



City of Blaine

City Council Workshop

December 15, 2025 | 5:30 PM
Blaine City Hall
10801 Town Square Drive NE
Blaine, MN 55449

MINUTES

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP MEETING

In accordance with the provisions of Section 3.01 of the Blaine City Charter, a Council Workshop meeting is scheduled for the following purpose:

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Robertson at 5:30PM.

2. Roll Call

PRESENT: Mayor Tim Sanders, Councilmembers Terra Fleming, Chris Ford, Leslie Larson, Chris Massoglia, Tom Newland, and Jess Robertson.

ABSENT: None.

Quorum Present.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Erik Thorvig; Community Development Director Sheila Sellman; Safety Services Director/Police Chief Brian Podany; Finance Director Jason Zimmerman; Director of Administrative Services Scott Johnson; Public Works Director Nick Fleishhacker; Streets Supervisor Pat Parenteau; Parks and Recreations Director Jerome Krieger; Director of Engineering Dan Schluender; City Attorney Eric Larson; Communications Manager Ben Hayle; and City Clerk Catherine Sorensen.

3. New Business

- 3.1.** 2025-274 Closed Session Pursuant to MN Statute 13D.03 Subd. (1)(b) - Labor Negotiations Update
Sponsors: Scott Johnson, Director of Administrative Services

After a motion and second, the council moved into a closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.03 Subd. (1)(b) to receive an update on labor negotiations.

- 3.2.** 2025-290 Closed Session Pursuant to MN Statute 13D.05 Subd. (3)(5) - Security Briefings and Reports
Sponsors: Erik Thorvig, City Manager

After a motion and second, the council moved into a closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05 Subd. (3)(5) to receive security briefings and reports.

- 3.3.** 2025-276 Snow Plowing Process
Sponsors: Nick Fleischhacker, Public Works Director

Public Works Director Fleischhacker and Streets Supervisor Pat Parenteau provided an update regarding snow plowing procedures. Staff described how public works members are deployed between the different pieces of equipment and how routing occurs. Further discussion ensued regarding the complaint calls the public works department receives from residents.

Mayor Sanders requested further information regarding the city's salting policy. Mr. Parenteau explained the main roadways, hazard areas and main intersections are salted. Mr. Fleischhacker reported the neighborhood streets are not salted by the city.

Councilmember Fleming inquired what the main concerns were from public works staff throughout the plowing season. Mr. Parenteau stated he appreciated patience and support from the public after snow events because no two storms are the same. He explained his staffing levels were a bit short at this time for some routes such as trails. Mr. Fleischhacker commented on how staff worked to shuffle staff members to ensure there was adequate coverage.

Councilmember Newland questioned how many staff members were required to clear the city after a snow event. Mr. Parenteau reported he liked to have 45 staff members to clear the city after a snow event. He stated the city can generally be cleared in eight hours after a 2" snow event. He explained the amount of time increases as the amount of snow increases.

Mayor Sanders requested staff provide the council with a one-page informational sheet on how the city addresses snow events.

- 3.4.** 2025-289 Council Subcommittee Updates
Sponsors: Erik Thorvig, City Manager

This item was postponed to a future workshop meeting.

4. Other Business

None.

5. Adjournment

The workshop adjourned at 6:59PM.



Signed by

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tim Sanders".

Tim Sanders, Mayor

Signed by

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Catherine M. Sorensen".

Catherine M. Sorensen, City Clerk