

**WAYZATA CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
September 9, 2025**

Mayor Mullin called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m. Council Members present, in-person in the conference room at City Hall offices: MacDonald, Parkhill, Sorensen, and Plechash. Also present: Interim City Manager/Public Works Director/City Engineer Mike Kelly, Fire Chief Kevin Klapprich, Police Chief Jamie Baker, Finance Manager Pete Zimmerman, and Abdo Finance Consultant Steve McDonald.

5:25 p.m. Discussion of Klapprich Park Art Request

Mayor Mullin provided background noting in late July 2025, the Interim City Manager received a request from Tom Shaver, Ed Turnquist, and Kurt Klapprich to introduce a proposal to install a public/private sculpture at Klapprich Park.

There are two options available for the Council to direct consideration of this donation.

- In March 2021, the Council approved a city-wide Naming and Dedication Policy. The Council could opt to follow the existing policy.
- In August 2025, the Council approved the creation of a Public Art Committee. The Council could opt to hold the request until the Committee is officially appointed and have the new committee consider this request in early 2026.

Per the request, the sculpture is proposed to be funded through private donations, with the City providing site preparation and pedestal installation.

Mr. Shaver provided background on the desire of several community residents to honor Paul Klapprich with a life-size statue to be placed at Klapprich Park recognizing his decades of dedication to Wayzata youth hockey and the life lessons and positive impact on generations of players. The estimated cost of the statue is approximately \$75,000-\$100,000 and would be raised through private donations. A non-refundable fee of \$10,000 allows the selected artist to begin design work on the sculpture.

Council discussion directed staff to gain input from the newly formed Public Art Committee and asked for an expedited timeline to start the committee recruitment/appointment process to allow input from the members on this proposed public art/sculpture.

5:55 p.m. Additional Preliminary General Fund Budget and Enterprise Fund Budget Discussion

Staff updated the Council that the proposed 2026 general fund levy is currently \$7,742,015 which is 12.15% higher than the 2025 levy. At the August 19 workshop, the council directed staff to bring the levy increase down to 7.5% over the 2025 levy.

Based on discussion at the August 19 and staff review, there was consensus to remove the additional officer from the Police Department budget, which resulted in a levy reduction of 2.00% bringing the levy to \$7,603,900, a 10.15% increase over 2025. For purposes of the workshop discussion, this was the starting point.

In order to achieve the goal of a 7.5% increase over 2025, staff stated that the Council will need to decide on adjustments amounting to an additional \$182,688. This can be achieved either through reductions in expenses, use of 2024 excess funds, increases in non-tax revenues or some combination of those options.

Staff presented two alternatives, as proof of concept, that a preliminary levy increase of 7.5% is achievable.

	Option 1
Use of 2024 Excess in 2026 General Fund	95,000

Increase anticipated Planning fees	10,000
Increase general fees to 3.5%	10,000
Reduce Fire Relief Contribution	(22,500)
Delay Fire Chief start date to April 1	(45,115)
Additional revenues + reduced expenditures	\$182,615

	Option 2 *
	(40,000)
Reduce Equipment Transfer	
Reduce City Infrastructure Levy	(27,000)
Use of 2024 Excess in 2026 General Fund	95,000
Increase anticipated Planning fees	10,000
Increase general fees to 3.5%	10,000
Additional revenues + reduced expenditures	\$182,000

* This option allows for the Fire Chief to begin Jan 1 and full \$55,000 contribution to the Fire Relief Association

Direction from the Council was to implement Option 2, which would achieve the 7.5% levy increase for the preliminary certification to the county.

Staff presented past and present recommendations regarding use of excess revenues from 2024.

Regarding the use of 2024 excess funds, in June, staff recommended the following transfers:

- \$125,000 - Comp Plan
- \$350,000 - Facilities Fund
- \$500,000 - Equipment Fund
- \$ 46,287 - Parks Fund

Staff briefly reviewed these Funds, as well as included feedback from previous workshops, and suggested the following revised allocations:

- \$ 25,000 - Comp Plan
- \$250,000 - Facilities Fund
- \$350,000 - Equipment Fund
- \$ 50,000 - Parks Fund
- \$ 50,000 - Muni
- \$ 95,000 - General Fund

The consensus of the Council was that the proposed allocations were acceptable but would like to see an additional \$50,000 allocated to the Parks Fund.

Additionally, specific items were discussed to further reduce the preliminary levy below 7.5%. These items included the following:

- Delay Fire Chief to Q1 = \$41,115
- Delay Fire Chief to Q2 = \$90,230
- Reduced contribution to Fire Relief = \$0 - \$55,000
- Increased Interest Revenue (determine Q3 2025) = \$10,000 - \$20,000

- Removal of stepdown install/removal = \$14,000
- Further reductions to CIP transfers (needs Council project priority feedback, see examples below)

After discussion, the consensus of the Council was to delay the Fire Chief to April 1, no reductions to the proposed Fire Relief contribution, leave the stepdown install/removal in the budget, and to evaluate additional revenue sources, including franchise fees, park dedication and local sales tax.

Finally, staff presented projects to the Council to determine whether they remain a priority to this Council, as several were important to previous Councils, but may not be a priority to this Council. Several Facilities improvement projects were suggested to be reduced or eliminated, greatly improving the fund balance in this CIP.

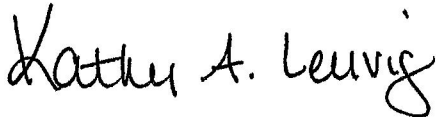
Year	Project	Cost
2026	Council Chambers Security Improvements - Design	\$16,500
2027	Council Chambers Security Improvements - Council Chambers Exit & PW Entrance	\$34,100
2029	Council Chambers Security Improvements - DMV & City Counters	\$347,000
2029	Wayfinding Signage Installation	\$304,000
2030	Council Chambers Security Improvements - PW Security & City Hall Vehicle Barriers	\$69,300

The Council discussed eliminating the Wayfinding project. Council Members MacDonald and Sorensen requested more information regarding the project. Interim City Manager Kelly explained that the project could be removed from the CIP but reserved for future consideration. Additional discussion was had regarding City Hall and Council Chambers security improvements. Mr. Kelly explained that the project specifics could be outlined at a future budget meeting along with discussing all CIP projects and budget impact.

Following discussion, Council consensus was to remove the Wayfinding project from the Facilities CIP, and for staff to present more information about the security projects at an upcoming CIP workshop.

Mr. Kelly informed the Council that the preliminary levy was scheduled to be approved at the regular meeting, that evening. Staff would then prepare the final detailed preliminary budget for approval at the September 23 Council meeting, along with the 2026 fee schedule and excess fund transfers.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Leervig, City Clerk