

**Meeting Minutes**  
**New Prague Park Board**  
**Tuesday, April 14th, 2026**

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

The regular meeting was called to order at City Hall at 6:01 PM by Vice Chair Matt Becka.

Members present: Maggie Bass, Christine Wolf, Brian Paulson, Matt Becka, and Jessica Dohm.

Members absent: Chair Joe Barten and Shannon Sticha.

Staff present: Community Development Director Ken Ondich and Planner Evan Gariepy.

**2. Public Forum**

Henry Lundeen-Detisch, a student at Gustavus Adolphus College who grew up in New Prague, spoke. He provided information and pamphlets about rain gardens and pollinator gardens, focused on resources for New Prague residents. He stated he wants to help the City create more prairie areas and provide education on it. Ondich stated that he would like to work with him for informational signage for Settler's Park.

**3. Approval of Regular Agenda**

A motion was made by Dohm, seconded by Paulson, to approve the regular agenda. Motion carried (5-0).

**4. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes**

**a. March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Regular Meeting**

A motion was made by Dohm, seconded by Wolf, to approve the March 10th, 2026, regular meeting minutes. Motion carried (5-0).

**5. Review Financial Reports**

Ondich presented the financial reports as information.

A motion was made by Paulson, seconded by Becka, to approve the financial reports. Motion carried (5-0).

**6. Miscellaneous**

**a. Tree City USA Update** – Gariepy presented the Tree City USA updates.

- b. POPS Programming RFP Update** – Ondich presented the update regarding the RFP for programming at POPS.
- c. Parks Naming Process for “City Center”** – Ondich presented the information regarding the beginning of the park naming process that began for the “City Center” site. He stated it will be advertised in the next edition of the New Prague Times.
- d. Vandalism at City Parks** – Ondich presented the information regarding vandalism at City parks. Ondich stated that the Flock cameras in the parks are not license plate reader cameras, and that the “current cases to date” in the packet may be inaccurate due to this.
- e. 2026 Budget Projects** – Ondich presented the information regarding the 2026 budget projects.
- f. Park Plan Update** – Ondich stated that Staff is continuing to work on background information for the Park Plan. He stated that public outreach will likely occur this fall.
- g. Volleyball Courts at Memorial Park** – Becka requested that the volleyball courts at Memorial Park is discussed, as he indicated he has spoken with someone from the volleyball association who stated it seems to need maintenance. Ondich stated that Staff said that the nets are four years old, and the area had new sand and out-of-bound lines installed in 2024. He stated that the City hasn’t been informed about ground bees or maintenance issues. Becka stated that this same contact said that the nets may be too high for youth volleyball, and Dohm stated they seem to be at adult height and asked if they are adjustable. Becka inquired if they can be adjustable nets when they are replaced so that they can be configured to be both adult and youth height. Ondich stated that Staff will look into if it can be adjustable.
- h. Lighting at Heritage Park** – Ondich stated that the lights at Heritage Park have been largely completed by the Utility Department, and that they have received positive feedback regarding it.
- i. Annual Park Tour** – Ondich stated that the annual tour of all of the parks for the Park Board typically occurs in May. He proposed moving it to June so that new Park Board members can attend, which the Park Board supported.

## 11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 pm by order of Vice Chair Becka.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Evan C. Gariepy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Evan C. Gariepy  
Planner