assn, Premises Permit - Tappa Keg](#)
 [Piedmont Heights Hockey, Premises Permit](#)
 [Southern SLC Fair Assn, Premises Permit, Aces on 1st](#)

This Resolution was adopted.

4. [26-0463R](#) RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF VARIOUS LIQUOR LICENSES

Indexes:

Attachments: [New Off Sale Liquor, Sabor by Pedros LLC](#)
[New Off Sale Liquor, Cave Enterprises](#)
[Temp On Sale Liquor, COGGS](#)
[Temp On Sale Liquor, Race Across Duluth](#)
[Temp Expansion, Lemon's Reef, Grandma's](#)
[Temp Expansion, Lemon's Reef, Shipwrecked](#)
[Grandma's Marathon Canal Park Map](#)
[Temp Expansion, Grandma's Marathon](#)

This Resolution was adopted.

BY COUNCILOR FORSMAN (PERSONNEL)

5. [26-0458R](#) RESOLUTION APPROVING PROPOSED SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE NEW CIVIL SERVICE CLASSIFICATION OF OPERATIONS PROGRAM COORDINATOR, AND SPECIFYING CONTRACT BENEFITS FOR SAME.

Indexes:

Attachments: [Exhibit A](#)
[Exhibit B](#)

This Resolution was adopted.

6. [26-0477R](#) RESOLUTION APPROVING PROPOSED SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE NEW CIVIL SERVICE CLASSIFICATION OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SUPERVISOR, AND SPECIFYING CONTRACT BENEFITS FOR SAME.

Indexes:

Attachments: [Exhibit A](#)
[Exhibit B](#)

This Resolution was adopted.

BY PRESIDENT NEPHEW (PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT)

7. [26-0460R](#) RESOLUTION APPROVING DEDA RESOLUTION 26D-06 AUTHORIZING SUBRECIPIENT FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH INLAND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS, LLC FOR THE CONTAMINATION CLEANUP OF LOT D IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,134,320.

Indexes:

Attachments: [Council Memo](#)
[Exhibit A](#)

This Resolution was adopted.

8. [26-0461R](#) RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE REQUEST BY UNION GOSPEL MISSION TO THE STATE OF MINNESOTA FOR QUALIFYING MULTIFAMILY FUNDING AND A CONDITIONAL PRE-COMMITMENT OF \$400,000 FISCAL YEAR 2027 FUNDING ALLOCATION TO THE CITY OF DULUTH FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MISSION HEIGHTS HOUSING PROJECT.

Indexes:

Attachments: [Council Memo](#)
[Attachment 1](#)

This Resolution was adopted.

9. [26-0462R](#) RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE REQUEST BY ONE ROOF COMMUNITY HOUSING TO THE STATE OF MINNESOTA FOR QUALIFYING MULTIFAMILY FUNDING AND A CONDITIONAL PRE-COMMITMENT OF \$400,000 FISCAL YEAR 2027 FUNDING ALLOCATION TO THE CITY OF DULUTH FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE DECKER 2 PROJECT.

Indexes:

Attachments: [Council Memo](#)
[Attachment 1](#)

This Resolution was adopted.

10. [26-0465R](#) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE CITY LOAN AGREEMENT WITH SOFIDEL AMERICA CORP.

Indexes:

Attachments: [Council Memo](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Original Minnesota Investment Fund Loan Agreement](#)

This Resolution was adopted.

11. [26-0467R](#) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO A JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT WITH THE MINNESOTA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY RELATED TO THE LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT PROGRAM FOR THE YEAR 2027.

Indexes:

Attachments: [Council Memo](#)
[Exhibit A](#)

This Resolution was adopted.

BY COUNCILOR DESOTELLE (PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES)

12. [26-0466R](#) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE DULUTH SEAWAY PORT AUTHORITY FOR THE TEMPORARY USE OF PROPERTY ON RICE'S POINT TO MAKE CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS ON LIFT STATION 40, AT NO COST TO THE CITY.

Indexes:

Attachments: [Cover Memo-DSPA License Agreement re Rices Point](#)
[Exhibit 1 - License Agreement](#)

This Resolution was adopted.

13. [26-0468R](#) RESOLUTION AWARDED A CONTRACT TO JMF CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR THE 5TH AVENUE WEST DOWN DRAIN PROJECT, CITY PROJECT NO. 2257, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$282,527.06.

Indexes:

Attachments: [26-0468R Resolution Cover Memo](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Map](#)

This Resolution was adopted.

14. [26-0469R](#) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC FACILITIES AUTHORITY (MPFA) FOR A FORGIVABLE LOAN FROM THE DRINKING WATER REVOLVING FUND FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE "2026 HIGH-PRIORITY LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT" PROJECT (PFA PROJECT 1690011-30, CITY PROJECT 2320) AS DESCRIBED IN THE LOAN APPLICATION.

Indexes:

Attachments: [Cover Memo](#)
[PFA Application 1690011-30](#)

This Resolution was adopted.

15. [26-0470R](#) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC FACILITIES AUTHORITY (MPFA) FOR A FORGIVABLE LOAN FROM THE DRINKING WATER REVOLVING FUND FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE "2026 NEIGHBORHOOD LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT" PROJECT (PFA PROJECT 1690011-31, CITY

PROJECT 2324 AND 2325) AS DESCRIBED IN THE LOAN APPLICATION.

Indexes:

Attachments: [Cover Memo](#)

[PFA Application 1690011-31](#)

This Resolution was adopted.

BY COUNCILOR JOHNSON (RECREATION, LIBRARIES & AUTHORITIES)

16. [26-0476R](#) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A TEN-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH THE GND DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE FOR THE USE AND MAINTENANCE OF THE GARY NEW DULUTH RECREATION CENTER.

Indexes:

Attachments: [GND 10 year Cover Memo](#)

[Exhibit 1](#)

This Resolution was adopted.

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

The following entitled resolutions are also to be considered:

BY PRESIDENT NEPHEW (PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT)

17. [26-0450R](#) RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CITY OF DULUTH'S DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Indexes:

Attachments: [Cover Memo - Downtown Strategy.pdf](#)

[Downtown Development Strategy - Final Draft - reduced file size.pdf](#)

Motion to table was made by Vice President Kennedy, seconded by Councilor Clanaugh. Motion to table carried unanimously by voice vote.

BY COUNCILOR DESOTELLE (PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES)

18. [26-0471R](#) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY IN THE IRVING NEIGHBORHOOD FROM MINNESOTA POWER, A DIVISION OF ALLETE, INC. FOR \$100, PLUS ASSOCIATED COSTS.

Indexes:

Attachments: [Exhibit 1 - Purchase Agreement](#)
[Exhibit 2 - Map](#)
[Cover Memo-MP PA](#)

Motion to approve made by Councilor Desotelle, seconded by Councilor Tomanek. Councilor Forsman notified the Council that he will be abstaining due to his employment with Minnesota Power. Motion carried 8-0 by voice vote, Councilor Forsman abstaining.

BY COUNCILOR JOHNSON (RECREATION, LIBRARIES & AUTHORITIES)

19. [26-0455R](#) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE DULUTH CLIMBERS COALITION FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF ICE FARMING INFRASTRUCTURE AT QUARRY PARK.

Indexes:

Attachments: [Cover Memo_Duluth Climbers Coalition](#)
[Exhibit A](#)

Motion to approve by Councilor Johnson, seconded by Vice President Kennedy. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

20. [26-0473R](#) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND RECORDATION OF THREE DOCUMENTS AFFECTING REAL PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED FROM PARK HILL CEMETERY ASSOCIATION IN THE MORLEY HEIGHTS/PARKVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD.

Indexes:

Attachments: [Cover Memo - Grant Docs](#)
[Exhibit 1 - Resolution](#)
[Exhibit 2 - Resolution](#)
[Exhibit 3 - Resolution](#)
[Exhibit 4 - Resolution](#)
[Exhibit 5 - Resolution](#)

Motion to approve made by Councilor Johnson, seconded by Councilor Desotelle. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

The following entitled ordinances are to be read for the first time:

BY PRESIDENT NEPHEW (PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT)

21. [26-016-O](#) AN ORDINANCE GRANTING MINNESOTA POWER A CONCURRENT USE PERMIT TO INSTALL A NEW TRANSFORMER AND TRANSITION CABINET WITHIN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY BETWEEN 602 W MICHIGAN ST

AND 530 W MICHIGAN ST.

Indexes:

Attachments: [PLCUP-2604-0009 Cover Memo.pdf](#)

[Attachment 1- Exhibit.pdf](#)

[Attachment 2- Staff Report.pdf](#)

This Ordinance was read for the first time.

BY COUNCILOR JOHNSON (RECREATION, LIBRARIES & AUTHORITIES)

22. [26-017-O](#) AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 35 OF THE DULUTH CITY CODE TO REGULATE PRIVATE EGRESS ACROSS THE MARTEN TRAIL

Indexes:

Attachments: [Cover Memo - Dock Ordinance](#)

[Marten Trail Map of Permittable Dock Locations](#)

This Ordinance was read for the first time.

The following entitled ordinances are to be read for the second time:

BY PRESIDENT NEPHEW (PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT)

23. [26-010-O](#) AN ORDINANCE GRANTING INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 709 A CONCURRENT USE PERMIT TO PAVE AND STRIPE THE EASTERLY PORTION OF THE 101ST AVE W RIGHT-OF-WAY.

Indexes:

Attachments: [PLCUP-2603-0006 Cover Memo.pdf](#)

[Attachment 1- Exhibit.pdf](#)

[Attachment 2- Staff Report.pdf](#)

[Attachment 3- Planning Commission Meeting Minutes \(not approved yet\).pdf](#)

Motion to approve made by President Nephew, seconded by Vice President Kennedy. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

24. [26-012-O](#) AN ORDINANCE GRANTING AT&T A CONCURRENT USE PERMIT TO INSTALL SMALL CELL WIRELESS FACILITY TO A MINNESOTA POWER POLE ON THE NORTH SIDE OF PARKWOOD LANE RIGHT OF WAY.

Indexes:

Attachments: [Cover Memo.pdf](#)[Attachment 1- Exhibit.pdf](#)[Attachment 2- PLCUP-2602-0002 Staff Report and Attachments.pdf](#)[Attachment 3- Planning Commission Meeting Minutes \(not approved yet\).pdf](#)

Motion to approve made by President Nephew, seconded by Councilor Johnson. Councilor Forsman notified the Council that he will be abstaining due to his employment with Minnesota Power. Motion carried 8-0 by voice vote, Councilor Forsman abstaining.

25. [26-013-O](#) AN ORDINANCE GRANTING AT&T A CONCURRENT USE PERMIT TO INSTALL SMALL CELL WIRELESS FACILITY TO MINNESOTA POWER POLE ON THE EAST SIDE OF NORTH 53RD AVENUE EAST RIGHT OF WAY.

Indexes:**Attachments:** [Cover Memo.pdf](#)[Attachment 1 - Survey.pdf](#)[Attachment 2 PLCUP-2602-0003 Staff Report and Attachments.pdf](#)[Attachment 3 Public Comment.pdf](#)[Attachment 4- Planning Commission Meeting Minutes \(not approved yet\).pdf](#)

Motion to approve made by President Nephew, seconded by Councilor Johnson. Councilor Forsman notified the Council that he will be abstaining due to his employment with Minnesota Power. Motion carried 8-0 by voice vote, Councilor Forsman abstaining.

26. [26-014-O](#) AN ORDINANCE GRANTING AT&T A CONCURRENT USE PERMIT TO INSTALL SMALL CELL WIRELESS FACILITY TO MINNESOTA POWER POLE ON THE EAST SIDE OF NORTH 50th AVENUE EAST RIGHT OF WAY.

Indexes:**Attachments:** [Cover Memo.pdf](#)[Attachment 1- Exhibit.pdf](#)[Attachment 2- PLCUP-2602-0004 Staff Report and Attachments.pdf](#)[Attachment 3- Public Comment.pdf](#)[Attachment 4- Planning Commission Meeting Minutes \(not approved yet\).pdf](#)

Motion to approve made by President Nephew, seconded by Councilor Johnson. Councilor Forsman notified the Council that he will be abstaining due to his employment with Minnesota Power. Motion carried 8-0 by voice vote, Councilor Forsman abstaining.

27. [26-015-O](#) AN ORDINANCE GRANTING AT&T A CONCURRENT USE PERMIT TO

INSTALL SMALL CELL WIRELESS FACILITY TO A MINNESOTA POWER POLE ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE NORTH 58TH AVENUE EAST RIGHT OF WAY.

Indexes:

Attachments: [Cover Memo.pdf](#)

[Attachment 1- CUP Exhibit.pdf](#)

[Attachment 2- PLCUP-2602-0005 Staff Report and Attachments.pdf](#)

[Attachment 3- Public Comment.pdf](#)

[Attachment 4- Planning Commission Meeting Minutes \(not approved yet\).pdf](#)

Motion to approve made by President Nephew, seconded by Councilor Johnson. Councilor Forsman notified the Council that he will be abstaining due to his employment with Minnesota Power. Motion carried 8-0 by voice vote, Councilor Forsman abstaining.

COUNCILOR/ADMINISTRATION QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

COUNCILOR/ADMINISTRATION PREVIEW OF UPCOMING BUSINESS

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilor Clanaugh, seconded by Councilor Johnson. Meeting adjourned at 6:43 PM.