



**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL - WORKSHOP
MAPLE PLAIN CITY HALL
August 11, 2025
5:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

PRESENT: Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske, Councilmember Mike DeLuca, Councilmember Connie Francis, Councilmember Andrew Burak, & Councilmember Rochelle Arvizo

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Jacob Kolander, Assistant City Administrator Kevin Larson, and Director of Public Safety Matt DuRose

2. ADOPT AGENDA

Councilmember Francis made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Burak.

Voting Yea: Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske, Councilmember Mike DeLuca, Councilmember Connie Francis, Councilmember Andrew Burak, & Councilmember Rochelle Arvizo

Motion Passed 5-0

3. DISCUSSION

A. Fire Consolidation Discussion

City Administrator Kolander summarized the current state of the Fire consolidation. Outlining the key developments with the transition team work, budget overview, the fire station lease, and the next steps for the Council.

The Council discussed concerns with disbanding the fire relief. There will be a fire relief meeting on 8/27/25 to discuss next steps. To account for the Council's official direction, this meeting will occur after the joint City Council meeting on 8/21/25 and the MP Business meeting on 8/25/25.

The Council also discussed the 5-year budget outlook. Confirming the yearly increase will not exceed 5% year over year.

Council direction: continue to move forward with the consolidation.

B. Park Improvements - Veteran's Park, Tot Lot & Discovery Center Play Ground

Assistant City Administrator Larson summarized the summary of Scope and Perspective of the Citizens Advisory Panel (CAP) on Public Spaces History. The CAP visited the parks to look for potential improvements and organized the ideas to bring to the Council for discussion. The topics covered are Veterans Park (Don Timpe scoreboard, MP Historical Museum, and walkway bollards), Tot Lot & Discovery Center Playground.

Council discussed several ongoing and potential projects, including the Don Timpe scoreboard, the Maple Plain Historical Museum, walkway bollards, and possible landscaping enhancements. It was noted that there is no interest in using public funds for the scoreboard, and that the Diamond Devils, OBA, or another private entity should cover the remaining cost. Regarding the Historical Museum, the building cannot be moved, and the future use of the current location is uncertain. The council agreed that we will not use tax dollars to construct or relocate a museum, with a possible future location being the new City Hall. The installation of walkway bollards was agreed upon, with the suggestion that we do something decorative, with the understanding that if driving on the grass continues, the issue will be referred to WHPS. Council also discussed the possibility of converting the drainage ditch on the west side of Veterans park into a rain garden and identified a potential location for a pollinator garden near Budd Avenue and the new pavilion. City Administrator will contact the watershed district to determine if the proposed site can be used for this purpose. Council discussed minor park adjustments, including relocating the trash can at the Tot Lot from the woodchip area to the adjacent grass area. Additionally, Council emphasized the importance of communicating that the Discovery Center playground is available for use outside of business hours and considered placing a sign at Veterans Memorial Park to inform residents of the 5-and-under playground located at the Discovery Center.

Council Direction: Have staff reach out to the MP Historical Museum regarding the downtown development plans. Move forward with the walkway bollards as an option to reduce vehicles from driving on the sidewalk. Relocate the Tot Lot trash bin. Continue to communicate that the Discovery Center playground is available for use outside of business hours, and consider placing a sign at Veterans Memorial Park to inform residents.

Next steps: Compile the notes from the workshops and provide an overview back to the council for approval. After the official approval, bring the direction to ABDO Financial to add the priorities to the CIP project they are working on.

4. COUNCIL REPORTS AND OTHER BUSINESS

5. FUTURE WORKSHOP TOPICS

- A. 2026 Budget Review-2nd Draft
- B. Code of Conduct
- C. Parking Regulations
- D. City Hall Building
- E. Green Step Cities
- F. Water Study

6. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Francis made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilmember Burak.

Voting Yea: Mayor Maas-Kusske, Councilmember DeLuca, Councilmember Francis, Councilmember Burak & Councilmember Arvizo.

Motion Passed 5-0.

Council Adjourned at 6:39

I, the undersigned, Jacob Kolander, City Administrator in and for the City of Maple Plain, Minnesota, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JK' followed by a long horizontal stroke.