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Maxwell appointment brings Tonka Council to all-female leadership

NATALIE TRIMBLE
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Amanda Maxwell is set to join the Minnetonka City Council as Ward 2 representative after a special March 2 meeting, giving the city its first all-female council. Her term will end in December 2027.

Maxwell completed two rounds of interviews with the council in February and was one of five finalists to be considered for the vacant seat.

The city received and reviewed 20 applications for Ward 2 and selected five finalists to advance to the in-person interview stage. During interviews, council members rated candidates on a scale of 1 (lowest) to 10 (highest) in the first round and ranked them from 1 (first choice) to 5 (last choice) in the second round.

Maxwell received an average score of 9.60 in the first round and 1.67 in the second. She was sworn in Monday, March 2, after this edition went to press.



Amanda Maxwell

QUALIFICATIONS

Resumes for all five finalists are available to the public in the agenda packet for the Feb. 20 special meeting.

Maxwell described herself as a community leader with extensive experience in a variety of roles. She has served on the Minnetonka Planning Commission since 2020 and was named chair in 2025. She has also been an election judge for the city since 2020, serving as lead judge in precinct 3A, and volunteers in numerous local community groups.

Professionally, Maxwell has worked as a research and development manager at Boston Scientific since January 2024. She oversees a $200 million portfolio and leads a team of engineers and technicians in exploratory research and product development.

She is also a parent of three children enrolled in the Hopkins School District.

WARD 2 SEAT HISTORY

The Ward 2 seat was previously held by Rebecca Schack, who was appointed in 2018, elected in 2019, and re-elected in 2023. Schack vacated the seat after winning the 2025 mayoral election, succeeding former Mayor Brad Wiersum, who did not seek re-election. She was sworn in as mayor in January.

The council chose an appointment process instead of a special election to fill the vacancy. Candidate applications were submitted and reviewed by city staff in early February and posted on the city's website for public viewing.

The council selected finalists and conducted two rounds of interviews at special meetings in late February. The appointment process had to be completed by March 6.



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