

**Red Wing City Council  
City Council Workshop  
City Council Chambers  
May 26, 2025**

**Council Members Present:** Council President Janie Farrar; Council Members Vicki Jo Lambert, Beth Snyder, Ron Goggin, Becky Norton, and Donald Kliewer

**Council Members Absent:** Council Member Kim Beise

**Others Present:** Gary Iocco, Mayor (attended virtually due to out of state travel); Chris Heineman, Council Administrator; Kyle Klatt, Community Development Director; Michelle Leise, Public Information & Engagement Officer; Shawn Blaney, Public Works Director; Mike Warner, Fire Chief; Nick Sather, Police Chief; Zach Regnier, Engineering Director; Marissa Hill, City Clerk; Patrick Ramaker, Deputy Director of Public Works – Buildings and Grounds

**Agenda Item 1**

**Call to Order**

Council President Janie Farrar welcomed attendees and convened the workshop at 5:02 p.m.

**Agenda Item 2**

**Workshop Items**

**A. Dog Park Discussion**

Public Works Director Shawn Blaney presented the item and asked the Council for direction. Deputy Director of Public Works – Buildings and Grounds Patrick Ramaker led the discussion regarding dog parks and provided an overview, key facts, background, the interim solution, and permanent relocation criteria. Public Information & Engagement Officer Michelle Leise reviewed the community engagement dog park 2025 survey results.

Deputy Director Ramaker reviewed the potential dog park options and the pros and cons for each proposed location site, as well as the next steps for the Council.

Council Member Kliewer asked for an estimate of costs. Director Blaney replied that staff has not looked into an estimate yet, but it would be about \$20,000 for fencing.

Council President Farrar stated she would like to see a group of community members help guide the process and asked if it had been done in the past. Director Blaney replied that a pickleball community group came together and organized of their own initiative, but no group has done the same for dog parks. It is not included in the staff's work plan to organize a group.

Council Member Norton asked why the dog park was not included in the work plan already, since the City committed to the community that it would be accomplished. Director Blaney replied that it was the decision of the Council at the time.

Mayor Iocco noted a community member who has expressed interest in raising funds for the dog park as a private partnership.

Director Blaney stated that a new strategic plan would be created in 2027, and it would provide an opportunity for the Council to include the dog park in the plan.

The Council discussed the various options for a dog park location. Council Member Lambert requested that there be some staff time dedicated to the dog park project in order to move the project forward.

The Council discussed the desire to have a community group guide the City in the process of finding donors to fund the park. Mayor Iocco stated he would be the point person to organize community members.

Council Member Goggin expressed his interest in discontinuing the dog park relocation efforts. The Council indicated the Bench Street South location and the Skate Park location were the preferred locations to explore.

#### **B. Weed Ordinance Discussion**

Director Blaney reviewed the challenges regarding the language of the Weed Ordinance. Staff proposed to repeal the existing language in Chapter 7, and to remove the language in Section 10.24 and add Section 10.32.

Council Member Goggin expressed concern regarding increasing the lawn standard from six to eight inches. Director Blaney replied that the new State requirements are eight inches.

The Council agreed to separate the public and private lots and to send the item to the Sustainability Commission.


### **Agenda Item 3**

#### **Adjournment**

The workshop adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

  
Janie Farrar, Council President

ATTEST:

  
Melissa Hill, MCMC