

Minutes of the Proceedings of the City Council of the City of Champlin in the County of Hennepin and the State of Minnesota
Pursuant to Due Call and Notice Thereof

Regular Session
February 24, 2025
Municipal Center

Call to Order	The Champlin City Council met in Regular Session and was called to order by Mayor Ryan Sabas at 7:00 p.m.
Pledge of Allegiance	The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Roll Call	<p>Present: Mayor Ryan Sabas and Councilmembers Tom Moe (Ward 2), Nate Truesdell (Ward 3), and Tim LaCroix (Ward 4).</p> <p>Absent: Councilmember Jessica Tesdall (Ward 1).</p> <p>Also present were City Administrator Bret Heitkamp, Community Development Director Scott Schulte, City Attorney Dave Schaps, City Engineer Heather Nelson, and Police Chief Glen Schneider.</p>
Approval of Agenda (February 24, 2025) Motion	Motion by Councilmember Truesdell and seconded by Councilmember LaCroix to approve the agenda for the February 24, 2025, Regular Meeting as presented. Voting in favor were Mayor Sabas, Councilmembers Moe, Truesdell and LaCroix. Voting against: none. Motion carried.
Approval of Minutes Motion	Motion by Councilmember Truesdell and seconded by Councilmember Moe to approve the minutes of the January 31, 2025 Legislative Worksession, February 10, 2025 Worksession and February 10, 2025 Regular Session Meeting as presented. Voting in favor were Mayor Sabas, Councilmembers Moe, Truesdell and LaCroix. Voting against: none. Motion carried.
Ratification of Payments (February 24, 2025) Motion	Motion by Councilmember LaCroix and seconded by Councilmember Moe to approve ratification of payments as submitted on February 24, 2025. Voting in favor were Mayor Sabas, Councilmembers Moe, Truesdell and LaCroix. Voting against: none. Motion carried.
Announcements	<p>Mayor Sabas made the following announcements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council Worksession – Monday, March 10th at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Conference Room• City Council Meeting – Monday, March 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers• Tickets to the Family Glow Dance Party on March 15th are available online. Join us for a night of glow-in-the-dark fun at the Mississippi Crossings Event Center! The party will feature neon lights, lively dance beats, a photo booth, and more.• We have several open seats on our advisory commissions, and we're looking for passionate community members to join! Volunteering on a commission is an amazing way to make a positive impact. Visit our website to learn more about the Environmental Resources Commission, Planning Commission, and Parks and Recreation Commission.• Avoid the hassle of towing and launching your boat by purchasing a watercraft slip at Mississippi Crossings. Four slips are open for the 2025 boating season. We will have a lottery drawing on April 7th at 1 p.m. to select winners. It's free to enter.• We seek to find vendors who want to be a part of the 2025 Farmers Market and 2025 Spring Craft Market. Interested in a booth at one or both events? Visit our website to learn more.
Oath of Office for New Officers	<p><u>Special Presentations</u></p> <p>The Police Chief introduced Officers Jace Rosenfeld, Lindsay Molinaro, and Charles Zielin. Mayor Sabas administered the Oath of Office to the three Officers and all other Officers present at the meeting.</p>
QCTV Report to Member Cities	<p>QCTV Executive Director Karen George and Social Media/Communications Coordinator Seamus Burke provided an update on activities at the QCTV station including accomplishments from 2024 and a look ahead for 2025.</p> <p>Mayor Sabas recognized the growth of QCTV in recent years, noting that many of their past thoughts</p>

for the future have come to fruition. He commented on the wonderful performance of QCTV staff.

Councilmember Moe congratulated Ms. George and the QCTV staff for their ability to respond to the shift in the internet and social media, also recognizing past goals of the organization in those areas.

Overview of Worksession Discussion

The City Administrator provided a brief overview of the discussion that occurred earlier in the evening at the Council Worksession regarding:

- The Council received an overview of the 2024 street improvement project and related resident surveys regarding communication. The Council also received information about the 2025 street improvement project and its related communications plan.
- The Council reviewed the rental ordinance in response to concerns from the Department of Justice in neighboring communities and provided direction to staff for potential amendments to the ordinance.

Consent Agenda

Councilmember LaCroix requested to pull Item 9.1, Reclassification of Associate Planner to City Planner, from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Mayor Sabas requested to pull Item 9.2, Resolution Approving the Local Road Improvement Program Grant Agreement for 109th Avenue Reconstruction Project – Tree Clearing, Improvement Project No. 21606, from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.

Reclassification of Associate Planner to City Planner Motion

Councilmember LaCroix stated that as former Chair of the Planning Commission, he had the opportunity to work with three individuals who worked in the staff planner position. He commented that the current Associate Planner has done an outstanding job, is always prepared, and has continued to grow in that role. He welcomed the reclassification of the position.

Councilmember Truesdell and the other members of the Council echoed the comments of Councilmember LaCroix and also supported the reclassification.

Motion by Councilmember Moe and seconded by Councilmember LaCroix to approve the reclassification of the Associate Planner position to City Planner, effective February 2, 2025. Voting in favor were Mayor Sabas, Councilmembers Moe, Truesdell and LaCroix. Voting against: none. Motion carried.

Resolution Approving the Local Road Improvement Program Grant Agreement for 109th Avenue Reconstruction Project – Tree Clearing, Improvement Project No. 21606 Resolution 2025-15

Mayor Sabas stated that he received a call from a resident who is a certified arborist and was inquiring about some of the smaller oak trees near the medical/industrial building that had been tagged. He stated that the resident believes that those trees could be moved and asked if that could be an option.

The City Engineer replied that many of the trees within the existing right-of-way will need to be removed in order for the road and pedestrian facilities to be expanded. She stated that there are timing requirements for the removal of trees in order to prevent impact on endangered species, which is why the tree clearing is occurring prior to the road project. She stated that they will cut the trees during this project and remove the stumps during the road project.

Councilmember Truesdell introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

A Resolution for Local Road Improvement Program Grant Agreement for 109th Avenue Reconstruction Project – Tree Clearing, Improvement Project No. 21606, SAP 193-106-021

The motion for the adoption of the resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember Moe, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Mayor Sabas, Councilmembers Moe, Truesdell and LaCroix, and the following voted against the same: none, whereupon said resolution was passed this 24th day of February 2025.

Open Forum

Grace Molenaar Baltich, 11711 Douglas Drive N, commented that she has lived in Champlin for almost her whole life and her parents watched as the community was built. She commented on her experience as a student and as a law enforcement explorer in Champlin. She commented on the lack of affordable life cycle housing for young people but noted that she has moved back to Champlin as an

adult to raise her children. She commented that those who serve the community are truly what makes the city a great place, highlighting the work of City staff. She understood that the current contract for City staff has expired, negotiations are currently underway, and she did not believe the requests from City staff are out of line or differ from what is received by other departments. She stated that she believes in fairness, and the City should value the people who make this community run well. She asked the Council to award the City staff the same exact things that other members/departments receive.

Bart Anderson, AFSCME Council 5, stated that they represent 43,000 members across the state including employees of Champlin. He commented that AFSCME will stand with the employees in Champlin noting that this is an issue of dignity and respect. He commented that it is unfair to force workers to take back pay and benefits they have worked for when other employees receive the same benefits. He stated that without these employees, the City services will not be provided to the same standard. He asked that the City employees be treated with the same level of dignity and respect as others and asked the Council not to request takebacks.

The City Attorney commented that there is a scheduled mediation between the City and the union on March 18th.

Paul Gammel, Stanchfield resident, commented that he is the lead negotiator for this local union. He agreed that there is a scheduled mediation, however, there is only one item on the agenda and that is not related to the subjects mentioned tonight. He asked the City Administrator for a full response to their last offer submitted on December 27th. He stated that the comments made tonight should be addressed in mediation. He stated that they would be willing to come back to the table before mediation to discuss these issues.

Adjournment

The Champlin City Council adjourned the regular meeting at 7:48 p.m.


Ryan Sabas, Mayor

Attest:


Julie Tembreull, Executive Assistant/City Clerk

Councilmember Truesdell introduced the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2025-15
CITY OF CHAMPLIN
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**RESOLUTION FOR LOCAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT
AGREEMENT FOR 109TH AVE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT - TREE CLEARING,
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NO. 21606, SAP 193-106-021**

WHEREAS, the City of Champlin has applied to the Commissioner of Transportation for a grant from the Local Road Improvement Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Transportation has given notice that funding for this project is available; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the grant for tree clearing activities has been determined to be \$30,240.00 by reason of the lowest responsible quote;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City of Champlin does hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the grant consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 174.52, and will pay any additional amount by which the cost exceeds the estimate and will return to the Local Road Improvement Fund any amount appropriated for the project but not required. The proper city officers are authorized to execute a grant agreement and any amendments thereto with the Commissioner of Transportation concerning the above-referenced grant.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember Moe, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Mayor Sabas, Councilmembers Moe, Truesdell and LaCroix, and the following voted against the same: none, whereupon said Resolution was passed this 24th day of February, 2025.

Ryan Sabas

Ryan Sabas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Julie Tembreull

Julie Tembreull, Exec. Asst./City Clerk