

Meeting Minutes
New Prague Park Board
Tuesday, May 12th, 2026

1. Call Meeting to Order

The regular meeting was called to order at City Hall at 6:00 PM by Chair Joe Barten.

Members present: Christine Wolf, Brian Paulson, Joe Barten, Shannon Sticha, and Jessica Dohm.

Members absent: Maggie Bass and Matt Becka.

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

2. Public Forum

No one spoke.

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. April 14th, 2026, Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Dohm, seconded by Paulson, to approve the April 14th, 2026, regular meeting minutes. Motion carried (3-0-2), Barten and Sticha abstained.

5. Review Financial Reports

Ondich presented the financial reports as information. He stated that the POPS Foundation requested to receive the pledged \$100,000 donation for the foundation of the building, but that the agreement states it will be paid when POPS is completed and donated to the City.

Paulson asked if any part of the sale in the Industrial Park goes to the Park Funds. Ondich stated that a portion of their building permits will, based on the estimated amount of employees in the building.

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

6. Memorial Park Entrance Sign Quotes

Gariepy presented the three Memorial Park entrance sign quotes that were received by the City. Barten asked about the foam material that Tisdel Woodworks proposed using, and Ondich stated that it's what the other signs in the City are made out of.

Barten asked what level of experience each company has in making foam signs. Paulson asked if the sign would be modifiable, such as in the case additional amenities or buildings are changed within the park. Ondich stated that that part can be changed out by a different company, as has been done for other park signs.

Dohm asked if the cedar posts that Tisdel Woodworks quoted had any longevity concerns as they would be made out of wood, Ondich stated that the existing wooden posts for park signs have held up well. Barten requested if the posts would be 2x4 or 2x6, Ondich stated that staff will ask.

Dohm stated she supports going with Tisdel Woodworks, but suggested asking for a mockup first. She also requested other sign examples and seeing if he can do aluminum. Barten suggested getting more information from Tisdel Woodworks and Dahlen Signs to compare them.

Dohm asked about changing the design of the sign to modernize it. Barten stated he likes the current design, as it looks historic, and Paulson stated he likes that it would match all other park signs in the City. Dohm and Wolf stated that some of the colors are hard to read on the current sign design.

Wolf inquired how the current sign design came to be, and Ondich stated that the Park Board worked with Brushwork Signs in approximately 2005.

Barten also stated that Staff should see if either sign company has warranties. Gariepy stated that he can ask if there are any local signs similar to the proposed ones, and will take pictures of them. Staff was advised to get more information from both Tisdel Woodworks and Dahlen Signs to better compare them at the June meeting.

7. Miscellaneous

a. Volleyball Courts Update – Ondich presented the update regarding the Volleyball Courts whereby one court can have the net set at adult height and the other for youth.

b. Tree City USA Update – Gariepy presented the Tree City USA update.

- c. **POPS Programming RFP Update** – Ondich stated that there was one proposal that was received for the Programming RFP from the Forward New Prague Foundation. He stated that the proposed timeline can be delayed if there are further questions involving the RFP for the Park Board. Barten asked about it going to City Council before the Park Board sees it, and Ondich stated it can be sent out by email to everyone for comment.
- d. **POPS Construction Update & Gala** – Ondich presented the POPS construction update. Gariepy stated that they received an extension on their grant for landscaping.
- e. **Park Naming Process for “City Center”** – Ondich stated that the City is still receiving applications for names for City Center park, and that there are currently 4 proposals received. He also said it will be advertised again before it closes.
- f. **Vandalism at City Parks** – Ondich stated that the updated vandalism information is not yet available. He said that there was \$1,000 done of damage of spray paint vandalism at Settlers Park over the weekend, but that the camera was able to identify who did so. Dohm asked if the perpetrator pays for the repairs, and Ondich stated that the police try to get restitution but it is difficult.
- g. **2026 Budget Projects** – Ondich presented the 2026 project list. He pointed out that it may change pending the Memorial Park sign replacement. He also stated that the City sent out another round of surveys so that the City’s DEED funds can be utilized for the design and construction of the pond.
- h. **Park Plan Update** – Ondich presented the Park Plan update.
- i. **Annual Park Board Tour** – Ondich stated that the annual Park Board tour will be next month to include the new members. Wolf suggested touring the dog park, and Ondich stated it can be added on after Heritage Park.
- j. **Concept Plan for Industrial Park Expansion Park** – Ondich added that the City received a 76-acre concept plan for north of the existing industrial park with CVF Racing proposing to build a 200,000 square foot building. He stated that the concept plan will not go to the Park Board to review regarding park land, trails, and dedication in lieu of land, but would be reviewed during the preliminary plat stage.

Ondich also stated that the City Council proposed using a TIF District here to fund the trail through the industrial park, especially with the tax increase that the new potential new 50,000 sq. ft. building on the last two lots sold and Brick’s Boatworks required expansions would bring.

Paulson asked if a roundabout would ever be put at the intersection of 6th/7th St NW and Highway 21, and Ondich stated that the City has applied to get funding through MnDOT when they offer it but we do not rank well.

Barten asked if a trail along 6th St NW could be paused in favor of a greenway loop through the industrial park. Ondich stated that they could both be considered but that the trail adjacent to 6th Street NW was a development requirement when the lots were platted back in 2015 that has been delayed and does need to be completed to fulfill the development requirements. Paulson states that the trails within Bloomington's industrial park face a lot of use.

- k. Thanks To Outgoing Park Board Members** – Staff and the Park Board thanked and acknowledged the two outgoing Park Board members, Jessica Dohm and Christine Wolf, for their contributions.
- l. Pickleball and Minutes** – Paulson stated that the minutes for past Park Board meetings have not yet been published on the website. He also stated that he got a complaint about the pickleball courts not being big and comprehensive enough for what would be provided for on the paved ice rink.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 pm by order of Chair Joe Barten.

Respectfully Submitted,



Evan C. Gariepy
Planner