

CITY OF MINNETRISTA



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Subject: Resolution to Examine Fire Partnership with St. Bonifacius

Prepared By: Jasper Kruggel, City Administrator

Meeting Date: May 18, 2025

Issue: Representatives from the cities of St. Bonifacius and Minnetrista recently met to discuss fire services in the community. At that meeting, it was recommended to examine the possibility of partnering to examine the best course of action related to the future fire protection services provided by St. Bonifacius to Minnetrista.

Overview: The formation of a fire district or fire partnership in the western Lake Minnetonka region has been discussed in concept for 25 years. The overall partnership plan between the entire region has been put on hold for an estimated five more years, and it has been determined that an evaluation of options for fire protection services between the cities of St. Bonifacius and Minnetrista be examined in the shorter-term to provide a long-term and sustainable fire service model for the region.

If approved, the cities of St. Bonifacius and Minnetrista would work together, forming a partnership, tasked to develop a framework for a mechanism to provide a long-term, sustainable fire service to the region. The City of St. Bonifacius has requested that the partnership not only look at a Fire District model, but also a joint-powers agreement or a contract amendment. Staff will continue to work with elected officials as the process develops.

Recommended City Council Action: Staff are recommending the approval of a resolution establishing a partnership between Minnetrista and St. Bonifacius to develop a long-term, sustainable solution for fire protection services in our region.

Mission Statement:

The City of Minnetrista will deliver quality services in a cost effective and innovative manner and provide opportunities for a high quality of life while protecting natural resources and maintaining a rural character.

RESOLUTION NO. 58-26

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE EXAMINATION OF A FIRE PARTNERSHIP
BETWEEN THE CITIES OF MINNETRISTA AND SAINT BONIFACIUS**

WHEREAS, the cities of Minnetrista and Saint Bonifacius have recognized a shared need for efficient and reliable fire protection services for their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, collaborative efforts through the examination of a Fire Partnership will enable these cities to pool resources, optimize response times, and improve emergency services through unified regional fire protection; and

WHEREAS, the examination of a Fire Partnership for fire protection would allow for more consistent service delivery across municipal boundaries, leveraging shared resources, personnel, and infrastructure to the benefit of all participating communities; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Fire Partnership would also promote fiscal responsibility and sustainability, enabling a cost-effective model for fire protection and emergency response services; and

WHEREAS, collaboration between the cities of Minnetrista and Saint Bonifacius will enhance the safety and welfare of their residents through improved fire protection capabilities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Minnetrista hereby expresses its full support for the examination of a Fire Partnership among the cities of Minnetrista and Saint Bonifacius for the purpose of long-term sustainability of fire protection services in the region; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Minnetrista City Council authorizes its designated representatives to engage in discussions, planning, and necessary steps towards the formation and implementation of a Fire Partnership.

This resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Minnetrista on the 18th day of May, 2026, by a vote of ____ Ayes and ____ Nays.

Lisa Whalen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ann Meyerhoff, City Clerk