

M I N U T E S
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
October 16, 2017
5:30 PM
Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Stiehm. Council Members Jeff Austin, Judy Enright, Steve King, David Hagen, Laura Helle, Paul Fischer and Council Member-at-Large Janet Anderson

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Craig Clark, Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert, Public Works Director Steven Lang, Fire Chief Jim McCoy, City Attorney David Hoversten, Police Captain David McKichan, Park and Rec Director Kim Underwood, Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace, Library Director Julie Clinefelter, City Clerk Ann Kasel and Officers Rachel Olson, Nathan St. Aubin, and Michael Nordean

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Brinkmann, Jane Osboe, Mara Murphy, JoAnn Bergemann, Diedra Smith, KAUS Radio, Austin Daily Herald, Public

Mayor Stiehm called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Stiehm noted approving the UAW Local 867 contracts should be removed from the agenda.

Moved by Council Member Hagen, seconded by Council Member Enright, approving the agenda as amended. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, approving the Council minutes from October 2, 2017. Carried.

AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS

Police Captain David McKichan introduced new officers Rachel Olson, Nathan St. Aubin, and Michael Nordean. Each officer introduced themselves and was welcomed by the Council.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Enright, approving the consent agenda as follows:

Licenses:

Exempt Gambling (raffle): Dutchtown Jumpers on January 20, 2018

Claims:

- a. Pre-list of bills
- b. Investment Report.
- c. Claims: Dave Thompson, 507 1st Street NW. The matter has been forwarded to the City Attorney to protect the City's interest.

Carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A public hearing was held for a tax abatement application from John Bergstrom for construction of a home proposed to be built at 1301 29th Street SW. The proposed abatement would be for a period of five years and in the amount of \$7,750.

There were no public comments.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution approving a tax abatement for John Bergstrom. Carried 7-0.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the City has approximately \$50,000 remaining from a \$450,000 MnDNR grant for Dobbins Creek flood mitigation. He requested the Council authorize the purchase of 409 8th Avenue SE and 602 6th Avenue SE. The City would need to kick in extra LOST funds for the acquisition of both properties.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, authorizing the use of DNR and LOST funds for the acquisition of 409 8th Avenue SE and 602 6th Avenue SE. Carried.

City Administrator Craig Clark presented a schematic design for the proposed community recreation center. The design was a requirement of the lease agreement with the YMCA. City staff determined that the design meets the requirements of the lease agreement and the project should begin to move forward based on the proposed design. He noted there are two designs for the second floor of the building and the bids shall be taken with an alternate for a full second gym and additional studio on the second floor.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Hagen, approving the schematic design for the community recreation center and authorizing the Mayor and City Recorder to sign the lease agreement with the YMCA. Carried.

Library Director Julie Clinefelter requested permission from the Council to sell two microfiche readers at the upcoming police auction.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, seconded by Council Member Fischer, approving the sale of surplus Library equipment. Carried.

Public Works Director Steven Lang requested the Council authorize a second extension to the Mighty Ducks grant for the purchase of a new ice resurfacer and edger for Riverside Arena. The manufacturer is having a delay in the production of the equipment and expects it to be delivered in November. Mr. Lang requested the extension of the grant agreement until December 31, 2017.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution approving extension number 2 to the Mighty Ducks grant agreement. Carried 7-0.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace reviewed a rezoning request from David Patterson for property at 1204 10th Drive SE. The property was annexed as a “R-1” residential single family district and it is requested that the property be rezoned to a “B-2” community business district to accommodate a non-conforming use of the property. The Planning Commission reviewed the matter at their October 10, 2017 meeting and recommended approval by a 5-0 vote.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, for preparation of the zoning ordinance. Carried.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Hagen, for adoption and publication of the zoning ordinance. Carried 7-0.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Enright, resolving the City Council into the Board of Adjustments and Appeals. Carried.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace reviewed a variance request from Jay Lutz for property located at 1209 20th Street NE. Mr. Lutz requested his garage be moved forward on his lot to accommodate a remodel. This would require an 18 foot variance for the garage. The Planning Commission reviewed the matter at their October 10, 2017 meeting and recommended approval by a 5-0 vote.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Enright, approving the variance request from Jay Lutz. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, resolving the Board of Adjustments and Appeals back into the City Council. Carried.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Enright, granting the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of illegally stored vehicles at 802 14th Street NE, Leuning Property. Carried.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Fischer, granting the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 803 15th Street NE, Leuning Property. Carried.

CITIZENS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

Jeff Brinkmann, 650 31st Street NW, was concerned about land use of the Hy-Vee distribution center.

Jane Osboe, 1010 37th Street NW, stated she was concerned about the size of the proposed Hy-Vee development.

JoAnn Bergemann, 102 37th Street NW, expressed her concerns about the proposed Hy-Vee distribution center.

Mara Murphy, 1516 18th Avenue NW, encouraged the Council to consider the view in Austin when planning projects.

Diedra Smith, 3916 Oakland Avenue West, was concerned about the traffic on her road from the proposed Hy-Vee project.

REPORTS

Council Member-at-Large Anderson stated she met with a group on housing concerns in Austin.

Council Member Austin noted the 11th Drive NE bridge is open to the public.

City Administrator Craig Clark stated City staff met with legislators and the Governor's office about proposed bonding projects in Austin.

Library Director Julie Clinefelter thanked the Friends of the Library for their recent book sale.

Public Works Director Steven Lang provided a street project update stating 4th Avenue NW will be opened to the public this week. 4th Drive SW will have another blacktop lift later in the week and then opened to the public after. The NW Avenues project will receive curb and gutter later in the week and the 4th Avenue SW project will receive an aggregate base. The underground on 6th Street & 16th Avenue SE is being completed.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, adjourning the meeting to November 6, 2017. Carried.

Adjourned: 6:25 p.m.

Approved: November 6, 2017

Mayor: _____

City Recorder: _____