

M I N U T E S
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 19, 2021
5:30 PM
Council Chambers

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

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

APPEARING IN PERSON: Tim Sorgine

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

Added to the Agenda:

Consent Agenda Addition

Licenses:

Food: Sudanese Community International Market, 501 1st Street NW
Right of Way: Knutson Construction, Rochester

Addition to Agenda

(res) 19 (A). Approving the flood acquisition of 1206 12th Drive SW.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, approving the agenda. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Oballa, approving Council minutes from April 5, 2021. Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Licenses:

Exempt Gambling (raffle): Whitetails Unlimited Southern MN Chapter on May 22, 2021

Mobile Vendor: Mimi's Cones, 1208 10th Avenue SW

Right of Way Contractor: Midwest Diversified Utilities, Ellendale

Tree Removal: RJ's Contracting, Albert Lea

Food: Sudanese Community International Market, 501 1st Street NW

Right of Way: Knutson Construction, Rochester

Claims:

- a. Pre-list of bills
- b. Investment Report.

Event Applications:

Stepping Out for Autism Walk on June 6, 2021

AHS Prom Grand March on May 15, 2021

Carried.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting resolution setting a public hearing for May 3, 2021 for Turtle Creek 2 sewer assessments.

Carried 7-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the City has received a grant for the Austin Municipal airport in the amount of \$13,000 from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplement Appropriations Act for the operations and maintenance of the airport. Mr. Lang requested the Council accept the donation.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, adopting a resolution accepting a Coronavirus Response and Relief Grant for the Austin Municipal Airport. Carried 7-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the City owns a building at the Austin Municipal Airport known as the Anderson Building. The recent renter vacated the lease and Mr. Lang stated he has negotiated a new lease with Lanny Bastianson for three years at \$2,400 per year. He requested approval of the lease.

Moved by Council Member Baskin, seconded by Council Member Fischer, approving a lease agreement with Lanny Bastianson. Carried 7-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the City is required to have an annual stormwater public meeting and he requested the Council set that meeting for May 4 at 4:00 p.m.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Waller, setting the annual stormwater public meeting for May 4, 2021. Carried.

City Administrator Craig Clark stated the City created a tax increment financing district for the NuTek project and he presented the tax increment financing redevelopment agreement for the project. The agreement outlines the project and tax increment financing reimbursable costs and the conditions for the reimbursement. Mr. Clark requested the Council approve the agreement.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Oballa, approving a tax increment financing redevelopment agreement. Carried 7-0.

Moved by Council Member Postma, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution accepting donations to the City of Austin. Carried 7-0.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Oballa, appointing An Le to the Human Rights Commission, term expiring 12/31/2021. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Postma, seconded by Council Member Baskin, appointing Lia Culbert to the Human Rights Commission, term expiring 12/31/2021. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Oballa, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, appointing Christopher Moore as the Honorary Council Member, May through July 2021. Carried.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace reviewed an off-street parking appeal submitted by ISG on behalf of WDS and the Austin Port Authority regarding property to be acquired and developed by Nu-tek. She stated the company is requesting 51 parking stalls for the facility instead of the required 116 due to the small number of employees relative to the size of the building. The building code requires 1 space for every 400 sq feet of building but the facility is large compared to the number of workers and there is room for future parking expansion, if required. The Planning Commission reviewed the matter at their April 14, 2021 meeting and recommended approval of the off-street parking appeal.

Moved by Council Member Baskin, seconded by Council Member Postma, approving an off-street parking appeal submitted by ISG on behalf of WDS and the Austin Port Authority for the property to be acquired and developed by Nu-Tek. Carried 7-0.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace reviewed a minor subdivision of property petitioned by Lance and Snow Pogones. Ms. Wallace stated the petitioners own a parcel of land with a property on it and they would like to split off a piece of the property and build a new home. The property is outside the City limits but would fall within the City's extraterritorial area for development purposes. City and Austin Utilities staff have reviewed the request and recommend approval.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution approving a lot split for Lance and Snow Pogones. Carried 7-0.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, authorizing the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 500 2nd Avenue SE, Phoon Property. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Baskin, authorizing the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 707 6th Avenue SW, Batikare Property. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Postma, seconded by Council Member Oballa, authorizing the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 1104 11th Avenue SW, Jones Property. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, authorizing the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 401 9th Street SW, Sanchez Property. Carried.

BID OPENINGS AND AWARDS

The City received the following bids for Shirley Theel Park tile installation:

Contractor	Bid
Hodgman Drainage Co.	\$58,358.75
Hansen Hauling & Excavating	\$60,638.75
SJ Iverson Construction	\$65,219.25

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the project would install drain tile in Shirley Theel Park to keep the baseball and soccer fields in usable condition. He stated that funding would come from the Hormel Foundation for the project and recommended awarding the bid to Hodgman Drainage Co.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Baskin, awarding the bid for Shirley Theel Park tile installation to Hodgman Drainage Co. Carried 7-0.

The City received the following bids for 18th Avenue NW median improvements:

Contractor	Base Bid	Alt 1	Alt 2
Doyle Connor Co.	\$25,257.50	\$34,920	\$66,096
Legends Concrete, Inc.	\$31,975.00	\$43,640	\$90,720

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the project will consist of removing the deteriorated landscaping and filling the medians with concrete pavement. He stated the City bid alternates for regular and colored/stamped concrete. He recommended awarding the contract to Doyle Connor Co. using regular concrete.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, awarding the bid for 18th Avenue NW median improvements with alternate 1 to Doyle Connor Co. Carried 7-0.

The City received the following bid for an asphalt mill and overlay on 8th Place/Avenue NW & 8th Avenue SW:

Contractor	Bid
Ulland Brothers, Inc.	\$207,881.20

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the mill and overlay will take place this summer and recommended awarding the bid to Ulland Brothers, Inc.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Waller, awarding the bid for 8th Avenue/Place NW and 8th Avenue SW mill and overlay to Ulland Brothers, Inc. Carried 7-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the City would like to purchase the property at 1206 12th Drive SW. The home is not in the flood plain but it meets the criteria for the City's Flood Control plan because the infrastructure will be removed. An appraisal was completed and the property was valued at \$78,000. There will be another \$17,000 for asbestos abatement and demolition costs with total funding of \$105,000 for the project coming from Local Option Sales Tax Funds.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Baskin, approving the flood acquisition of 1206 12th Drive SW. Carried 7-0.

CITIZENS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

Tim Sorgine spoke in favor of the use of recreational marijuana and a local moratorium on the prosecution of people using it until it is legal.

HONORARY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Honorary Council Member Teresa Lugo thanked the Council for the opportunity to be the Honorary Council Member. She stated she learned a lot about the City.

CLOSED MEETING

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Baskin, to closed the meeting at 6:07 p.m. pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.05, subd. 3(c) to develop or consider offers or counteroffers for the purchase or sale of real or personal property. The property to be considered are parcel identification numbers 34.460.1040; 34.865.0541; and 34.865.0610. Carried.

See DVD of closed meeting

Moved by Council Member Baskin, seconded by Council Member Waller, to reopen the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Moved by Council Member Baskin, seconded by Council Member Postma, move forward with Stencil proposal at the YMCA site for a six-month due diligence period. Carried 4-3 with Council Members Waller, Poshusta and Council Member-at-Large Austin voting nay and Mayor King voting aye to break the tie. Council Member Oballa abstained from voting.

REPORTS

City Administrator Craig Clark stated the City submitted a proposal to the US House for earmarks for the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Baskin, adjourning the meeting to May 3, 2021. Carried.

Adjourned: 7:49 p.m.

Approved: May 3, 2021

Mayor: _____

City Recorder: _____