

M I N U T E S
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 1, 2021
5:30 PM
Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor King. Council Members Paul Fischer, Rebecca Waller, Joyce Poshusta, Michael Postma, Oballa Oballa and Council Member-at-Large Jeff Austin

MEMBERS APPEARING ELECTRONICALLY: Council Member Jason Baskin

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Craig Clark, Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert and Police Chief David McKichan

STAFF APPEARING ELECTRONICALLY: Public Works Director Steven Lang, Fire Chief Jim McCoy, Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace, Human Resources Director Trish Wiechmann, Park and Rec Director Kevin Nelson, City Attorney Craig Byram, Library Director Julie Clinefelter and City Clerk Ann Kasel

OTHERS APPEARING ELECTRONICALLY: Austin Daily Herald, Honorary Council Member Teresa Lugo

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

Added to the Agenda:

Consent Agenda Licenses:

Food: Domino's Pizza, 106 South Main Street

Food: Perkins, 701 17th Avenue NW

Massage Establishment: Zenergy Massage, 105 East Oakland

Massage Therapist: Tenille Jensen, 1903 22nd Street SW

(res) 15. Approving a federal transportation project grant application.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, approving the agenda as amended. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Postma, seconded by Council Member Oballa, approving Council minutes from January 19, 2021. Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, approving the consent agenda as follows:

Licenses:

Cab Driver: Francisco V. Gomez, 1914 4th Avenue NE
Exempt Gambling (raffle): Austin Junior All Star Baseball on June 27, 2021
Food: Dollar General, 101 4th Street SW
Massage Establishment: DS Massage, 1700 17th Street SW, Suite 2c
Massage Therapist: Daniel Stallkamp, 2105 3rd Avenue SE
Mobile Food: North Star Donuts, LLC, Wayzata
Right of Way Contractor: TD & I Cable Maintenance, Lakeland
Tobacco: Dollar General, 101 4th Street SW
Food: Domino's Pizza, 106 South Main Street
Food: Perkins, 701 17th Avenue NW
Massage Establishment: Zenergy Massage, 105 East Oakland
Massage Therapist: Tenille Jensen, 1903 22nd Street SW

Claims:

- a. Pre-list of bills
- b. Credit Card Report.

Carried.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

Human Resources Director Trish Wiechmann stated emergency COVID sick leave for employees expired on December 31, 2020 and it's up to the Council if they would like to extend it.

Moved by Council Member Poshusta, seconded by Council Member Waller, extending emergency COVID sick leave benefits through March 31, 2021. Carried.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the City received statement of qualifications to select an engineering firm for the implementation of the 5-year capital improvement program. He stated Short, Elliott, Hendrickson (SEH), Bolton & Menk and TKDA submitted proposals to the City. Mr. Lang recommended using SEH to complete the work because they have been the City's airport consultant for the last 20 years and the City has been pleased with their work.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Waller, designating Short, Elliot, Hendrickson as the consultant for the airport's 5-year capital improvement plan. Carried 7-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang requested the Council approve a farm lease with VS Farms, LLC for farm land inside the airport fence.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, adopting a resolution approving an airport farm lease with VS Farms, LLC. Carried 7-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the City has budgeted to upgrade the lighting in Packer Arena to LED lighting. The City received the following proposals:

Contractor	Ledalux Bid	Lithonia Bid
Fox Electric Co. Inc.	\$ 41,241.00	\$ 50,659.00
Winkels Electric, Inc.	\$ 59,290.00	\$ 64,040.00
Austin Electric, Inc.	\$ 64,055.01	\$ 68,805.01

Mr. Lang recommended approving the Fox Electric Co. Inc proposal with the Ledalux figure option. He stated there is a projected \$10,000 rebate with Austin Utilities for the project. He stated there will be a four-year payback on the project.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Postma, adopting a resolution approving a contract with Fox Electric, Inc. for the Packer Arena LED lighting project. Carried 7-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the City previously awarded a contract with SEH, Inc. for the completion of an updated airport layout plan and exhibit A property map. The FAA identified three additional parcels that will need to be a part of the map and SEH has provided an estimate in the amount of \$7,700 for additional services related to these parcels. Mr. Lang requested the Council approve an amendment to the SEH contract.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, adopting a resolution approving amendment #1 to the Airport Layout Plan and Exhibit A Property Map project. Carried 7-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the City received a grant from the State of Minnesota to resurface the hangar at the Airport. There is additional work in the amount of \$19,770 on the project and Mr. Lang requested the Council approve amendment #1 to the grant agreement.

Moved by Council Member Postma, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution approving amendment #1 to the Airport hangar resurfacing project. Carried 7-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the 28th Street NE bridge is scheduled to be replaced in the summer of 2021 and will last approximately 5 months. He stated the bridge is going to have additional aesthetic upgrades which a portion of the costs are the local responsibility. The City's share of the upgrades is \$49,221.43 and will be covered by a Hormel Foundation Grant. Mr. Lang requested Council approval of the agreement.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, approving a construction agreement with MNDot for the 28th Street NE bridge. Carried 7-0.

Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Nelson stated the City has been approached about extending the ice season at Packer Arena by two weeks. He said that there will be additional costs of \$2,500 a week for dehumidification in addition to the typical operational cost of \$1,500 a week. Some of this expense would be covered through rental of the ice. The Council reviewed the item at their January 19, 2021 work session and recommended extending the ice season by two weeks.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Oballa, authorizing a two-week extension of the ice season at Packer Arena. Carried.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Fischer, calling for a public hearing for March 15, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. for the establishment of tax increment financing district number 15 for Nu-Tek Biosciences. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, adopting a resolution authorizing the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 907 3rd Avenue NE, Alejo Property. Carried.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the Minnesota Department of Transportation Federal Grant applications for 2025 are due on February 5, 2021. The City would like to apply for a \$2,100,000 federal grant for the reconstruction of Oakland Avenue East and West. Mr. Lang requested the Council approve the grant application.

Moved by Council Member -at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Waller, adopting a resolution approving a federal transportation project grant application for Oakland Avenue. Carried 7-0.

REPORTS

City Administrator Craig Clark stated the DCA is continuing to work on the COVID relief funds.

Council Member Baskin stated the new microphones are working well for the zoom meeting.

Council Member Postma stated the HRA has new CHIP funds for funding owner-occupied housing up to \$25,000.

Council Member Joyce Poshusta stated their will be a Human Rights Commission and Library joint book club.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Austin, adjourning the meeting to February 16, 2021. Carried.

Adjourned: 5:58 p.m.

Approved: February 16, 2021

Mayor: _____

City Recorder: _____