



2025 Rules and Policies for Boards, Commissions, and Committees

Section 1: Authority to Establish Boards, Commissions, and Committees

The City of Red Wing has a variety of bodies that provide important roles within local government. These bodies offer the opportunity for more people to participate in the democratic process and focus on areas important to them. The purpose of the boards, commissions, and committees is to advise the City Council on matters that fall within each group's area of concentration. The following is a list of all appointed bodies within the City of Red Wing government. An addendum to this document provides a summary of the similarities and differences between commissions and committees.

1. *State-Mandated Commission.* Minnesota law dictates that every city organized as a Home Rule City, such as Red Wing, must have a Charter Commission.
 - Charter Commission
2. *Advisory Commissions.* The City Council, through the Charter, has the authority to establish additional advisory commissions as it deems appropriate. Among other roles, these types of commissions advise the Council on specific issues, as requested by the Council. The following bodies are currently established:
 - Arts and Culture Commission
 - Human Rights Commission
 - Sister Cities Commission
 - Sustainability Commission
3. *Advisory Commissions with Additional Decision-Making Authority.* These bodies act as advisory commissions with at least one additional decision-making responsibility.
 - Advisory Planning Commission: This body is also the City's Board of Adjustment; it is the decision-making body on zoning variances requested by the public. The City Council is only involved in zoning variance decisions if a member of the public requests an appeal to the Council.

- Heritage Preservation Commission: This is the City's decision-making body on heritage preservation design reviews for locally designated historic properties. The City Council is only involved in these types of design review decisions if a member of the public requests an appeal to the Council.
4. *Boards of Authority.* The City's two authority boards were created by a City Council resolution. They have taxing authority and fall under the guidelines of the state's empowering statutes.
 - Housing and Redevelopment Authority Board (HRA)
 - Port Authority Board
 - a. The HRA and Port Authority can set Rules of Order and Procedures that are different than the City Council. Members must approve their rules by a majority vote and keep those rules on file.
 - b. The HRA and the Port Authority can receive funds on their own behalf without City Council approval.
 5. *T. B. Sheldon Auditorium Board.* The City received the T. B. Sheldon Theatre as an estate gift, and through the terms of the gift, the theater must have a board. This board was created through a City ordinance and is commonly referred to as the "Sheldon Board."
 - a. The Sheldon Board can set Rules of Order and Procedures that are different than the City Council. Members must approve their rules by a majority vote and keep those rules on file.
 - b. The Sheldon Board can receive funds on its own behalf without City Council approval.
 6. *Library Board.* The Library Board governs the operations of the Library and, therefore, has more authority than other advisory boards and commissions.
 - a. The Library Board may adopt library policies by resolution and has final authority in the library's material selection and programming.
 - b. The Library Board may, with the consent of the Council, accept any gift, grant, or bequest made or offered for Library purposes.
 - c. Additional details are outlined in the City's Charter.
 7. *Advisory Committees.* These government bodies meet to recommend policy guidelines to the City Council and serve as a forum for resident input on subjects related to the

committee's area of focus. However, advisory committees have less regulation, authority, and structure than boards and commissions.

- Airport Advisory Committee
- Harbor Advisory Committee

- a. These groups meet only as needed, generally once or twice per year.
- b. A City staff member schedules and convenes the meetings.
- c. Notices, minutes, and recordings are not done, and the committee does not have a Council liaison.
- d. City staff maintains a membership roster on the City's website.

8. Reassignment of Commissions and Committees

- a. The City Council may by ordinance downgrade a regular Advisory Commission (see #2 above) to an Advisory Committee per Charter Section 2.04, which provides that the City Council may by ordinance abolish any commission as it deems necessary for the operation of the City. This is specific to Advisory Commissions that are not mandated by state statute.
- b. The City Council may by ordinance elevate an Advisory Committee (see #7 above) to an Advisory Commission per Charter Section 2.04, which provides that the City Council may by ordinance establish any commission as it deems necessary for the operation of the City. There must be adequate staff capacity and a budget to support this change.

Section 2: Membership

1. Membership Composition: The number of members and the residency of members varies per governmental body. Details are listed below.
 - a. *Advisory Planning Commission, Heritage Preservation Commission, Port Authority, and Sheldon Board.* There are seven members on each of these commissions, and all members must be City of Red Wing residents.
 - b. *Arts and Culture Commission.* This body has a minimum of seven and a maximum of 11 members. Most must be residents of Red Wing; however, up to two members may be residents of Goodhue County or Pierce County.
 - c. *Charter Commission.* The Charter Commission consists of not less than seven and no more than 15 members. All must live within the city limits of Red Wing.

- d. *Human Rights Commission, Sister Cities Commission, and Sustainability Commission.* The Sister Cities Commission has up to 15 members, the Sustainability Commission has seven members, and the Human Rights Commission has seven members. Members of these three commissions must live within the boundaries of the City of Red Wing or the broader boundaries of Independent School District 256. The number of members who live outside Red Wing's limits must not constitute a quorum or more.
- e. *Library Board:* The Library Board has nine members. Most must be residents of the City of Red Wing, except one member may be a nonresident who lives in Goodhue County, if the county financially contributes to the Library.
- f. *Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA):* The HRA Board has up to seven members and all must be residents of Red Wing.
- g. *Airport Advisory Committee:* This committee consists of seven members. Four members must be residents of Red Wing. One member must be a resident of Goodhue County who is also either a taxpayer of Red Wing or a hangar lessee. Two members must be residents of Pierce County, with preference given to residents of Isabelle Township or Trenton Township.
- h. *Harbor Advisory Committee:* This committee consists of up to seven members. Most members must be residents of the City of Red Wing, except one member may be a nonresident who owns real property in the city or has a slip at a City-owned marina.

2. Length of Residency

All applicants must have lived in the City of Red Wing for at least six months. If another county or area of residency is required or allowed, the applicant must have lived within those boundaries for at least six months.

3. Confirmation of Residency

- a. Administration staff will confirm the residency of each applicant through one of the following means:
 - Goodhue County Public Property Tax Records
 - Utility billing
 - State ID
 - Affidavit signed by a Red Wing resident that includes the address of the individual signing the affidavit, the applicant's address, and the affiant's sworn statement that the applicant has lived in Red Wing for at least six months.

- b. If City staff are unable to confirm an applicant's residency through these methods, staff may look at additional factors as noted in Chapter 2, Section 2.08, Subd. 4 of the City Code. That includes but is not limited to other evidence that demonstrates the individual lives within the city limits. The applicant has the burden to provide proof of residency to staff.

4. Advisory Members

- a. Boards or commissions may have adult and/or student advisory members. Advisory members will be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council to serve terms consistent with the board or commission they are appointed to.
- b. Advisory student appointees will serve an annual term that begins June 1 and ends May 31.
- c. Advisory members are non-voting members, are not counted for purposes of a quorum, and may live outside the city limits.

5. Ex-Officio Member

- a. The Council Administrator serves as an ex-officio member on all boards, commissions, and authorities and, as such, is not counted for the purpose of determining a quorum and does not have the right to vote.

6. Membership Lists

- a. City Administration staff will maintain membership lists for all boards and commissions and make them available on the City's website. These lists will also contain appointment and reappointment dates, term expiration dates, and the appointing government body, if applicable.

Section 3: Simultaneous Membership

- 1. Board and commission members can only serve on a single board or commission at a time, with the exception of the Charter Commission. Charter Commission members can simultaneously serve on one additional City board or commission.
- 2. Advisory committee members may serve on one board or commission at the same time they serve on an advisory committee. This is because advisory committees have much less regulation, authority, and structure (see page 2 and addendum).

Section 4: Terms

1. Length of Terms: Most boards and commission terms are three years, expiring on December 31. Members can serve two consecutive terms. Exceptions to that rule are listed below.
 - a. Charter Commission terms are four years, per state law. Members may serve up to two consecutive terms.
 - b. Housing and Redevelopment Authority terms are five years, as established by state law. Members may serve up to two consecutive terms.
 - c. Sheldon Board terms are five years, per city ordinance. Members may serve up to three consecutive terms.
 - d. Advisory student appointee terms are one year, from June 1 through May 31. Students may serve up to five terms.
2. Appointment to One's Own Term: If a person is appointed to their own term in the first half of the year (January 1 through June 30), that constitutes the first year of the member's first term. If a person is appointed to their own term in the second half of the year (July 1 through December 31), that constitutes a partial term, and the first year of their first full term starts January 1 of the upcoming year. The phrase "own term" means when a person is appointed to an open seat and is not finishing the unexpired term of a previous member.
3. Appointment to Fill Another Member's Vacancy: Sometimes a person is appointed to fill a previous member's unexpired term. This may happen, for example, when a member resigns or steps down early for any reason or is removed, or whose seat is declared vacant by a lack of residency. When this happens, if the new member is appointed in the first half of the unexpired term, that also constitutes the new member's first term. If the new member is appointed in the second half of the unexpired term, that term is considered a partial term. When that partial term is completed, the new member may be appointed to their own first term in the same manner as an initial appointment.
4. When a member has reached the maximum number of consecutive terms allowed, the member must come off the board or commission and not serve in any capacity on that body for at least 12 months. After 12 months, previous members can be appointed again to the same body and serve the permitted number of consecutive terms.
5. If a board or commission member chooses to serve on a different board or commission at the completion of their term, there is no waiting period.

6. Individuals can hold the position of Chair or Vice Chair for a maximum of two consecutive years. After a one-year hiatus, a person may hold either position again for a maximum of two consecutive years.

Section 5: Member Applications and Appointments

1. Applications

- a. Persons interested in serving on a board, commission, or committee must complete an application. Digital applications and printable applications are available on the City's website at www.redwingmn.gov. Digital applications can be submitted online. Completed paper applications can be mailed or delivered to City Hall. Hard copies can be made available upon request.
- b. Applications will be forwarded to the Mayor or responsible party for consideration and will be kept on file for one year. After one year, interested applicants must reapply.

2. Appointments

- a. Per City Charter, the Mayor recommends people to be appointed to boards and commissions. The City Council then approves or denies those recommendations, based on a majority vote.
- b. Exceptions to this rule are the Charter Commission and the Port Authority.
 - i. Charter Commission: Per Minnesota Statute Section 410.05, Subdivision 3, the City Council can recommend to the Chief Judge of the First Judicial District the appointment of up to seven members, and the Charter Commission can recommend to the judge the appointment of up to eight members.
 - ii. Port Authority: Per Minnesota Statutes, Section 469.050, subd. 3 and subd. 4, and the Port Authority Enabling Resolution, five members are residents recommended by the Mayor and approved or denied by the City Council. Two members are City Council members who are appointed by City Council resolution.
- c. It is recommended that the Mayor contact each individual who applies for a board or commission.
- d. When a member completes their first term and would like to continue with a second term, that member may be appointed in the same manner as the initial appointment.

- e. If a board or commission member is seeking reappointment but will not be recommended by the Mayor for a second term, the Mayor must either notify that person or direct City staff to notify the person.

Section 6: Subcommittees of a Board or Commission

1. Any board or commission may form subcommittees that can meet outside of regular meetings, as long as the subcommittees are less than a quorum of members.
2. Subcommittees have a limited scope of study and cannot make decisions on behalf of the board or commission.
3. Subcommittees can meet and communicate freely. Subcommittees do not need to notice their meetings, record their meetings, or keep minutes.
4. Subcommittees will provide verbal reports on their activities during the next regular board or commission meeting.
5. Subcommittees may include community members who are not members of the board or commission.
6. Staff liaisons may schedule, attend, or follow up on subcommittee meetings, but they are not required or expected to. The involvement of staff liaisons in subcommittee work is based on the specific board/commission's practices and situation. Staff liaisons and/or their supervisors, not the body, make the decisions regarding involvement with subcommittees.

Section 7: Board and Commission Orientation and Training

1. In the first month of appointment, new members will receive the following:
 - Orientation Materials
 - Current Roster of Members
 - Board and Commission Rules of Order and Procedures
 - Rules & Policies for Boards, Commissions, and Committees
2. Each year the City will provide board and commission training for all members on pertinent public laws and/or policies, procedures, or issues.
3. The City will determine the training contents and how and when the training will take place.

Section 8: Annual Organizational Work

1. At the first regular meeting each year, every board and commission will do the following:
 - a. *Swear In New and Renewing Members.* The Mayor will swear in new and renewing members. In the Mayor's absence, the Council liaison will do this. In the Mayor's and Council liaison's absence, a City staff member who is a notary public may swear in members. Certificates, once signed, will be filed with the City Clerk. It is also an option for the Mayor to swear in new or renewing members at City Hall sometime before a meeting, especially if the Mayor or the member to be sworn in will not be attending the meeting.
 - b. *Elect a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.* Individuals can hold the position of Chair or Vice Chair for a maximum of two consecutive years. Boards and commissions may also choose to elect or appoint additional positions, such as a pro tem, secretary, or subcommittee chair.
 - c. *Review the Annual Budget*, if applicable.
2. After the City Council adopts its Rules and Policies for Boards, Commissions, and Committees, each board/commission will review and follow them. No vote is necessary.
 - a. Boards and commissions may make small modifications to the Order of Business and the Public Comment sections by a majority vote of the board/commission members. Council must approve the changes before they can be implemented.
 - b. The Library Board and Sheldon Board can make small modifications to the document with a majority vote of their board members and do not need Council approval.

Section 9: Order of Business

1. The order of business for all regular board/commission meetings shall be as follows, unless the Council directs otherwise:
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Pledge of Allegiance (optional)
 - d. Statement of Intent (optional)
 - e. Mission Statement (optional)
 - f. Approval of Agenda
 - g. Approval of Minutes of Preceding Meetings/Workshops
 - h. Public Comment

- i. Motions and General Business
 - j. Board/Commissioner Comments (optional)
 - k. Adjournment
2. Four items in the Rules of Order are optional, and each board or commission has the choice to include or not include those in their Order of Business for the year. Related to the Statement of Intent and the Mission Statement, members can choose to include one or both as a written part of the agenda and/or as a statement read by the Board Chair or the entire commission, or decline any inclusion.

Section 10: Rules of Parliamentary Procedure

1. The rules of parliamentary procedure comprised in the newest revision of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the board/commission in all cases in which they are applicable, and to the extent they are not inconsistent with these rules, the Charter, the ordinances of the City, or the laws of the State of Minnesota.
2. The staff liaison or his/her designee shall function as Parliamentarian to advise the presiding officer on matters of Parliamentary law.
3. The Chair, Vice Chair, and staff shall occupy their respective seats in the Chambers while the board/commission is in session.
4. The Chair, or in his/her absence, the Vice Chair, shall call the meeting to order at the noticed meeting time. In the case of the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, the Pro Tem (if there is one) or the member with the most tenure in office shall do the same. The names of those present, absent, and excused shall be recorded, as well as arrival and departure times for the members arriving late or leaving early.
5. The board/commission presiding officer may debate from the chair and shall not be deprived of any rights or privileges of a board/commission member by reason of acting as presiding officer.
6. The Council Administrator's ex-officio, non-voting membership on all boards and commissions shall not count for purposes of determining a quorum, majority, or exceptional majority vote requirements.

Section 11: Public Comment

1. Public comment and active involvement of residents in government is encouraged through in-person communication, phone, and email. The board/commission will dedicate time during each regular meeting to hear from people.

- a. The Public Comment period will take place near the beginning of the meeting for people to speak to the board/commission on items on the agenda and items not on the agenda.
- b. Each person is allowed two segments of time to speak to the board/commission. Each segment has a maximum of three minutes and can relate to one or more topics of the person's choosing. If a person uses their second three-minute segment, it must be about topics that are separate from the first segment. If a person wishes to speak twice, they must either sign up or raise their hand (in person or virtually) two times.
- c. A person may not give either of their three-minute allotments of time to another person.
- d. Every person desiring to speak shall first be recognized by the Chair. No one is allowed to make comments from the audience when the person making comments has not been recognized by the Chair. The Chair shall preserve order and decorum and decide all questions of order, subject to appeal to the board/commission.
- e. Speakers may not make allegations, charges, or complaints against any City employee. If a person wishes to make an allegation or to file a charge or complaint against an employee, the person should do so with the Council Administrator in writing or in a private meeting, or with the individual designated in City policy to receive the allegation, charge, or complaint. Speakers may not make comments or gestures that are threatening, profane, lewd, vulgar, obscene, harassing, or abusive.
- f. No person shall be allowed to delay or interrupt the proceedings or refuse to obey the orders and rules of the board/commission.
- g. When a special meeting is scheduled, the Chair will decide whether public comment will be added to the agenda.
- h. For details on public comment during workshops, see Section 17 of this document.

Section 12: Rules of Voting

1. The Chair shall open each agenda item with a brief summary of the issue. A presentation by the appropriate source, such as the staff liaison, may be made if requested by the Chair and/or members of the body. The board/commission may discuss or debate the issue prior to a motion being made.

2. Once a motion is made, a second is necessary before additional discussion.
3. The Chair will ask for action once the discussion of the motion is over. A simple majority is necessary for the approval of regular business items.
4. During discussion, a board/commission member may “call the question” (which means calling a vote to cease debate and proceed to vote on the main motion). If a board/commission member calls the question, a vote will occur on that question. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of support will end the debate.
5. A vote on all matters, with the exception of resolutions, shall be taken by asking members in favor to say “aye” and asking if any members are opposed. If there is a question on the number of “aye” votes, any member (typically the Chair), may ask for a roll call vote.
6. A member may be excused from voting for special reasons (such as a conflict of interest as defined by state law), which must be recorded in the minutes.
7. When a board/commission member votes “present,” the member is presumed to be abstaining and the vote will be recorded as such. A “present” vote will not be counted when determining a majority vote.
8. After the decision on any question, any member who voted with the prevailing side may move to reconsider any action at the same meeting. At a subsequent meeting, any member may seek to have a motion to renew added to the agenda. If the motion to renew is added to the agenda, the vote on the motion to renew can take place at that same meeting.
9. Except in an emergency or other unusual circumstance where immediate action is in the best interests of the City, the board/commission shall not take action on a request for funding that has not been included in the published agenda. The funding request shall be placed on a subsequent agenda for board/commission consideration.
10. For the purposes of a break during the meeting, the Chair may recess the board/commission without a motion at any time he/she deems appropriate and shall state the time at which the meeting will resume. If the Chair decides to recess the meeting until another date, the Chair shall state the time and place at which the meeting will resume and the reason for the recess.
11. Boards and commissions shall take action by resolution if required by law, agencies of the state, and/or organizational bylaws. The vote on all resolutions shall be by roll call vote.

Section 13: Meeting Materials

1. The board/commission chair and staff liaison will establish the board/commission agenda.
2. The board/commission will not amend the agenda once the agenda is approved by a majority vote at the meeting. However, the board/commission Chair may vary the order of business or business items to facilitate special orders or the efficient use of meeting time.
3. The staff liaison shall include all appropriate materials in the meeting packet according to the order of business on the agenda. All reports, communications, resolutions, or other materials to come before the board/commission shall be provided to the staff liaison at least five business days prior to each regular meeting.
4. At least 72 hours prior to the meeting, the staff liaison shall furnish a copy of the regular meeting agenda and all supporting materials to each board/commission member electronically (or if requested, in paper form). Failure to accomplish any of these tasks shall not invalidate the meeting.
5. The staff liaison shall have a paper copy of the agenda and supporting materials and make them available for public inspection. All items required to be posted for public notice shall be done on a notice board located in City Hall.
6. Board and commission members may be issued electronic devices for agenda preparation/distribution efficiency. It will be up to the City to determine which boards and commissions are issued devices. Distribution will depend on the size of the agenda and materials, the frequency of meetings, and the budget.

Section 14: Quorum

1. A quorum of voting members (a majority) must be present to hold a regular or special meeting. If a quorum of members is not present at the designated start time, the chair will cancel the meeting.
 - a. Staff liaisons may choose to email members a week in advance to see if a quorum will be available on the scheduled meeting date. If it is clear that a quorum will not be in attendance on that date, the meeting may be canceled ahead of time.
2. Workshops do not require a quorum of members.

Section 15: Time Limits, Attendance, and Absences

1. All meetings and workshops of boards, commissions, and committees should be kept to a maximum of two hours. This is to respect the time commitment of the members.

Members are expected to be on time and stay for the duration of the meeting, as long as that falls within the two-hour limit.

2. Board and commission members are expected to attend the majority of regular and special meetings and workshops. However, it is understood that unavoidable conflicts occur, especially with boards and commissions that are very active and/or have a significant workload, which may require special meetings.
3. Board and commission members who have unavoidable absences shall contact the staff liaison to request an excused absence. Excused absences will be granted to all members who contact the staff liaison before the meeting.
4. The staff liaison will keep an attendance roster and monitor absences. The staff liaison will contact members who miss three consecutive unexcused meetings and/or miss 50% of regularly scheduled meetings and workshops in 12 months (whether those absences are excused or not).
5. If attendance issues persist, a board or commission member may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the City Council.

Section 16: Locations for Meetings and Events

1. All regular and special board and commission meetings will take place in the City Council Chambers.
2. Boards and commissions may use City facilities for educational purposes at no cost. To do so, the board or commission should reserve the facility through their staff liaison. A board or commission may reserve City facilities for advocacy purposes only upon prior City Council approval.

Section 17: Notices, Minutes & Recordings

1. Notices, Minutes, and Accessibility
 - a. All meetings and workshops must allow access to the public, either virtually or in person.
 - b. Notice of all meetings and workshops must be posted 72 hours in advance of the meeting.
 - c. Minutes of each meeting and workshop must be prepared and made available to the public.

2. Recordings

- a. All regular and special board and commission meetings will be video recorded. The meetings will be broadcast live on Channel 6 (the local government access channel) and streamed live on the City's website. Recordings of past meetings will also be rebroadcast on Channel 6 and may be viewed on the City's website.
- b. Board and commission meeting recordings are available for two years. City Council meeting recordings are available for five years.
- c. All board and commission workshops will be audio recorded and made available to the public.
- d. If a board or commission meeting in which action is to be taken is moved off-site, the meeting shall be audio recorded, unless approved by the City Council or if it is physically impossible or impractical to do so.

Section 18: Workshops

1. Boards and commissions may meet in a workshop session as an alternative to a regular or special meeting when no action is requested.
2. Voting cannot take place at workshops. In all cases, topics discussed at workshops will advance to a formal board/commission meeting if action is being considered.
3. The workshop format is generally more informal. Workshops can be held at alternate sites. All workshops will be audio-recorded, and recordings will be made available to the public. Minutes will also be kept and made available to the public.
4. Workshops require public notice and are open to the public.
5. Public comments will not be heard at workshops. Instead, the public is encouraged to attend or listen to the workshop audio online and make comments to the board/commission via email, phone call, a mailed letter, an in-person meeting, or by attending a board/commission meeting and speaking during that public comment period.
6. Public comments may be allowed at a specific board/commission workshop at the direction of the Chair.
7. If a public comment period is held at a workshop, it will be taken at the end, and all comments must be pertinent to the workshop topics.

Section 19: Planning

1. In the first quarter of the year, each board and commission will update their revolving five-year work plan and highlight their upcoming year's priorities. These highlighted items will act as the board or commission's annual work plan.
2. In the first quarter of the year, members will also discuss any anticipated funding desired for the following year. Educational opportunities such as conferences, programs, or training are permissible budget items. After a majority of members adopt the five-year plan, the staff liaison will forward those budget requests to the City Council for consideration in its next annual budget.
3. In the last quarter of the year, boards and commissions will consider possible changes and additions to their five-year work plan and discuss priorities for the following year. This updated plan will be voted on by the board or commission early in the new year.

Section 20: Communication Outside of Meetings and Workshops

1. All boards and commissions will follow the Open Meeting Law related to communication outside of meetings and workshops.
2. Red Wing's advisory committees are not subject to the state's Open Meeting Law because these bodies cannot make decisions on behalf of the City or City Council, and the meetings do not consist of a quorum or more of elected leaders.
3. Below are requirements for Red Wing's board and commissions.
 - a. *Gatherings*: Most gatherings of board or commission members outside of a meeting or workshop must be less than a quorum unless noticed accordingly. However, chance gatherings and social gatherings are permitted. Please note that even at a chance or social gathering, though, a quorum of members may not discuss or receive information on official board or commission business.
 - b. *Serial Communications*: Serial communications are prohibited. Serial communications are defined as communication between members that initially goes to less than a quorum of members, but when all participants of that communication are considered, it has reached a majority. Examples are an email conversation that eventually spreads to a quorum of members, or a verbal conversation that travels from one member to another member to another until that conversation reaches more than a quorum.

- c. *All-Email Communications:* A voting board or commission member may not send emails or other communication to all of the other members. The only person who can email an entire board or commission is the staff liaison. This is to ensure that members, either advertently or inadvertently, are not discussing or making decisions in private instead of in front of the public. When a member wants to communicate with all other members, the person should email the staff liaison, who can then email the entire body, at regular periods between meetings (for example, once a week, when necessary).

Section 21: Virtual Meetings and Attendance

1. Boards and commissions must abide by the Open Meeting Law related to virtual meetings, just as the City Council does.
2. Members of these bodies can attend and participate in meetings virtually, as long as all conditions are followed as outlined in Minnesota Statute 13D.02 or 13D.021. Members who wish to attend virtually should consult with their staff liaison, who can help ensure compliance with the requirements.

Section 22: Gifts and Payments for Services

1. Gifts
 - a. Members should not accept gifts from the public, with the exception of the Sister Cities Commission. The Sister Cities Commission and its members can accept gifts from Red Wing's sister cities or their delegates.
2. Payment for Services
 - a. Advisory board and commission members will receive no compensation for service to the City.
 - b. Authority boards can determine compensation without City Council authorization. Port Authority members and HRA members are paid a set amount for every meeting they attend. This amount is set by state statute.

Section 23: Role of the Staff Liaison

1. The Council Administrator appoints a staff liaison to each board and commission.
 - a. Some staff liaison jobs are tied to and within the scope of a City staff position. In these cases, the liaison duties are part of that staff member's job description. For

example, the Library Director serves as the staff liaison to the Library Board, and the HRA Director serves as the staff liaison to the HRA.

- b. Other staff liaisons take on a board or commission as an extra duty outside of their regular job responsibilities. In these cases, the staff liaisons are expected to spend 10 hours per month on board and commission duties. These liaisons will be paid an annual amount, as agreed upon in the annual budget, and payments will be distributed monthly. Board and commission members should be mindful of this 10-hour per month time constraint and utilize staff liaison time accordingly.
2. Each staff liaison will be provided with a job description. The general duties and guidelines of a staff liaison are listed below.
- a. Attend all of the assigned board or commission meetings. If that is not possible on occasion, the liaison must find a staff replacement to attend the meeting.
 - b. Provide notes to the assigned minute-taker so minutes may be kept. This includes a record of attendance, time of the meeting, vote tallies, budget items, areas for follow-up, and other important information, as needed.
 - c. File approved minutes electronically in Laserfiche.
 - d. Work with the chair of the board or commission to create the agenda for the monthly meeting and/or workshop.
 - e. Distribute the agenda and minutes at least three days (72 hours) prior to the board or commission meeting.
 - f. Provide support and information to the body but do not participate in the debate of issues or vote on any issues.
 - i. When the staff liaison position is tied to a specific City staff position, such as the Advisory Planning Commission, Heritage Preservation Commission, Library Board, HRA, Sheldon, and others, the staff liaison may share insights and/or recommendations with members, based on that position's expertise and knowledge.
 - g. Get the board or commission's action items to the City Council Agenda Committee in a timely manner. The Agenda Committee decides if and when the action item will go on a City Council agenda. The staff liaison will also communicate back to the members the status of the action item.
 - h. Write City Council staff reports related to the commission's action items that come before the Council.

- i. Process all financial transactions, including reimbursements and payment authorizations.
 - i. The staff liaison is authorized to make payments for goods and services delivered or performed, following a majority vote of the board/commission.

A regular report on fiscal status, if appropriate, will be made to the board/commission.

- j. Inform the Administration staff of all regular meetings, special meetings, and workshops. Every effort will be made not to schedule meetings that conflict with other City meetings or other board and commission meetings.
 - k. Work with the Administration staff to ensure that all meeting notices are posted and distributed a minimum of 72 hours before the start of the meeting.
 - l. Ensure the City website has the most updated information related to the membership roster, and other information as needed.
3. All work projects anticipated by the board or commission must be approved by the staff liaison's supervisor.

Section 24: Role of the Council Liaison

- 1. The Council President will appoint Council members to serve as liaisons to all boards and commissions. Council members are not voting members of boards and commissions, with the exception of the Port Authority.
- 2. The appointments will occur at the first meeting of the regular City Council meeting following the organizational meeting. The appointments can be changed by the Council President.
- 3. Council liaisons are expected to follow the guidelines listed below.
 - a. Council liaisons are expected to sit at the table of the board or commission.
 - b. Council liaisons are expected to be a resource for board and commission members during their meetings, participate in the discussion, and offer suggestions on how to work effectively with the City Council.
 - c. Council liaisons should not steer board or commission decisions in a specific direction or predict which way the Council will vote on decisions affecting the board's or commission's work.

- d. Council liaisons are expected to relay issues to the City Council during the “Board and Commission Communication” portion of the Council meeting, based on their discretion or at the request of the staff liaison or board or commission chair.

Section 25: Providing Education

1. Each board and commission may educate the public on issues that fall within their mission statement.
2. Boards and commissions may use City funds for the purpose of educating the public, if funds are available in the board or commission’s budget.
3. When educating the public, boards and commissions must present the information as a neutral educator and refrain from endorsing or promoting a certain viewpoint.
4. Boards and commissions cannot use City funds to advocate a position on any issue without City Council approval.

Section 26: Use of City-Based Logos and Media

1. City Logos: Boards and Commissions may not create or use unique logos without obtaining a majority vote of the board or commission and authorization from the City Council. Members must speak to their staff liaison and consult the City of Red Wing Logo Guide to comply with the requirements.
2. City Social Media Accounts: Most boards and commissions are not allowed to create any social media accounts.
 - a. If a board or commission wishes to share information publicly on a social media site, the staff liaison or chair can contact the City’s Communication Coordinator to share information on the City’s social media platforms.
 - b. Exceptions: The Sister Cities staff liaison maintains a Sister Cities social media site, and City staff of the Public Library and Sheldon Theatre also maintain their own social media accounts, which the pertinent boards can utilize through their staff liaisons.

Section 27: Code of Conduct

Board and commission members shall respect and follow the Code of Conduct, Section 2.15 of the City Code.

Section 28: Private Use of Social Media

The City of Red Wing respects the rights of its board and commission members to use, post on, publish, and maintain personal websites, blogs, and social media websites and accounts. The City also expects members to adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Board, commission, and committee members should act in a sensible manner regarding the content and comments they post, publish, disclose, or share on websites, the internet, and social media, especially when it references or relates to the City or its employees, operations, or property.
2. Members are personally responsible for the content they publish in a personal capacity on the internet or any form of social media platform. Members are strongly discouraged from identifying their role or affiliation with the City when responding to or commenting on websites, blogs, or social media posts with their personal opinions or views.
3. When a member's online or social media posts, comments, content, or profile identifies them as a City volunteer, or a person could reasonably expect that someone can identify them as a City volunteer, the member is strongly encouraged to do the following:
 - a. State or imply that they are not speaking for, or on behalf of, the City of Red Wing or are authorized to do so, or give the impression that the views expressed are those of the City of Red Wing.
 - b. Refrain from publishing material or comments as a board or commission member that are false, misleading, harassing in nature, or may cause injury to another person, organization, association, or the City's reputation.

Section 29: Legal Counsel

1. The City Attorney will be the legal counsel to each board and commission unless specifically authorized by the City Council to seek outside legal aid.
2. Per state statute, the Charter Commission can elect to spend up to the greater of .07 percent of the City's current certified general property tax levy, or the Charter Commission can elect to spend up to the limits stated in state statute to employ an attorney and other personnel to assist in amending or revising the City Charter.
3. The HRA, Port Authority, and Sheldon Board can elect to have a separate attorney.

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