

City Council Meeting Agenda

July 15, 2025 at 5:30 PM

St. James City Hall – Council Chambers

- 1. CALL TO ORDER
- **2. ROLL CALL:** Mayor Christopher Whitehead, Councilpersons: Susan Craig, Kathleen Hanson, Paul Harris, Stephen Lindee, Hannah Rushing
- 3. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - A. Consideration to Approve Minutes 07.01.2025 Council Meeting
- 5. CONSENT ITEMS
 - A. Payment of Claims and ACH Payments
- 6. SCHEDULED BID LETTING
- 7. SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS
- 8. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS
- 9. FINANCIAL REPORTS
- 10. LICENSES AND PERMITS
 - A. Consideration to Approve Gambling Permit St. James Church

11. OLD BUSINESS

A. Consideration to Approve Second Reading of Proposed Ordinance 030, 4th Series - Amending Chapter §91.04 of the St. James City Code Pertaining to Chickens

12. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Consideration to Approve Resolution 07.25.04 Approving Proposed Ordinance 030, 4th Series Amending Chapter §91.04 to the St. James City Code Pertaining to Chickens and Authorizing the Title and Summary for Publication
- B. 2024 City of St. James Audit Presentation Greg Burkhardt, Burkhardt & Burkhardt, Ltd.
- C. Consideration to Approve Resolution 07.25.05 Accepting the 2024 Annual Financial Audit
- **D.** Five-Year Sewer Service Rate Study Presentation John Graupman, Bolton & Menk, Inc.
- E. Consideration to Approve Resolution 07.25.06 Amending Sewer Service Rates Effective January 15, 2026
- F. Three-Year Water Service Rate Study Presentation Evan Leebens, Missouri River Energy Services

- G. Consideration to Approve Resolution 07.25.07 Amending Water Service Rates Effective January 15, 2026
- H. Three-Year Electric Service Rate Study Presentation Evan Leebens, Missouri River Energy Services
- L. Consideration to Approve Resolution 07.25.08 Amending Electric Service Rates Effective January 15, 2026
- Consideration to Approve Resolution 07.25.09 Declaring Abandoned and Surplus Property and Ordering the Disposal
- Consideration to Approve Resolution 07.25.10 Granting a Variance for a Property Located at 310 3rd Street North
- L. Consideration to Approve Resolution 07.25.11 Granting a Special Use Permit to Allow Residential Rental Use on the Main Level of a Building Located in a General Business District (B-3)
- M. Consideration to Approve Resolution 07.25.12 Accepting Financial Gift from the Ellingsburg Zettle VFW Post #1914

13. REPORT OF BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

14. ADJOURNMENT

ITEM: Approval of Minutes – 07.01.2025 Council Minutes

BACKGROUND: The Minutes from July 1, 2025, City Council Meeting are attached for review and approval.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve/Deny Minutes.



City Council Meeting - Minutes

July 01, 2025 at 5:30 PM

St. James City Hall – Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL: Mayor Christopher Whitehead, Councilpersons: Susan Craig, Kathleen Hanson, Paul Harris, Stephen Lindee, Hannah Rushing

PRESENT: Mayor Christopher Whitehead, Councilpersons Sue Craig, Kathleen Hanson, Paul Harris, Stephen Lindee, Hannah Rushing

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Amanda Knoll, City Clerk-Treasurer Kris Hurley, City Attorney Mike Kircher

3. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Consideration to Approve Minutes – 06.17.2025 Council Meeting

Motion made by Rushing, Seconded by Lindee. Voting Yea: Craig, Hanson, Harris, Lindee, Rushing

Upon voice vote, it was unanimously approved.

5. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Payment of Claims and ACH Payments

Payment of Claims totaling \$704,469.26 is as follows: \$409,879.97 Check No. 704394 - 704491 and \$294,589.29 ACH No. 1982 - 1997 as listed in the check register.

Motion made by Harris, Seconded by Craig.

Voting Yea: Craig, Hanson, Harris, Lindee, Rushing

Upon voice vote, it was unanimously approved.

- 6. SCHEDULED BID LETTING
- 7. SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS
- 8. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS
- 9. FINANCIAL REPORTS
- 10. LICENSES AND PERMITS
- 11. OLD BUSINESS

12. NEW BUSINESS

A. Consideration to Approve Resolution 07.25.01 - Approving Land Use and Easement Agreement with BMP Investments

Resolution 07.25.01 approves the Land Use and Easement Agreement between the City of St. James and BMP Investments. The agreement outlines the responsibilities related to facilitate platting, infrastructure development, and related improvements associated with the City's proposed 12th Avenue South Highway District Expansion project, including installation and cost responsibilities for turn lanes as required by the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Motion made by Craig, Seconded by Harris.

Voting Yea: Craig, Hanson, Harris, Lindee, Rushing

Whereupon Mayor Christopher Whitehead declared Resolution 07.25.01 duly passed 5-0.

B. Consideration to Approve Resolution 07.25.02 - Appointing Dustin Palmquist to the Position of Police Sergeant

Resolution 07.25.02 appoints Dustin Palmquist to the position of Police Sergeant. The Personnel Committee conducted interviews and recommended the appointment of Dustin Palmquist to the position of Police Sergeant. Dustin Palmquist has met all the qualifications and has demonstrated the necessary experience, leadership, and service commitment required for this position.

Motion made by Rushing, Seconded by Hanson.

Voting Yea: Craig, Hanson, Harris, Lindee, Rushing

Whereupon Mayor Christopher Whitehead declared Resolution 07.25.02 duly passed 5-0.

C. Consideration to Approve Resolution 07.25.03 - Granting Signage Approval Relating to 207 Tiell Drive

Resolution 07.25.03 grants approval to erect two free-standing signs at 207 Tiell Drive (splash pad). One sign displays the rules and regulations, and the second sign displays the sponsors of the splash pad.

Motion made by Craig, Seconded by Harris.

Voting Yea: Craig, Hanson, Harris, Lindee, Rushing

Whereupon Mayor Christopher Whitehead declared Resolution 07.25.03 duly passes 5-0.

D. Consideration to Approve First Reading of Proposed Ordinance 030, 4th Series - Chickens

Ordinance 030, 4th Series - amends Chapter §91.04 of the St. James City Code pertaining to chickens. This proposed amendment specifically updates §91.04(C)(3) to reference the correct nuisance violation code from §90.02 to §90.003.

Motion made by Rushing, Seconded by Lindee.

Voting Yea: Craig, Hanson, Harris, Lindee, Rushing

Whereupon Mayor Christopher Whitehead declared Ordinance 030, 4th Series to have received its first reading.

13. REPORT OF BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

Section 4, Item A.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Rushing, Seconded by Harris. Voting Yea: Craig, Hanson, Harris, Lindee, Rushing

All Yea - motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

Kristin Hurley, City Clerk-Treasurer

ITEM: Licenses and Permits – Gambling Permit: St. James Church

BACKGROUND: A gambling permit application has been submitted for the St. James Church to host a raffle at the St. James Church located at 704 4th Street South on September 14, 2025.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve/Deny Permit.

Page 1 of 3

MINNESOTA LAWFUL GAMBLING

LG220 Application for Exempt Permit

An exempt permit may be issued to a nonprofit organization that:

- · conducts lawful gambling on five or fewer days, and
- awards less than \$50,000 in prizes during a calendar

If total raffle prize value for the calendar year will be \$1,500 or less, contact the Licensing Specialist assigned to your county by calling 651-539-1900.

Application Fee (non-refundable)

Applications are processed in the order received. If the application is postmarked or received 30 days or more before the event, the application fee is \$100; otherwise the fee is \$150.

Due to the high volume of exempt applications, payment of additional fees prior to 30 days before your event will not expedite service, nor are telephone requests for expedited service accepted.

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION	
Organization Name: St. James Church	Previous Gambling Permit Number: X05087
Minnesota Tax ID Number, if any:	Federal Employer ID Number (FEIN), if any:
Malling Address: P.O. Box 206	
City:Saint JamesState	e: MN Zip: 56081 County: Watonwan
Name of Chief Executive Officer (CEO):Rev. Ti	mothy J. Hall
CEO Daytime Phone: 507-375-3542 CEO Ed	mail: frtimothyjhall360@gmail.com (permit will be emailed to this email address unless otherwise indicated below)
Email permit to (if other than the CEO):	
NONPROFIT STATUS	
Type of Nonprofit Organization (check one): Type of Nonprofit Organization (check one):	Veterans Other Nonprofit Organization
Attach a copy of one of the following showing proof	f of nonprofit status:
IRS toll free at 1-877-829-5500. IRS - Affiliate of national, statewide, or interr If your organization falls under a parent organ 1. IRS letter showing your parent organization	www.sos.state.mn.us 651-296-2803, or toll free 1-877-551-6767 your organization's name federal income tax exempt letter, have an organization officer contact the national parent nonprofit organization (charter)
GAMBLING PREMISES INFORMATION	
Name of premises where the gambling event will be cond (for raffles, list the site where the drawing will take place)):
Physical Address (do not use P.O. box):707 4	th St. S.
	zip: 56081 County: Watonwan
Township:	Zip: County:
Date(s) of activity (for raffles, indicate the date of the dra	awing): September 14, 2025
Check each type of gambling activity that your organization	on will conduct:
Bingo Paddlewheels Pull-Ta	
from a distributor licensed by the Minnesota Gambling Co	offle boards, paddlewheels, pull-tabs, and tipboards must be obtained ontrol Board. EXCEPTION: Bingo hard cards and bingo ball selection horized to conduct bingo. To find a licensed distributor, go to

www.mn.gov/gcb and click on Distributors under the List of Licensees tab, or call 651-539-1900.

Page 2 of 3 LOCAL UNIT OF GOVERNMENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT (required before submitting application to the Minnesota Gambling Control Board) CITY APPROVAL **COUNTY APPROVAL** for a gambling premises for a gambling premises located within city limits located in a township The application is acknowledged with no waiting period. The application is acknowledged with no waiting period. The application is acknowledged with a 30-day waiting The application is acknowledged with a 30-day waiting period, and allows the Board to issue a permit after 30 days period, and allows the Board to issue a permit after (60 days for a 1st class city). 30 days. The application is denied, The application is denied. Print City Name: Print County Name: _____ Signature of City Personnel: Signature of County Personnel: Title:______ Date;_____ TOWNSHIP (if required by the county) On behalf of the township, I acknowledge that the organization is applying for exempted gambling activity within the township limits. (A township has no statutory authority to approve or The city or county must sign before deny an application, per Minn. Statutes, section 349.213.) submitting application to the Print Township Name: ___ Gambling Control Board. Signature of Township Officer:_____ _____ Date: ___ CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SIGNATURE (required) The information provided in this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I acknowledge that the financial report will be completed and returned to the Board within 30 days of the event date.

Chief Executive Officer's Signature: (Signature must be EO's signature; designee may not sign) Fr. Timothy J. Hall REQUIREMENTS MAIL APPLICATION AND ATTACHMENTS Complete a separate application for: Mail application with: · all gambling conducted on two or more consecutive days; or a copy of your proof of nonprofit status; and · all gambling conducted on one day. application fee (non-refundable). If the application is Only one application is required if one or more raffle drawings are postmarked or received 30 days or more before the event, conducted on the same day. the application fee is \$100; otherwise the fee is \$150. Make check payable to State of Minnesota. Financial report to be completed within 30 days after the gambling activity is done: To: Minnesota Gambling Control Board A financial report form will be mailed with your permit. Complete 1711 West County Road B, Suite 300 South and return the financial report form to the Gambling Control Roseville, MN 55113 Board.

Data privacy notice: The information requested on this form (and any attachments) will be used by the Gambling Control Board (Board) to determine your organization's qualifications to be involved in lawful gambling activities in Minnesota. Your organization has the right to refuse to supply the information; however, if your organization refuses to supply this information, the Board may not be able to determine your organization's qualifications and, as a consequence, may refuse to issue a permit. If your organization supplies the information requested, the Board will be able to process the

Your organization must keep all exempt records and reports for

3-1/2 years (Minn. Statutes, section 349.166, subd. 2(f)).

application. Your organization's name and address will be public information when received by the Board. All other information provided will be private data about your organization until the Board issues the permit. When the Board issues the permit, all information provided will become public. If the Board does not issue a permit, all information provided remains private, with the exception of your organization's name and address which will remain public. Private data about your organization are available to Board members, Board staff whose work requires access to the information; Minnesota's Depart-

Questions?

651-539-1900.

ment of Public Safety; Attorney General; Commissioners of Administration, Minnesota Management & Budget, and Revenue; Legislative Auditor, national and international gambling regulatory agencies; anyone pursuant to court order; other individuals and agencies specifically authorized by state or federal law to have access to the information; individuals and agencies for which law or legal order authorizes a new use or sharing of information after this notice was given; and anyone with your written consent.

Call the Licensing Section of the Gambling Control Board at

ITEM: Old Business – Proposed Ordinance No. 030, 4th Series: Amending Chapter §91.04 of the St. James City Code Pertaining to Chickens – 2nd Reading

BACKGROUND: The attached proposed ordinance amends Chapter §91.04 of the St. James City Code pertaining to chickens. This proposed amendment specifically updates § 91.04(C)(3) to reference the correct nuisance violation code from §90.02 to §90.003.

First Reading: July 1, 2025

Notice of Proposed Ordinance: July 4, 2025 Second Reading and Final Vote: July 15, 2025

Approval of Publication of Title and Summary of Ordinance by the Council: July 15, 2025

Publication of Title and Summary of Ordinance: July 24, 2025

Publication of Entire Text of Ordinance at Watonwan County Library:

Recorded in the Ordinance Book and Available on Website:

Effective Date of Ordinance:

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve/Deny the 2nd Reading of the Proposed Ordinance.

State of Minnesota County of Watonwan

ORDINANCE 030, 4TH SERIES

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER §91.04 TO THE ST. JAMES CITY CODE PERTAINING TO CHICKENS

The City of St. James does ordain:

Section 1. Title IX of the City Code is amended by revising Chapter §91.04(C)(3) to read as follows:

§ 91.04 CHICKENS

- (C) Enforcement.
 - (1) A chicken keeping license shall expire for any of the following reasons:
 - (a) If chickens are removed from the property for a period of one year.
 - (b) The license is revoked.
 - (c) A violation occurs as outlined below.
- (2) If a property receives three or more valid complaints regarding the keeping of chickens, the chicken keeping license shall be revoked and the chickens must be removed from the property within 30 days of the date of revocation. A violation will be sited if the chicken is running-at-large. The license holder may appeal to the City Council for reinstatement of their license by filing an agenda request to appeal with the City Manager within ten calendar days after the city's decision to revoke the license. The City Manager shall cause the appeal request to be placed on the agenda of the next regular City Council meeting that is held not less than ten calendar days following receipt of the appeal request. The City Council may affirm or reject the decision of the city staff.
- (3) Any violation of this section shall be considered a nuisance per § 90.003, and is subject to an administrative fine in accordance with the city's fee schedule.

Section 2. <u>Effective Date.</u> The effective date of this ordinance shall be effective upon passage and publication.

First Reading: July 1, 2025

Second Reading: <u>July 15, 2025</u>

Date of Publication: <u>July 24, 2025</u>

Date Ordinance Takes Effect: <u>July 24, 2025</u>

Adopted by the City Council this 1st day of July, 2025.

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	Christopher Whitehead, Mayor
ATTEST:	
Kristin K. Hurley, City Clerk-Treasurer	

ITEM: New Business – Resolution 07.25.04: Approving Proposed Ordinance 030, 4th Series Amending Chapter §91.04 to the St. James City Code Pertaining to Chickens and Authorizing the Title and Summary for Publication

BACKGROUND: The attached resolution approves proposed ordinance 030, 4th series specifically amending chapter §91.04(c)(3) to reference the correct nuisance violation code from §90.02 to §90.003. The resolution also approves the title and summary for publication.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve/Deny Resolution.

State of Minnesota County of Watonwan

RESOLUTION NO. 07.25.04

RESOLUTION APPROVING ORDINANCE 030, 4TH SERIES AMENDING CHAPTER §91.04 TO THE ST. JAMES CITY CODE PERTAINING TO CHICKENS AND AUTHORIZING THE TITLE AND SUMMARY FOR PUBLICATION

WHEREAS, the City of St. James introduced the proposed Ordinance 030, 4th Series amending Chapter §91.04(C)(3) to the City Code pertaining to chickens; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. James City Council reviewed this item during their July 1, 2025, city council meeting, agreed with the recommendation and approved the first reading of the proposed Ordinance 030, 4th Series; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. James City Council held a second reading of the proposed Ordinance 030, 4th Series during their July 15, 2025, meeting; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Section 412.91, Subd. 4, allows publication by title and summary in the case of lengthy ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the City of St. James City Council finds that the following title and summary would clearly inform the public of the intent and effect of the Ordinance 030, 4th Series, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. JAMES, MINNESOTA, that the City of St. James City Council hereby approved the second and final reading of the proposed Ordinance 030, 4th Series amending Chapter §91.04(C)(3) to the St. James City Code pertaining to the regulation of chickens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager shall cause the following summary of the proposed Ordinance to be published in the official newspaper in lieu of the entire ordinance:

PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDINANCE 030, 4th SERIES AMENDING CHAPTER §91.04 TO THE ST. JAMES CITY CODE PERTAINING TO CHICKENS

The City Council of St. James has adopted Ordinance 030, 4th Series, amending Title IX – Animals of the City Code. Specifically, the ordinance amends Chapter §91.04(C)(3) relating to chickens and the appropriate violation code shall be amended to reflect §90.003. The effective date of the ordinance is July 24, 2025.

This summary of Ordinance 030, 4th Series has been approved by the City Council on July 15, 2025. A printed copy of the full text of the ordinance is available for public inspection in the office of the city clerk.

Adopted by the City Council this 15th day of July 2025.

Effective Date: July 15, 2025

	Christopher Whitehead, Mayor
Attest:	
Kristin Hurley, City Clerk - Treasurer	
Published:	
Filed:	

ITEM: New Business – 2024 City of St. James Audit Presentation: Greg Burkhardt, Burkhardt & Burkhardt, Ltd.

BACKGROUND: The City Auditor, Greg Burkhardt with Burkhardt & Burkhardt, Ltd., will present the 2024 Financial Audit.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: No action.

ITEM: New Business – Resolution 07.25.05: Accepting the 2024 Audit Financial Audit

BACKGROUND: The attached resolution accepts the 2024 Audit Financial Audit as presented.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve/Deny Resolution.

State of Minnesota County of Watonwan

RESOLUTION NO. 07.25.05

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE 2024 ANNUAL FINANCIAL AUDIT

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 412.02 and § 471.697, the City of St. James is required to have an annual financial audit prepared by an independent certified public accounting firm; and

WHEREAS, the audit of the financial statements of the City of St. James for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024, has been completed by Burkhardt & Burkhardt, Ltd., and presented to the City Council on July 15, 2025; and

WHEREAS, said audit has been reviewed by the City Council and found to be in proper form and reflective of the City's financial position, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. JAMES, MINNESOTA, as follows:

- 1. The City Council hereby accepts the 2024 Annual Financial Audit as presented.
- 2. A copy of the accepted audit shall be filed with the Minnesota State Auditor as required by law.
- 3. The City Manager is directed to publish a summary of the financial condition in the official newspaper, as required under Minnesota Statute §471.698.

Adopted by the City Council this 15th day of July 2025.

	Christopher Whitehead, Mayor
Attest:	
Kristin Hurley, City Clerk - Treasurer	
Published:	
Filed:	
Effective Date: July 15, 2025	

ITEM: New Business – Five-Year Sewer Service Rate Study Presentation: John Graupman, Bolton & Menk, LLC

BACKGROUND: John Graupman with Bolton & Menk, Inc, will present the sewer service rate study presentation for 2026-2030.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: No action.

ITEM: New Business – Resolution 07.25.06: Amending Sewer Service Rates Effective January 15, 2026

BACKGROUND: The attached resolution approves the proposed sewer service rates for 2026-2030.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve/Deny Resolution.

State of Minnesota County of Watonwan

RESOLUTION NO. 07.25.06

RESOLUTION AMENDING SEWER SERVICE RATES EFFECTIVE January 15, 2026

WHEREAS, the City of St. James reviews annual revenues and expenses of its Waste Water Treatment Facility and Collection System; and

WHEREAS, the Sewer User charge rates are based upon the estimated annual revenue requirements for the City's Wastewater Treatment Facility and collection system, which includes operation and maintenance, and replacement expenses;

WHEREAS, each sewer user will be assessed sewer charges based upon the wastewater volume and pollutant loadings discharge into the City's sanitary sewer system.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ST. JAMES, MINNESOTA, that the Sewer Service Charge System dated May 1990 and on file at City Hall is hereby amended.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ST. JAMES, MINNESOTA, that pursuant to the authority granted in section 3.02 of the City Code, the charges for use of the municipal wastewater disposal and treatment system is hereby established as follows effective on the 15th Day of January each year and may be

1. Residential/Commercial Small Industry

	Current Rate	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Base Rate	\$45.12	\$46.92	\$48.80	\$50.75	\$52.78	\$54.90
Billing & Admin Charge	\$15.39	\$16.01	\$16.65	\$17.87	\$18.00	\$18.72
Replacement Expense	\$29.73	\$30.92	\$32.16	\$34.47	\$34.78	\$36.17
Usage	\$5.95	\$6.19	\$6.44	\$6.69	\$6.96	\$7.24
Storm Sewer Maintenance	\$7.50	\$11.25	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00

2. Smithfield Foods

amended from time to time:

	Current	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
	Rate					
Base Rate	\$3,621.61	\$3,621.61	\$3,621.61	\$3,621.61	\$3,621.61	\$3,621.61
Billing & Admin Charge	\$9.53	\$9.53	\$9.53	\$9.53	\$9.53	\$9.53
Replacement Expense	\$3,612.08	\$3,612.08	\$3,612.08	\$3,612.08	\$3,612.08	\$3,612.08
Usage	\$9.82	\$10.21	\$10.62	\$11.04	\$11.49	\$11.94
Storm Sewer	¢11 50	¢11 50	¢17.50	¢22.00	¢22.00	¢22.00
Maintenance	\$11.50	\$11.50	\$17.50	\$23.00	\$23.00	\$23.00

BOD (\$/lb)	\$.26	\$.27	\$.28	\$.29	\$.30	\$.32
TSS (\$/lb)	\$.29	\$.30	\$.31	\$.33	\$.34	\$.35
P (\$/lb)	\$5.03	\$5.23	\$5.44	\$5.66	\$5.89	\$6.12
FOG (\$/lb)	\$.26	\$.27	\$.28	\$.29	\$.30	\$.32

3. Septage haulers shall pay a permit fee of \$ 100.00 annually, \$55.00 per 1,000 gallons of water with a minimum charge of \$ 30.00.

CONDITIONS AND PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL CUSTOMERS

- 1. Prompt Payment Provisions: All charges are net. If the bill is not paid or received by mail by the due date, a late payment charge of 8.0% of the balance due will apply. If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Holiday, the due date will be the next working day.
- 2. Sales tax to be added to all electric bills so as to be in compliance with the provisions of the laws of Minnesota.
- 3. The City will charge \$30.00 for any check or ACH Withdrawal returned by a financial institution.
- 4. The City will charge \$1.50 for mailing paper statements.
- 5. All volume charges shall be based on monthly water meter readings, or where appropriated, actual sewer flows.
- 6. A separate water meter for non-sewer water consumed shall be allowed. Such water meters shall be purchased from the city for installation by a licensed plumber or the property owner. Connection to the city service must be approved and certified by the City Water Department. In such instances a sewer charge will not be billed.
- 7. Sewer rates shall apply to all service units; unless water and electricity are disconnected at which time the sewer serve charge will be eliminated.
- 8. The City will make a charge for special services that may be requested or required of it.
- 9. Such charges to be based on total costs for labor and materials plus a nominal markup which is determined by department policy.
- 10. Where one water meter is used to service more than one user, the base rate, replacement and maintenance rates for wastewater shall be charged at the number of users using the one meter. There is not a cap to how many users can use one meter.
- 11. Owners and/or occupants of property served by the Municipal Utilities of the City of St. James shall be responsible for the repairs to all utility meters damaged through negligence on their part. Under these circumstances, they shall be

charged for the cost of repairing the same. Necessary repairs resulting because of damage from negligence of any kind on the part of the customer shall be charged to the customer.

- 12. Nothing herein shall be construed as limiting power of the City Council to modify or to make such further rule or rulings as it may deem necessary or expedient from time to time.
- 13. If any provisions hereof, or the application of such provisions to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this act shall not be affected thereby.
- 14. All interpretations regarding rates and procedures shall be made in favor of the City of St. James.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ST. JAMES, MINNESOTA, that all previous resolutions inconsistent herewith may be, and the same hereby are, repealed.

Adopted by the City Council this 15th day of July 2025.

Effective Date: July 15, 2025

ATTEST:	Christopher Whitehead, Mayor
Kristin K. Hurley, City Clerk	
Published:	
Filed:	

ITEM: New Business – Three-Year Water Service Rate Study Presentation: Evan Leebens, Missouri River Energy Services

BACKGROUND: Evan Leebens with Missouri River Energy Services, will present the water service rate study presentation for 2026-2028.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: No action.

ITEM: New Business – Resolution 07.25.07: Amending Water Service Rates Effective January 15, 2026

BACKGROUND: The attached resolution approves the proposed water service rates for 2026-2028.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve/Deny Resolution.

State of Minnesota County of Watonwan

RESOLUTION NO. 07.25.07

RESOLUTION AMENDING WATER SERVICE RATES EFFECTIVE January 15, 2026

WHEREAS, the City of St. James reviews annual revenues and expenses of its water treatment facility and distribution system; and

WHEREAS, the water rates are based upon the estimated annual revenue requirements for the municipal water treatment facility and distribution system, which include operation and maintenance, replacement expense, and debt service.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ST.

JAMES, MINNESOTA, that pursuant to the authority granted by Section 3.02 of the City Code, the charges for use of the municipal water treatment and distribution system are hereby established as follows effective on the 15th Day of January each year and may be amended from time to time:

	Current Rate	2026	2027	2028
Base Rate by Meter Size				
5/8 & 3/4 in	\$18.25	\$18.25	\$18.25	\$18.25
1 in	\$18.25	\$18.25	\$18.25	\$18.25
1 ½ in	\$50.00	\$52.00	\$54.00	\$56.00
2 in	\$50.00	\$52.00	\$54.00	\$56.00
3 in	\$120.00	\$130.00	\$140.00	\$150.00
4 in	\$120.00	\$130.00	\$140.00	\$150.00
Usage by Class				
Residential/Commercial	\$6.22	\$6.62	\$7.05	\$7.50
Industrial	\$5.70	\$6.14	\$6.60	\$7.08
Red Rock	\$5.70	\$6.14	\$6.60	\$7.08
Irrigation	\$8.50	\$9.10	\$9.70	\$10.35
Bulk Water	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00

CONDITIONS AND PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL CUSTOMERS

- 1. Prompt Payment Provisions: All charges are net. If the bill is not paid or received by mail by the due date, a late payment charge of 8.0% of the balance due will apply. If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Holiday, the due date will be the next working day.
- 2. Sales tax to be added to all electric bills so as to be in compliance with the provisions of the laws of Minnesota.

- 3. The City will charge \$30.00 for any check or ACH Withdrawal returned by a financial institution.
- 4. The City will charge \$1.50 for mailing paper statements.
- 5. All volume charges shall be based on monthly water meter readings, or where appropriated, actual water flows.
- 6. The City will make a charge for special services that may be requested or required of it.
- 7. Such charges to be based on total costs for labor and materials plus a nominal markup which is determined by department policy.
- 8. Where one water meter is used to service more than one user, the base rate, replacement and maintenance rates for water shall be charged at the number of users using the one meter. There is not a cap to how many users can use one meter.
- 9. Owners and/or occupants of property served by the Municipal Utilities of the City of St. James shall be responsible for the repairs to all utility meters damaged through negligence on their part. Under these circumstances, they shall be charged for the cost of repairing the same. Necessary repairs resulting because of damage from negligence of any kind on the part of the customer shall be charged to the customer. Neglect is defined but not limited to frozen meters and/or tampering with meters.
- 10. That any customer/account disconnected for non-payment shall be charged a \$100.00 reconnection fee to regain water service.
- 11. The Water Superintendent will interpret these regulations and rules as to intent. In case of dispute, the Council will arrange to review the point in question upon request.
- 12. Nothing herein shall be construed as limiting power of the City Council to modify or to make such further rule or rulings as it may deem necessary or expedient from time to time.
- 13. If any provisions hereof, or the application of such provisions to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this act shall not be affected thereby.
- 14. If water is shut off at a property for 15 days or more, the property shall be considered uninhabitable by the building official.
- 15. All interpretations regarding rates and procedures shall be made in favor of the City of St. James.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ST. JAMES, MINNESOTA, that all previous resolutions inconsistent herewith may be, and the same hereby are, repealed.

Adopted by the City Council this 15th day of July 2025.

Section 12, Item G.

RESOLUTION NO.: 07.25.07

ATTEST:	Christopher Whitehead, Mayor
Kristin K. Hurley, City Clerk	
Published:	
Filed:	
Effective Date: July 15, 2025	

ITEM: New Business – Three-Year Electric Service Rate Study Presentation: Evan Leebens, Missouri River Energy Services

BACKGROUND: Evan Leebens with Missouri River Energy Services, will present the electric service rate study presentation for 2026-2028.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: No action.

ITEM: New Business – Resolution 07.25.08: Amending Electric Service Rates Effective January 15, 2026

BACKGROUND: The attached resolution approves the proposed electric service rates for 2026-2028.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve/Deny Resolution.

State of Minnesota County of Watonwan

RESOLUTION NO. 07.25.08

RESOLUTION AMENDING ELECTRIC SERVICE RATES EFFECTIVE January 15, 2026

WHEREAS, an analysis of the cost of providing electric service indicates the need for additional revenue.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ST. JAMES, MINNESOTA, that pursuant to the authority granted by section 3.02 of the City Code, the change for electrical service is hereby established according to the following schedule and conditions to take effect on the 15th Day of January each year and may be amended from time to time:

ST. JAMES MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC RATE SCHEDULE

Residential Service

APPLICABLE TO: Residential customers for all domestic uses in single-family dwellings and individually metered apartments within the service territory of the City of St. James including use of motors of not more than 5 horsepower individual capacity. Space heating and air conditioning shall be served under this schedule.

SERVICE AVAILABLE: <u>Single-phase</u>, 60 hertz, 120/240-volt 400-amp max., 3-wire, single meter.

	Current Rate	2026	2027	2028
Meter Charge (No KWH)	\$21.50	\$22.50	\$23.50	\$24.50
Energy Charge All KWH	\$.0860	\$.090	\$.095	\$.100

METER DEPOSIT: Residential – rental units and contract for deed holders - \$200.00 deposit, interest will be paid annually at an interest rate set by the Minnesota Department of Commerce. Meter Deposit will be refunded to contract for deed holders at the time the contract for deed is paid in full and verification is provided to the city. Renters will have the meter deposit applied to the final bill, after renter has vacated the rental unit.

MULTIPLE DWELLINGS: Where residential service in an apartment building or other multiple units dwelling is measured through one meter, the minimum bill and base rate shall be multiplied by the number of apartments served. In houses where five (5) or more rooms equipped for living purposes are for rent, each five rooms or fraction thereof, exclusive of apartments, shall be counted as one (1) apartment.

Commercial Service

APPLICABLE TO: Any commercial, industrial, City, or farm load within the service territory of the City of St. James, for all purposes. Loads less than 50 KW.

SERVICE AVAILABLE: Single-phase, 60 hertz, 120/240-volt, 400-amp max., 3-wire, single meter. Three-phase, 60 hertz, three-phase, 240/120 V, 208 Y/120 V, OR 480 Y/277 V

	Current Rate	2026	2027	2028
Meter Charge				
Single-Phase	\$27.00	\$28.75	\$30.25	\$32.00
Three-Phase	\$45.00	\$47.50	\$49.50	\$52.00
Energy Charge All KWH	\$.0950	\$.100	\$.106	\$.112

C & I Rate, Three-Phase

APPLICABLE TO: Any commercial, industrial, City, or farm load within the St. James service territory, for all purposes. Loads 50 KW and up. Any commercial Three-Phase load that reaches 50 KW for 2 months within a 12-month period shall be moved into the C & I Rate class. Any load that does not reach 50 KW in a 2-year period may be moved back to the Commercial Three-Phase class.

SERVICE AVAILABLE: 60 hertz, three phase, 240/120 V, 208 Y/120 V, or 480 Y/277 V. 4-wire, or standard primary voltage available at point of delivery. Special voltages may be provided at the discretion of the utility. Utility furnishes only one transformer bank and/or one meter.

	Current Rate	2026	2027	2028
Meter Charge	\$80.00	\$83.00	\$86.00	\$90.00
Energy Charge All KWH	\$.0479	\$.0500	\$.0510	\$.0520
Energy Charge – Primary	\$.0469	\$.0490	\$.0500	\$.0510
Demand Charge	\$15.30	\$16.25	\$17.60	\$19.10

METERED DEMAND: The metered demand for any month shall be the maximum kilowatt demand established by the consumer for any fifteen-minute interval during the month as indicated or recorded by a demand meter.

POWER FACTOR ADJUSTMENT: If the customer's average monthly power factor falls below 90%, leading or lagging, the utility may adjust the metered demand by the ratio of 90% to the measured average monthly power factor in percent. Example:

Metered Demand = 739 KW Average Month Power Factor = 73.0% Ratio = 90/73 = 1.2329 Adjusted Demand = (739) (1.2329) = 911 KW

ADJUSTED DEMAND: The adjusted demand consists of the metered demand adjusted for power factor, if applicable.

BILLING DEMAND: The demand to be billed shall be the adjusted demand for the month but not less than 50% of the highest adjusted demand during the preceding 11 months.

PRIMARY METERING: The utility will furnish and install primary metering when service is taken by the consumer and metered at primary voltage. The consumer owns and installs all necessary primary and transformers beyond point of service. A 2% discount will apply to the energy portion of the bill to allow for losses and investment return.

If service is taken at primary voltage (that is, customer owns primary and transformers) and metered at secondary voltage, a 1% discount will apply to the energy portion of the bill to allow for investment return.

Street Lighting

	Current Rate	2026	2027	2028
Customer Charge	\$21.50	\$22.50	\$23.50	\$24.50
Energy Charge	\$.0860	\$.0900	\$.0950	\$.1000

Security Lighting

	Current Rate	2026	2027	2028
Metered Charge				
70 Watt LED	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$6.50	\$6.50
Unmetered Charge				
70 Watt LED	\$8.50	\$8.50	\$8.50	\$8.50

CONDITIONS AND PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL CUSTOMERS

- 1. Prompt Payment Provisions: All charges are net. If the bill is not paid or received by mail by the due date, a late payment charge of 8.0% of the balance due will apply. If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Holiday, the due date will be the next working day.
- 2. Sales tax to be added to all electric bills so as to be in compliance with the provisions of the laws of Minnesota.

- 3. The City will charge \$30.00 for any check or ACH Withdrawal returned by a financial institution.
- 4. The City will charge \$1.50 for mailing paper statements.
- 5. The City will make a charge for special services that may be requested or required of it.
- 6. Such charges to be based on total costs for labor and materials plus a nominal markup which is determined by department policy.
- 7. An example of such special service might be the moving of a building requiring the moving or clearing of power lines or municipal facilities along the route.
- 8. Where one meter is used to service more than one user, the base rate, replacement and maintenance rates for electric shall be charged at the number of users using the one meter. There is not a cap to how many users can use one meter.
- 9. Owners and/or occupants of property served by the Municipal Utilities of the City of St. James shall be responsible for the repairs to all utility meters damaged through negligence on their part. Under these circumstances, they shall be charged for the cost of repairing the same. Necessary repairs resulting because of damage from negligence of any kind on the part of the customer shall be charged to the customer.
- 10. Customers using electric heat will be exempt from the payment of sales tax during the months of which is designated by the state under the cold weather rule. It is the customer's responsibility to notify the City. The customer will be given a form to complete.
- 11. Nothing herein shall be construed as limiting power of the City Council to modify or to make such further rule or rulings as it may deem necessary or expedient from time to time.
- 12. The Electric Department shall proceed at once to do all things necessary to expedite and implement all provisions of this resolution.
- 13. The Electrical Superintendent will interpret these regulations and rules as to intent. In case of dispute, the Council will arrange to review the point in question upon request.
- 14. If any provisions hereof, or the application of such provisions to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this act shall not be affected thereby.
- 15. That any customer/account disconnected shall be charged a \$100.00 reconnection fee to regain electric service.

Effective Date: July 15, 2025

16. All interpretations regarding rates and procedures shall be made in favor of the City of St. James.

NOW, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ST. JAMES, MINNESOTA, that all previous resolutions inconsistent herewith may be, and the same hereby are, repealed.

Adopted by the City Council this 15 th	day of July 2025.
ATTEST:	Christopher Whitehead, Mayor
Kristin K. Hurley, City Clerk	
Published:	
Filed:	

ITEM: New Business – Resolution 07.25.09: Declaring Abandoned and Surplus Property and Ordering the Disposal

BACKGROUND: The attached resolution declared the 2018 Chevy Tahoe within the Police Department as excess property and orders the disposal of said property through the Minnesota Surplus Service Program.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve/Deny Resolution.

RESOLUTION NO.: 07.25.09

State of Minnesota County of Watonwan

RESOLUTION NO. 07.25.09

RESOLUTION DECLARING ABANDONED AND SURPLUS PROPERTY AND ORDERING THE DISPOSAL

WHEREAS, the City of St. James owns certain property that is no longer needed for public use and has been declared surplus; and

WHEREAS, under Minnesota Statutes §471.3459, the City is authorized to dispose of surplus property through public auction or other approved means; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Surplus Service Program (MinnBid) and www.MNBide.mn.gov provides a publicly accessible, state-authorized auction platform for the disposal of government surplus property in a transparent and cost-effective manner.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. JAMES, MINNESOTA:

- 1. The property listed below has been declared as surplus property that has been deemed abandoned:
 - 2018 Chevy Tahoe (Police Vehicle)
- 2. City staff are hereby authorized to dispose of surplus property through MNBid.mn.gov, in accordance with applicable laws.
- **3.** City staff are authorized to list and manage the sale of surplus items on the MNBid platform and to complete all related documentation and transfer of ownership, as necessary.
- **4.** Proceeds from the sale shall be deposited into the appropriate city fund as determined by the City Manager.

Christopher Whitehead, Mayor
ATTEST:

Kristin K. Hurley, City Clerk

Adopted by the City Council this 15th day of July 2025.

Section 12, Item J.

RESOLUTION NO.: 07.25.09

Published:

Filed: _____

Effective Date: July 15, 2025

July 15, 2025

ITEM: New Business – Resolution 07.25.10: Granting a Variance for a Property Located at 310 3rd Street North

BACKGROUND: The attached resolution grants the requested variance for the property located at 310 3rd Street North to extend the maximum fence height of 4 feet to 6 feet. The Planning and Zoning Commission met on June 30, 2025, and recommends granting the requested variance.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve/Deny Resolution.

State of Minnesota County of Watonwan

RESOLUTION NO. 07.25.10

RESOLUTION GRANTING A VARIANCE FOR A PROPERTY LOCATED AT 310 3RD STREET NORTH

WHEREAS, Michael and Autumn Morrow ("Applicant") submitted an application requesting the approval of a variance of the property owned by the Applicant located at 310 3rd Street North which is legally described as follows ("Property"):

LOTS SEVEN (7), EIGHT (8), AND NINE (9); WEST 10' OF ADJACENT VACATED ALLEY, BLOCK SEVENTY-THREE (73) OF FIRST ADDITION TO THE CITY OF ST. JAMES, WATONWAN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

WHEREAS, a public hearing before the St. James Planning Commission was held June 30, 2025, for the purpose of hearing the request from the Applicant; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant is requesting a variance for fence with a maximum of 6-foot in height in the front yard setback area; and

WHEREAS, the Property is located in a One- and Two-Family Residential District (R-1); and

WHEREAS, the St. James City Code § 156.030(C)(1) states that fences in the residential district can be located anywhere in the front yard setback area, as long as they do not interfere with street intersection sightlines, and are limited to a maximum for four feet in height; and

WHEREAS, based upon the factual findings, the Planning Commission has come to the following conclusion:

1) It was the finding of the Planning and Zoning Commission that the requested variance should be granted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ST. JAMES, WATONWAN COUNTY, MINNESOTA, as follows:

1) The City of St. James is hereby granting a variance to Michael and Autumn Morrow for a fence with a maximum of 6-foot in height in the front yard setback area at the Property located at 310 3rd Street North in St. James, Minnesota.

Adopted by the City Council this 15th day of July 2025.

RESOLUTION NO.: 07.25.10

	Christopher Whitehead, Mayor
Attest:	
Kristin Hurley, City Clerk - Treasurer	
Published:	
Filed:	
Effective Date: July 15, 2025	

Section 12. Item K.

ST. JAMES PLANNING COMMISSION

TO: Planning Commission Members

FROM: Brianna Sanders, Zoning Administrator

DATE: June 30, 2025

RE: Variance – 310 3rd St N

Applicant

MICHAEL AND AUTUMN MORROW ADDRESS – 310 3rd St N

Request

The applicant is requesting a fence with a maximum of 6-foot in height in the front yard setback area in a One- and Two-Family Residential District (R-1).

Proposal

Applicant desires to erect a 6ft fence in the front yard of their lot along the north, west and south property lines. The fence will be 12 ft long on the north property line, 66 ft 4 inches on the west property line, and 28 ft on the south property line. The fence is proposed to be 25 ft from the 3rd St N.

The applicant would like to match the neighbors fence at 300 4th Ave N which has been approved a building permit.

Location

The property is located at 310 3rd St N legally described as Lots Seven (7), Eight (8), And Nine (9); West 10' Of Adjacent Vacated Alley, Block Seventy-Three (73) Of First Addition to The City of St. James, Watonwan County, Minnesota.

The property is in a R-1 One and Two Family Residential District. The surrounding zoning designations include R-1 to the north, east, south and west.

Existing Land Use

The parcel is being used as a personal residence.

City Code

§ 156.030 LANDSCAPING, SCREENING, AND FENCING.

- (A) Obstruction of views. On any corner lot, no wall, fence, structure, or vegetation shall be erected, or maintained, at a height that will obstruct motorists' sightlines along intersecting streets or roadways.
 - (B) Fencing or screening requirements for business or industrial uses.
- (1) Where any business, or industrial, use is adjacent to property zoned R-1 or R-2, that business, or industry, shall provide screening of its exterior activities along the property line abutting the residential property. This screening requirement will not apply in those cases where the business, or industrial, site is located across the street from a residential site, but will apply if separated by only an alley. The

solely of the building itself.

Section 12, Item K. equirement will not apply if the view of the business from the residential property consists

- (2) If the screening used consists of a solid fence, or wall, the material shall block, or obscure, a minimum of 50% of the view of the business, or industrial, site from the residential site. If fences, or walls, are used, they shall be no less than five feet, or more than eight feet in height, unless otherwise directed by the Planning and Zoning Commission, or the Council.
- (3) Fences, or walls, shall extend no closer than 15 feet to any street or driveway opening onto a street, unless regulated elsewhere.
- (4) Fences, or walls, when used as the screening material, shall be placed along the property lines, or when located along a street, be setback at least 15 feet from the street right-of-way, unless regulated elsewhere, with landscaping of property between the fence, or wall, and the street pavement.
- (5) If berms are used as the screening material, they shall be constructed with a slope not to exceed 3:1, and shall be covered with sod, or other landscape material, sufficient to prevent erosion of the berm.
- (6) If trees, hedges, or other vegetative materials are used, the vegetation must provide a minimum view coverage of 50% throughout the year of the business, or industrial, site from the residential site.
 - (C) Height and setback regulations for fencing and/or vegetative screening for residential uses.
- (1) Fences and vegetative screening in the residential district can be located anywhere in the front yard setback area, as long as they do not interfere with street intersection sightlines, and are limited to a maximum of four feet in height.
- (2) Fences, or vegetative screening (hedges, for example), located in the side yard, or rear yard, area may be a maximum of six feet in height, as long as they do not interfere with street intersection sightlines, and are setback at least two feet from the property lines. Fences, or vegetative screening materials, may be constructed, or planted, on the property lines, but only with the permission of the adjacent property owner.
 - (D) Maintenance requirements.
- (1) The yard area in front of fences and walls shall be trimmed, and maintained, in a neat, and attractive, manner.
- (2) Fences and walls must be maintained, and kept, in a sightly manner. Repairs to damaged areas of walls or fences shall be made within 30 days of sustaining the damage.
- (3) Areas left in a natural state and vegetative screening areas shall be properly maintained in a sightly, and well kept, condition.
- (4) Diseased, dying, or dead vegetative screening elements shall be removed and then replaced, at a minimum, with healthy plants of the same size required when first planted.
- (5) If requested by an adjacent property owner, or upon notification by a representative of the city, a property owner must trim any part of a tree, bush, or shrub that hangs over, or encroaches, beyond the property owner's property line, or interferes with traffic, or pedestrian, sightlines.
 - (E) Landscaping regulations.
 - (1) Landscaping of yards fronting a state or county road is required.
- (2) When a development site plan is submitted to the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Council for review and comment, it must contain information regarding the type of landscaping treatment the developer intends for the front yard, and, if required, side yards.
- (3) The plan shall include the location of all intended fences, tie walls, retaining walls, berms, landscaped islands, and planting beds with the plant materials identified.

plan shall include the location, and appropriate detail, of all required screening showing the relationship of the screening to the development site and adjacent property.

- (5) The plan shall show the details of sodding and seeding, including the delineation of area and square footage.
- (6) Trees shall be planted with sufficient setbacks so that the diameter of its expected mature foliage will not extend beyond the owner's property line.

(Prior Code, § 11.70)

Recommendations

Staff recommendation is approval

Exhibits

Exhibit 1 – Variance Request Application

Exhibit 2 – Residential Fence Regulations

Exhibit 3 – Public Hearing Notice

Exhibit 4 – Property Map



CITY OF ST. JAMES PLANNING COMMISSION REQUEST

Application for	or:Variance	\$150.00 plus 2.00 per notice	MAY 13 2025
	Rezoning	\$150.00 plus 2.00 per notice	CITY OF ST. JAN
	Ordinance Change	\$150.00 plus 2.00 per notice	Cit
	Special Use Permit	\$150.00 plus 2.00 per notice	
	Annexation Petition	\$5.00/acre (min \$150 - max \$6	500)
	Lot Division/Property Split	\$150.00 plus 2.00 per notice	
	Plat Subdivision - Prelim	\$75 plus 2.00 per notice	
	Plat Subdivision – Final	\$75 plus 2.00 per notice	
	Vacation initiated by citizen petitioner	\$150.00 plus 2.00 per notice	**
	Notification billing	\$2.00 for each required notice	
Applicant:	Name: Mike Morrow		-
	Mailing Address: 310 300	st N ST. James	
	Phone Number:	1585	
	Email: Spile Morrowb46	gmail, com	
Property Add	ress (if different from Applicant's add	dress):	
Parcel ID:	202761690	,	
Description of	f area affected: Front lawn		
Present Set-ba			

Present Use
Proposed Zone (if different)
Proposed Set-back (if different)
Proposed Use (if different)
Request
I applied for Permit to install a b-fence in front lawn, was approved for all fence. I am requesting a variance to install a b-o' fence inline with neighbors b-o' fence to moter the heighth of the railing on my Deck which is b-o' His off the ground
Attached drawing of request
The above information and attached drawing of request are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
Date Signature of Person Filing Application

HEARING: The Commission will not render a decision unless applicant or a designated representative is present at the hearing. Commission meetings are scheduled on the last Monday of each month. A completed application must be submitted by the second Tuesday of each month to be considered at that month's meeting.

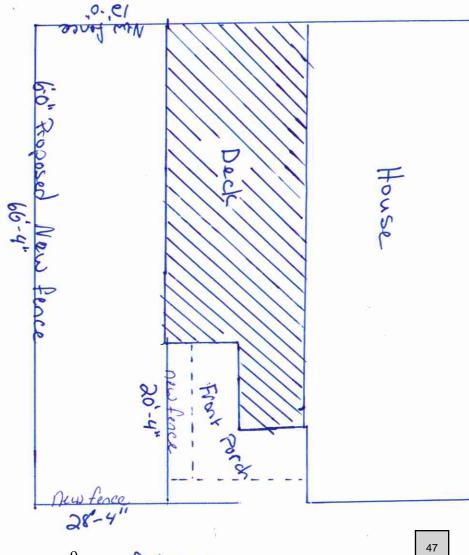
DRAWING: A drawing of the affected area must be attached showing present lot lines and existing buildings and the requested change. Applications will not be accepted without all information. The Zoning Administrator will notify the applicant within 10 business days if the application is incomplete.

FEE: SEE ABOVE. The fee for request is due at the time of this application submittal. The notice fee will be due on or before the public hearing. If the notice fee is not submitted, the public hearing will be cancelled at the applicants cost.

neighbors France 6-0

neighbors fence

Road



Driveway

Section 12, Item K.



CITY OF ST JAMES

CITY BUILDING/MECHANICAL/PLUMBING PERMIT APPLICATION

PHONE: 507-375-3241 Fax 507-375-4376

PERMIT No. 25 Date Received by_

	Applicant Information	11.63.65
Full Name: Mike Morrow		Date: <u>4-23-25</u>
Address: 310 3 Fd St N Sain	nt James	
Phone: 507-317-9585	_ Email: Spike Mon	ow64@gmail.com
	Contractor Information	
General Contractor:		
Plumbing Contractor:		
Mechanical Contractor:		
Electrician:	License #	Phone:
	Building Information	
Location of Project if not Applicants Address: _ Description of work: Feace 'w +roo'	- Vaca &'-n" Hoth	Valuation: \$ 3000 - 00
	L.	
Class of work:	- ,	Project type:
NewAdditionRemodelRep	airResiding	Single FamilyMulti Family
ReroofingPlumbingMechanical		CommercialPublic
	Construction Data	
	YES	NO NO
Construction and Site Plans Attached (two copies)	<u>\</u> YES	NO NO
Prebuilt 1978?	□	
	City Use Only	
pecial Conditions or Approvals:	Fees:	
	<i>r</i> .	HO No Parison
oning	Building Permit	
mg x2 12 230 m		
oning	Electric Connection	
uilding	Water Connection	Plumbing
uilding	Water Connection Sewer Connection	PlumbingMechanical
uilding	Water Connection	Plumbing Mechanical
uilding	Water Connection Sewer Connection	PlumbingMechanical

10

Permit Number 25-B-19

PROPERTY OWNER WAIVER Minnesota State Contractor Licensing Requirements

The purpose of this form is to have property owners acknowledge their responsibilities to the Minnesota State Building Code, to Zoning Ordinances, and to other applicable rules and regulations when they are acting as a general contractor in building projects.

I understand that the State of Minnesota requires that all Residential Building Contractors, Remodelers, and Roofers obtain a State License unless they qualify for a specific exemption from the licensing requirements. By signing this waiver, I attest to the fact that I am building or improving my property by myself. I claim to be exempt from the State License requirements because I am not in the business of building on speculation or for resale and this is the first residential structure that I have built or improved in the past 24 months.

I acknowledge that I may be hiring independent contractors to perform certain aspects of the construction or improvement of this property. Some of these contractors may be required to be licensed by the State of Minnesota. I understand that unlicensed residential contracting, remodeling, and/or roofing activity is a misdemeanor under Minnesota Statute 326.92, Subdivision 1, and that I forfeit my rights to reimbursement from the Contractor's Recovery Fund in the event that any contractors that I hire are unlicensed.

I also acknowledge that as the contractor on this project, <u>I am solely and personally responsible</u> for any violations of the State Building Code and/or any jurisdictional Ordinance in connection with the work performed on this property.

Michael Mocrow
Signature of Property Owner

310 3 M St James MA 56081

Project Address

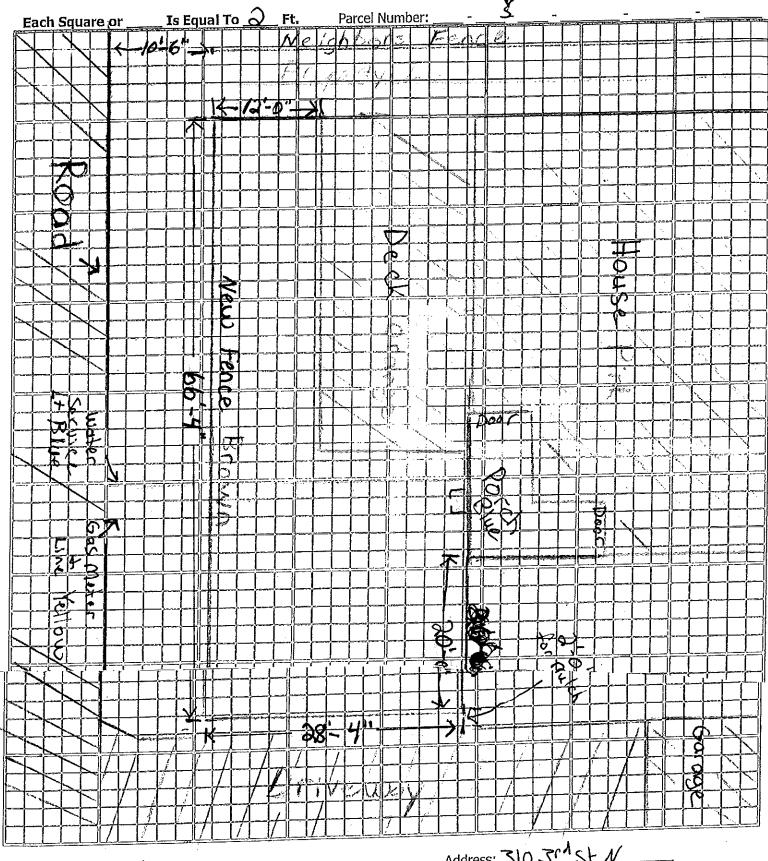
4-23-25

Date

To determine whether a particular contractor is required to be licensed, or to check on the licensing status of an individual contractor, call the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Enforcement Division, at 651-296-2594, or toll-free at 1-800-657-3602.

Section 12, Item K.

SITE PLAN



Property Owner: Mike Morrow	Address: 310 3. 3) 7/
Property Owners (** 11 CC 1:101)	Zoning:
Name of Preparer (if different than above):	zoning

THIS PLOT IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE:

(Signature of Applicant or Agent) Michael Mothou

4. How do I find my property lines?

There may be metal pins located at the four corners of your lot from the original survey. These pins are not always present because of the age of the neighborhood or they may have been dug up during previous construction. They may be located with a metal detector.

The only way to locate your property line for certain is to have the property surveyed. This will be an expense to the property owner.

5. How high can I build my fence?

Fences constructed in the front yard area are limited to a maximum height of 4 feet in height. Fences constructed in the side and rear yard areas can not exceed 6 feet in height.

6. Do I need a building permit for a fence?

If you are putting a fence up you will need to fill out a building permit application for a fence. If the fence is 6 feet one inch or higher, the fence will be regulated under the MN Building Code. If the fence is 6' or under, fences are regulated by the Zoning ordinance. In both cases, a permit is required to be filled out and an accurate site plan is required.

Do I need to call Gopher One before I construct my fence? 7.

Yes. The property owner should contact Gopher One before construction to have any buried cable located. Contact them at: 1-800-252-1166.

8. What else do I need to know about building a fence?

The finished side of any fence must face out or towards the neighboring property.

I have read, understand and will comply with these fencing regulations.

Michael Morraw
Signature Name (printed): Mike Morrow

Property address:

13

Form: modified 4/16

RESIDENTIAL FENCE REGULATIONS

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How close to my property line can I build my fence (or vegetative screening)?

The St. James Ordinance requires that all fences and hedges or vegetative screenings be constructed at least **2 feet** off your property line. The purpose of this setback is to allow room for property/fence owners to maintain both sides of their fence without entering the neighboring property.

Fences or walls shall extend no closer than 15 feet to any street or driveway opening onto a street.

Most properties contain easements along the property lines. The easement dimensions at these areas vary, but they are there to provide utility companies a location for the necessary utilities for your property. Please note that if you construct a fence in the easement area as recorded on the official plat and utility access is required, your fence or other vegetative screening may be removed and, if you desire, will then need to be replaced at your expense. The easement information may be obtained from the Watonwan County Recorder's Office. Please note that you will be required to place a Gopher One call as indicated below and the fence or other vegetative screening may not be placed over any utility lines located at this area.

2. If my neighbor says it's o.k. can I build right on the property line?

The St. James Ordinance says that fences or vegetative screening materials may be constructed or planted on the property lines but only with the permission of the adjacent property owner.

If you choose to construct your fence on the property line, you are doing so at your own risk and against the recommendation of the St. James Zoning Ordinance.

3. If I choose to construct my fence on the property line (with my neighbors consent) how do I avoid any legal issues with future property owners who may object to the placement of the fence?

If the property owners vary from the recommendations set forth in the St. James Zoning Ordinance, they may want to contact an attorney to have an agreement drafted that can be made of legal record and attached to the property records.

If property owners do not abide by the setback requirements, they construct the fence at their own risk.

4. How do I find my property lines?

There may be metal pins located at the four corners of your lot from the original survey. These pins are not always present because of the age of the neighborhood or they may have been dug up during previous construction. They may be located with a metal detector.

The only way to locate your property line for certain is to have the property surveyed. This will be an expense to the property owner.

5. How high can I build my fence?

Fences constructed in the front yard area are limited to a maximum height of 4 feet in height. Fences constructed in the side and rear yard areas can not exceed 6 feet in height.

6. Do I need a building permit for a fence?

If you are putting a fence up you will need to fill out a building permit application for a fence. If the fence is 6 feet one inch or higher, the fence will be regulated under the MN Building Code. If the fence is 6' or under, fences are regulated by the Zoning ordinance. In both cases, a permit is required to be filled out and an accurate site plan is required.

7. Do I need to call Gopher One before I construct my fence?

Yes. The property owner should contact Gopher One before construction to have any buried cable located. Contact them at: 1-800-252-1166.

8. What else do I need to know about building a fence?

The finished side of any fence must face out or towards the neighboring property. There must be an access point (i.e. door) if the fence will fully enclose the yard. This will provide access for utility and emergency services.

I have read, understand and will comply with these fencing regulations.

Signature	
Name (printed):	
Property address:	
Date signed:	

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City of St. James

1205 6th Ave S. | PO Box 70 | St. James, MN 56081

P. 507 -375 -3241 | F. 507 -375 -4376 | www.ci.stjames.mn.us

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ST. JAMES PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the St. James Planning Commission will meet on Monday, June 30, 2025, at 5:15 p.m. at the Saint James City Hall located at 1205 6th Ave South, Saint James, Minnesota, to hold a public hearing for the following purposes:

- 1) To consider a variance request from Michael and Autumn Morrow for property located at 310 3rd St. N. legally described as Lots Seven (7), Eight (8), And Nine (9); West 10' Of Adjacent Vacated Alley, Block Seventy-Three (73) Of First Addition to The City of St. James, Watonwan County, Minnesota. The variance request is to grant a fence with a maximum of 6-foot in height in the front yard setback area in a One- and Two-Family Residential District (R-1) per St. James City Code §156.030 (C)(1).
- 2) To consider a request for a special use permit from Zachary Romsdahl, for the property located at 600 First Avenue South legally described as Lots 11, 12 Block 17 in the Original Addition to the City of St. James, Watonwan County. The request is to allow for residential rental use on the main level of the building located in a General Business District (B-3) per St. James City Code §156.133.

All persons are invited to attend the June 30, 2025, public hearing and to present their views relating to these requests either orally or in writing.

Dated this 12th Day of June 2025.

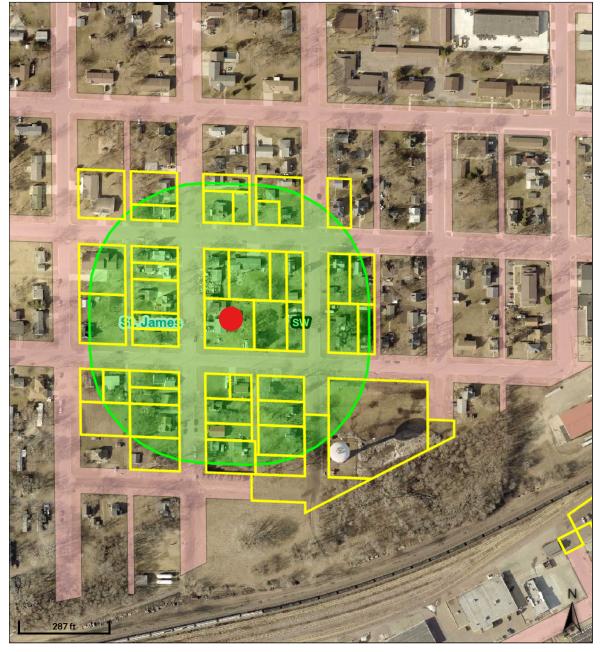
Brianna Sanders Zoning Administrator

Publish June 12, 2025: St. James Plaindealer

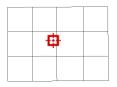
54

EXHIBIT 4

Beacon[™] Watonwan County, MN



Overview



Legend

Corporation Limits
Road Rights of Way
Government Lots

Qrtr Sections

Date created: 6/6/2025 Last Data Uploaded: 6/6/2025 5:40:34 AM



July 15, 2025

ITEM: New Business – Resolution 07.25.11: Granting a Special Use Permit to Allow Residential Rental Use on the Main Level of a Building Located in a General Business District (B-3)

BACKGROUND: The attached resolution grants the requested special use permit for the property located at 600 1st Avenue South to allow for main level residential rental use within the General Business District (B-3). The Planning and Zoning Commission met on June 30, 2025, and recommends granting the special use permit with conditions.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve/Deny Resolution.

State of Minnesota County of Watonwan

RESOLUTION NO. 07.25.11

RESOLUTION GRANTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW RESIDENTIAL RENTAL USE ON THE MAIN LEVEL OF A BUILDING LOCATED IN A GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (B-3)

WHEREAS, Zachery Romsdahl ("Applicant") submitted an application requesting the approval of a special use permit on a property owned by the Applicant located at 600 1st Avenue South which is legally described as follows ("Property"):

LOTS ELEVEN (11), TWELVE (12), BLOCK SEVENTEEN (17) IN THE ORIGINAL ADDITION TO THE CITY OF ST. JAMES, WATONWAN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

WHEREAS, a public hearing before the St. James Planning Commission was held June 30, 2025, for the purpose of hearing the request from the Applicant for a special use permit; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant desires to residential rental use on the main level of a commercial building; and

WHEREAS, the Property is located in a General Business District (B-3); and

WHEREAS, the St. James City Code § 156.133 lists uses that would require a special use permit on Property; and

WHEREAS, based upon the factual findings, the Planning Commission has recommended approval of said special use permit, with the following conditions:

- 1) The three business office spaces on 1st AVENUE SOUTH remain for business use:
- 2) The sole space on ARMSTRONG BOULEVARD SOUTH will be used for residential rental use;
- 3) No additional expansion of the apartment space on the main level at this parcel will be allowed;
- 4) The sidewalk in front of the residential space will remain clear for pedestrian traffic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ST. JAMES, WATONWAN COUNTY, MINNESOTA, as follows:

1) The City of St. James is hereby granting approval of a special use permit with conditions to Zacery Romsdahl for the residential rental use on the main level of a commercial building at the Property located at 600 1st Avenue South in St. James, Minnesota.

Adopted by the City Council this 15th day of July 2025.

	Christopher Whitehead, Mayor
Attest:	
Kristin Hurley, City Clerk - Treasurer	
Published:	
Filed:	

Effective Date: July 15, 2025

Section 12. Item L.

ST. JAMES PLANNING COMMISSION

TO: Planning Commission Members

FROM: Brianna Sanders, Zoning Administrator

DATE: June 30, 2025

RE: Special Use Permit – 600 1st Ave S

<u>Applicant</u>

ZACHARY ROMSDAHL ADDRESS – 600 1st Ave S

Request

The applicant is requesting a special use permit to allow for residential rental use on the main level of a building located in a General Business District (B-3).

Proposal

Applicant desires to operate a rental unit on the main floor of a commercial building. The proposed location of the apartment unit is located at 105 Armstrong Blvd S. The space was converted into an apartment during 2020 to accommodate a tenant due to medical reasons by the previous owners.

A special use permit was approved for Palzar Investments at this location in 2022. Special use permits are not transferrable between owners. The new owner needed to reapply to continue this use. The property was transferred in September of 2024.

Location

The property is located at 600 1st Ave S legally described as Lots 11, 12 Block 17 in the Original Addition to the City of St. James, Watonwan County.

The property is in a B-3 General Business District. The surrounding zoning designations include B-3 to the east, south and west and city-owned to the north.

Existing Land Use

The parcel has business operating on the main floor including Resilient Nutrition and St. James Tobacco. There are approximately 9-10 apartments on the second and third floors of this building.

City Code

§ 156.130 PURPOSE.

The B-3 (General Business) District is intended for retail stores and office space which are mutually compatible, and can benefit from, and contribute to, a compact shopping area serving the city or region. No off-street parking standards are required in this district.

(Prior Code, § 11.31) (Ord. 165, second series, passed 7-5-2000)

§ 156.131 PERMITTED USES.

The following are permitted uses in the B-3 District:

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Section 12, Item L. I stores, including antique shops, gift or jewelry stores, clothing stores, department stores, shoe sales, drug stores, video rental stores, book and stationary stores, hardware stores, sporting goods stores, bicycle sales and service, furniture sales and other household furnishing sales, hobby stores, appliance stores, paint and wallpaper sales, and other retail sales uses similar in nature;

- (B) Bakeries, grocery stores, or other retail food sales, excluding drive-in service;
- (C) Personal services, including banks and loan associations, barber and beauty shops, dry cleaners, tailor shops and leather repair shops, small appliance repair shops, and other similar service types conducted with a building;
- (D) Professional services including lawyer offices, accountants, employment agencies, and other business offices of a similar nature;
 - (E) Restaurants, cafes, taverns, and liquor stores; provided, they are not a drive-in style service;
 - (F) Clinics or medical services for people only, and dentist offices;
 - (G) Business or trade schools;
 - (H) Theaters, museums, art gallery, or sales;
 - (I) Health clubs or gyms;
 - (J) Post office, municipal offices, or other governmental office uses, or community centers; and
- (K) Other retail sales, on-site food service, personal, or professional, services, and business offices that would be of a similar nature to those listed above, and are not excluded by other sections of this chapter.

(Prior Code, § 11.31) (Ord. 211, second series, passed 1-15-2008)

§ 156.132 PERMITTED ACCESSORY USES.

The following are permitted accessory uses in the B-3 District: Any use that is clearly incidental to the primary use, and conforms to applicable performance standards listed elsewhere in this chapter.

(Prior Code, § 11.31)

§ 156.133 SPECIAL USES.

The following are special uses in the B-3 District: retail stores including antique shops, gift or jewelry stores, clothing stores, department stores, shoe sales, drug stores, video rental stores, book and stationery stores, hardware stores, sporting goods stores, bicycle sales and service, furniture sales and other furnishing sales, hobby stores, appliance stores, paint and wallpaper sales, secondhand merchandise, and other retail sales uses similar in nature.

(Prior Code, § 11.31) (Ord. 211, second series, passed 1-15-2008)

§ 156.134 LOT AREA, WIDTH, AND MINIMUM SETBACK STANDARDS.

The following are the lot area, width, and minimum setback standards in the B-3 District:

- (A) No setback requirements, no minimum lot size requirement, no minimum lot width requirement, and no lot coverage restrictions; and
 - (B) Height regulations: 45 feet.

(Prior Code, § 11.31)

§ 156.135 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.

et parking standards are required in this district. Developments in this district are subject to performance standards regarding signage, screening of storage areas, loading spaces, and other requirements as detailed in §§ 71.20, 156.020 through 156.038.

Exhibits

Exhibit 5 – Special Use Permit Application

Exhibit 6 – Property Map

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PLANNING COMMISSION REQUEST

2,5000,00	on for Variation	\$ 1.00 million 2 page lates assured.
	Dayconing	\$1 mt on your 1 mt year morners
	Chilmanica Change	\$1.50 M place 7 MM per mining
	X Approval Use Permit	\$1.45.00 plus 2.00 per militar
	American Petition	\$1. No Made Carrier \$1 and - course agreement
	Len Division Property Splin	\$1.20 to box 7 on bea segre-
	Plat Subdivision - Prolim	\$75 plus 2 (0) per notice
	Plan Subdivision - Final	5.75 plus 2.00 per notice
	Vacation initiated by citizen petitioner	5150 do plus 2 do per notico
	Notification billing	52 (a) for each required notice
Applicant:	Name: Zach Romsdahl 820 5th S	t N Saint James MN 56081
	Mailing Address:	120
	Phone Number: 507-995-8	130
	Email: zachromsdahl11	@gmail.com
Property Add	ress (if different from Applicant's	s address):
arcel ID: 20	1001580	
escription of	area affected:	rental property instead of the commercial space that it was originally zone
esent Zone		
sent Set-back		

Section	12.	Item	Ι.

Present Use Rental Unit	
Proposed Zone (if different)	
Request	
To keep as a rental unit	
Attached drawing of request	
The above information and attached knowledge.	drawing of request are true and correct to the best of m
06/03/2025	Buking
Date	Signature of Person Filing Application

HEARING: The Commission will not render a decision unless applicant or a designated represer present at the hearing. Commission meetings are scheduled on the last Monday of each month. A completed application must be submitted by the second Tuesday of each month to be considered month's meeting.

DRAWING: A drawing of the affected area must be attached showing present lot lines and exbuildings and the requested change. Applications will not be accepted without all information Zoning Administrator will notify the applicant within 10 business days if the application is in

FEE: SEE ABOVE. The fee for request is due at the time of this application submittal. The name be due on or before the public hearing. If the notice fee is not submitted, the public hearing valued at the applicants cost.



City of St. James

1205 6th Ave S. | PO Box 70 | St. James, MN 56081

P. 507 -375 -3241 | F. 507 -375 -4376 | www.ci.stjames.mn.us

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ST. JAMES PLANNING COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the St. James Planning Commission will meet on Monday, June 30, 2025, at 5:15 p.m. at the Saint James City Hall located at 1205 6th Ave South, Saint James, Minnesota, to hold a public hearing for the following purposes:

- 1) To consider a variance request from Michael and Autumn Morrow for property located at 310 3rd St. N. legally described as Lots Seven (7), Eight (8), And Nine (9); West 10' Of Adjacent Vacated Alley, Block Seventy-Three (73) Of First Addition to The City of St. James, Watonwan County, Minnesota. The variance request is to grant a fence with a maximum of 6-foot in height in the front yard setback area in a One- and Two-Family Residential District (R-1) per St. James City Code §156.030 (C)(1).
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All persons are invited to attend the June 30, 2025, public hearing and to present their views relating to these requests either orally or in writing.

Dated this 12th Day of June 2025.

Brianna Sanders Zoning Administrator

Publish June 12, 2025: St. James Plaindealer

Property Map of 600 First Ave S

Property is indicated by circle.



July 15, 2025

ITEM: New Business – Resolution 07.25.12: Accepting Financial Gift from the Ellingsburg Zettle VFW Post #1914

BACKGROUND: The attached resolution accepts the financial gift from the Ellingsburg Zettle VFW Post #1914 in the amount of \$200.00 for the Artwalk Committee.

The City of St. James extends a heartfelt thank you to the Ellingsburg Zettle VFW Post #1914 for their generous donation to the Artwalk Committee. Your support helps bring creativity to life in our community.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve/Deny Resolution.

RESOLUTION NO.: 07.25.12

State of Minnesota County of Watonwan

RESOLUTION NO. 07.25.12

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING FINANCIAL GIFT FROM THE ELLINGSBURG ZETTLE VFW POST #1914

WHEREAS, the Ellingsburg Zettle VFW Post #1914 has offered financial support to the Artwalk Committee and to the citizens of St. James.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF ST. JAMES, WATONWAN COUNTY, MINNESOTA that the City hereby gratefully accepts the financial gift of \$200.00 from the Ellingsburg Zettle VFW Post #1914 for the expressed purpose of contributing to the Artwalk Committee, to benefit the residents of the City of St. James.

Adopted by the City Council this 15th day of July 2025.

ATTEST:	Christopher Whitehead, Mayor
Kristin K. Hurley, City Clerk-Treasurer	
Filed:	
Published:	
Effective Date: July 15, 2025	