



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14,
2025

6:00 PM

Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

The City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Tom Spooner at 6:00 pm. Councilors in attendance included Mandy Barnes, Adama Doumbouya, Royal Ross, John Rowan, Peter van Sluis and Chuck Thiele. Also in attendance were City Administrator Jessica Kinser, City Clerk Heather Slechta, Community and Economic Development Director David Wanberg, Police Chief John Sherwin, Fire and Code Services Director Dusty Dienst, Public Works Director Travis Block, Human Resources Director Kevin Bushard, City Planner I Leslie McGillivray-Rivas and Economic Development Coordinator Jake Wiensch.

Approve Agenda

Motion by Rowan, seconded by van Sluis to approve the agenda as presented and carried unanimously.

Presentations/Introductions

Infants Remembered In Silence Proclamation was read by Mayor Spooner. The annual IRIS memorial event will be tomorrow at 7:00 pm.

Approve minutes of the September 23, 2025 City Council Meeting

Motion by Doumbouya, seconded by Ross to approve minutes of the September 23, 2025 City Council Meeting and carried unanimously.

Requests to be Heard

Vicki Olson, 1025 St. Paul Avenue, voiced concerns over the potential Archer Data Center project.

Consent Agenda

- A. List of Claims for Release
- B. Approve Application and Permit for a 1 Day to 4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License
- C. Resolution 2025-246 Approve L.E.L.S. Police Sergeants 2026 Labor Agreement
- D. Resolution 2025-247 Approve I.A.F.F. Firefighters 2026 Labor Agreement
- E. Resolution 2025-250 Approve Appointment of Board and Commission Member
- F. Resolution 2025-252 Approve Faribault Ice Arena Association Agreement
- G. Resolution 2025-253 Accept Donations to the Parks and Recreation Department
- H. Resolution 2025-254 Approve Archery Deer Hunt at River Bend Nature Center

- I. Resolution 2025-255 Amend the 2025 Adopted Budget for Transfers
- J. Resolution 2025-256 Approve the Selection of Citation Software in Cooperation with the Local Government Information System (LOGIS) Association through Rice/Steele Dispatch
- K. Approve LG220 Application for Exempt Permit
- L. Resolution 2025-261 Approve Budget Amendment and Contribution to Faribault Foundation for Land Trust Consulting Services
- M. Resolution 2025-258 Approve Creation of an Ad Hoc Committee for Board and Commission Application Review, Interviews and Recommendation to City Council for Appointment
- N. Resolution 2025-259 Approve Early Construction Agreement for MIGHTY FINE COFFEE ADDITION
- O. Resolution 2025-267 Approve Consent Assessment Agreements for 2025 City Wide Tree Removal Project - Contract 2025-14
- P. Resolution 2025-268 Approve Quote for Well No. 3 Repair and Water Fund Budget Amendment
- Q. Resolution 2025-264 Authorize the City to Apply for MN DNR ReLeaf Community Forestry Grant
- R. Resolution 2025-266 Amend the 2025 Adopted Budget for the Purchase of Rescue Equipment using Public Safety Aid Funds
- S. Resolution 2025-265 Approve Hiring Light Equipment Operators
- T. Resolution 2025-269 Approve an Address Change adding Suites A & B to 200 State Avenue for Allina Health Systems
- U. Resolution 2025-270 Amend the 2025 Adopted Budget for the 225 Airport Fund

Motion by Ross, seconded by van Sluis to approve Consent Agenda Items A-K and M-U and carried unanimously.

Councilor Rowan requested that Consent Agenda Item 6L. Resolution 2025-261 Approve Budget Amendment and Contribution to Faribault Foundation for Land Trust Consulting Services be pulled for further discussion.

Councilor Doumbouya requested that the Council discuss this further as he was not aware other organizations would be involved and would like more information.

Motion by Doumbouya, seconded by Rowan to table Consent Agenda Item 6L. Resolution 2025-261 Approve Budget Amendment and Contribution to Faribault Foundation for Land Trust Consulting Services be pulled for further discussion, motion failed 2:5 with Doumbouya and Rowan voting Aye and Barnes, Ross, van Sluis, Thiele and Mayor Spooner voting Nay.

Motion by van Sluis, seconded by Barnes to approve Consent Agenda Item 6L. Resolution 2025-261 Approve Budget Amendment and Contribution to Faribault Foundation for Land Trust Consulting Services be pulled for further discussion and carried 5:2 with Doumbouya and Rowan voting Nay.

Public Hearings – None

Items for Discussion

Resolution 2025-257 Support A New Passenger Rail Service Between the Twin Cities in Minnesota and Kansas City, Missouri

City Administrator Jessica Kinser explained that in August, she and Mayor Spooner met with two representatives from All Aboard Minnesota, a non-profit working to expand rail travel in and outside of Minnesota. The proposed line from the Twin Cities to Kansas City (and eventually to San Antonio) was brought up in 2024 with letters of support to multiple state and federal officials to ensure this line made it into the five-year rail corridor plan for the State. All Aboard Minnesota has a bit of a different request for the work to get started on this rail line. Their request was a resolution of support requesting the Minnesota Legislature take the first step of submitting a Corridor Identification Grant to the Federal Railroad Administration. Legislation to take this step was introduced in both the Minnesota House and Senate in 2025 but was not acted upon.

This request from All Aboard Minnesota is because a rail line to Kansas City would go through Faribault, with the potential to bring passengers and economic growth to the doorstep of downtown. No funding is being requested from the City of Faribault; only support for the project.

Councilor Barnes stated that she was not in favor of supporting this. Councilor Thiele asked if they are going to come back and ask for money, Kinser and Mayor Spooner stated that they informed them that there is no money available for this and that this would be funded federally and at the state level.

Motion by Ross, seconded by van Sluis to approve Resolution 2025-257 Support A New Passenger Rail Service Between the Twin Cities in Minnesota and Kansas City, Missouri and carried 6:1 with Barnes voting Nay.

Resolution 2025-262 Approve Cannabis Microbusiness for Faribo Green LLC

City Clerk Heather Slechta explained that Michelle Keller on behalf of Faribo Greens LLC has applied for a Cannabis Microbusiness at 1512 30th Street NW. Faribo Green LLC has already been issued a license number by the Minnesota Office of Cannabis Management allowing for a microbusiness.

A cannabis microbusiness license, consistent with the specific license endorsement or endorsements, entitles the license holder to perform a number of businesses established by Minnesota State Statute 342.28 Cannabis Microbusiness Licensing and Operations.

Motion by Ross, seconded by van Sluis to approve Resolution 2025-262 Approve Cannabis Microbusiness for Faribo Green LLC and carried unanimously.

Resolution 2025-263 Approve New On-Sale Intoxicating/Sunday Liquor License for Depot Restaurant LLC dba Depot Bar and Grill

City Clerk Heather Slechta explained that Depot Restaurant LLC dba Depot Bar and Grill,

has applied for an On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License and Sunday Liquor License. They will be operating at 311 Heritage Place. They will also abide by State statutes and City ordinances regarding all requirements and the hours of sale of alcoholic beverages. The Police Department has completed a thorough background check on the applicant and a review of the Certificate of Liability Insurance by the City Attorney is also in process.

If approved, the license will be in effect from October 27, 2025 — December 31, 2025.

Motion by Thiele, seconded by Rowan to approve Resolution 2025-263 Approve New On-Sale Intoxicating/Sunday Liquor License for Depot Restaurant LLC dba Depot Bar and Grill and carried unanimously.

Resolution 2025-260 Approve Variance for Smaller Dwelling Unit Size at 301 Central Ave
City Planner I Leslie McGillivray-Rivas explained that Nort Johnson on behalf of Faribault Downtown Central LLC requested a variance to facilitate the approved Eastman Disbursal Addition plat at 301 Central Ave, at the northeast corner of Central Ave and 3rd St NE. The application proposed a variance to create a dwelling unit of approximately 368 square feet that is smaller than the minimum allowed size of 550 square feet for a studio or efficiency apartment. The request was to facilitate meeting building code requirements for subdividing the property and creating property lines through buildings.

At their October 6, 2025, meeting, the Planning Commission voted six in favor and one against to forward and recommend approval of the variance.

Motion by van Sluis, seconded by Barnes to approve Resolution 2025-260 Approve Variance for Smaller Dwelling Unit Size at 301 Central Ave and carried unanimously.

Bids - None

Boards and Commissions Reports, Announcements and Project Updates – None

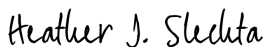
Adjournment

Motion by Ross, seconded by Doumbouya to adjourn the City Council meeting and carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Signed by:



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Heather Slechta
City Clerk