

**WAYZATA CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
May 20, 2025**

5:00 p.m. Discussion of Long-Term Staffing Plan

Mayor Mullin called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Council Members present in-person in the community room at City Hall offices: MacDonald, Parkhill, Plechash, and Sorensen. Also present: City Manager Jeff Dahl, Deputy City Manager Aurora Yager, Community Development Director Alex Sharpe, Public Works Director/City Engineer Mike Kelly, and Parks and Environment Planner Nick Kieser.

To gather feedback and answer questions regarding the staffing requests included in the 2025 update to the Long-Term Staffing Plan.

Each year as part of the budget process, staff reviews current organizational needs, especially as it relates to service delivery, and brainstorms future staffing needs up to five years in the future. The identification of staffing needs does not commit the City to filling these positions, but rather gives the Council and staff an idea of the impact those positions could have on the budget to better evaluate priorities and plan for these in advance.

At this meeting, staff will explain the need for each requested position and gather feedback from the Council on what positions to include in the first draft of the 2026 Budget. Their potential impact on the levy is subject to Council approval as part of the annual budget process and will be reviewed more comprehensively in the City's Long-Term Financial Plan and the first draft of the General Fund Budget on July 1, 2025.

Next Steps in the 2026 Budget Process:

- June 17, 2025 - CIP and Excess Reserves Workshop
- July 1, 2025 - Long-Term Financial Plan and General Fund Budget Workshop
- July 15, 2025 - Enterprise Fund Budget Workshop and General Fund Budget Update (if needed)
- August 19, 2025 – 2026 Budget Status Update Workshop
- September 9, 2025 – Council adopts 2026 Preliminary Budgets, Tax Levy, and Fee Schedule
- October 7, 2025 - 2026-2035 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Workshop
- October 21, 2025 - Final Budget Status Update Workshop
- October-November – Staff refines General Fund budget, Enterprise Fund Budgets and CIP as needed
- December 2, 2025 - Council adopts Final 2025 Budgets
- December 16, 2025 - Council adopts 2026-2035 CIP

5:45 p.m. Review and Discussion of Draft City Operations Resilience Plan

Energy and Environment Committee members KC Chermak and Meaghan Yorro provided an overview of the City Operations Resilience Plan (CORP), emphasizing that the proposed grant scope is intended to support the development of a more resilient and adaptable community. Yorro explained that resilience refers to the capacity of individuals and communities to anticipate, withstand, and effectively adapt to changing climate conditions and hazard events. The CORP is a data-informed document that outlines strategies and actions aimed at enhancing community resilience.

Chermak noted that the CORP was developed with funding provided by a grant from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). Following the award of the grant, the Energy and Environment Committee and City staff partnered with the consulting firm LHB to draft the attached version of the CORP.

Chermak and Yorro also presented summaries of the Climate Vulnerability Assessment (CLA), the City Operations Greenhouse Gas Inventory, and the strategies and action items developed as a result. The data and analysis from the CLA and inventory directly informed the creation of specific implementation actions. These action items, along with the broader CORP, are intended to serve as a framework to guide future decision-making across City operations.

An updated draft of the CORP, incorporating any feedback received during the Council workshop, is scheduled to be presented for final approval at the June 17 Council meeting. It was noted that the MPCA grant requires the CORP to be finalized by the June 30, 2025, deadline.

During the discussion, Council members acknowledged the comprehensive list of strategies and actions included in the CORP. To assist with prioritization and implementation, the Council requested a list of near-term, high-priority action items from the Energy and Environment Committee.

Additionally, the Council discussed the need to assess community support for allocating City funds to implement the proposed actions. It was recommended that further community engagement be incorporated into the CORP to better understand public priorities and inform potential budgetary decisions.

Overall, the Council expressed support for the CORP, but requested that two elements be addressed prior to final adoption: (1) a prioritized list of recommended action items, and (2) additional community engagement to gauge support for funding implementation efforts. The Energy and Environment Committee and City staff will work to incorporate this information into the CORP or prepare it for presentation at the June 17 Council meeting.

6:15 p.m. Discussion of Request to Amend Chapter 936 Tree Preservation Code Relating to Exceptions for Golf Courses and Other Uses

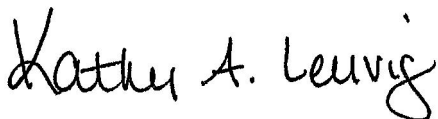
City Council discussed the prioritization of draft amendments to the Tree Preservation Ordinance (TPO) relating to exceptional considerations for golf courses and other institutional type uses with the following background information.

In 2023, Woodhill Country Club, whose property lies within both the cities of Wayzata and Orono, approached City staff about a significant and phased golf course improvement project they plan to commence in the near future.

Woodhill is planning on significant tree removal and, while City staff has worked with them on a tree removal plan in order to try and be as flexible as possible within the parameters of the ordinance, officials from Woodhill have indicated that the ordinance is overly burdensome for properties that are not typical commercial or residential developments. A representative from Woodhill, Brian Edmiston, presented additional context about how the TPO affects their property management.

City Council discussed the current ordinance requirements and how they could affect significant acreage properties, specifically golf courses. The Council discussed that there may be unintended effects from the ordinance, specifically for the two golf courses and directed staff to prepare a draft ordinance exempting these properties for Planning Commission and City Council review at the soonest opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Leervig, City Clerk