

CITY OF MINNETRISTA



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Subject: Resolution to Examine Fire District with St. Bonifacius

Prepared By: Jasper Kruggel, City Administrator

Meeting Date: May 4, 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 creating a fire district between the two communities. Before you is a resolution supporting the initiative to examine the possibility of a fire district.

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 a fire district between the cities of St. Bonifacius and Minnetrista be examined in the shorter-term to provide a long-term sustainability in fire service in the area.

If approved, the cities of St. Bonifacius and Minnetrista would work together to develop a framework for a district, engaging elected officials. If a viable fire district model is developed, it would allow for participation from other entities as determined by the group.

Recommended City Council Action: Staff request City Council evaluate this resolution, and if they are agreeable to proceeding, they can choose to add this resolution to the regular meeting on May 4th, or direct staff to include on the agenda for the May 18th Regular City Council meeting.

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. 57-26

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE FORMATION OF A FIRE DISTRICT
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 a Fire District will enable these cities to pool resources, optimize response times, and improve emergency services through unified regional fire protection; and

WHEREAS, a Fire District 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 District 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 formation of a Fire District among the cities of Minnetrista and Saint Bonifacius for the purpose of establishing a regional fire protection authority; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Minnetrista City Council authorizes it's designated representatives to engage in discussions, planning, and necessary steps towards the formation and implementation of the Joint Powers Agreement in partnership with the other participating municipalities.

This resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Minnetrista on the 18th day of May 4, 2026, by a vote of ___ Ayes and ___ Nays.

Lisa Whalen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ann Meyerhoff, City Clerk