

M I N U T E S  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
June 20, 2022  
5:30 PM  
Council Chambers

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Craig Clark, Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert, Police Chief David McKichan, Public Works Director Steven Lang, Fire Chief Jim McCoy, Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace, City Attorney Craig Byram, Library Director Julie Clinefelter, Assistant City Engineer Mitch Wenum, Human Resources Director Trish Wiechmann and City Clerk Ann Kasel

APPEARING IN PERSON: Representative Patty Mueller, Dave Schenck, Mark and Taylor Bliese, Shawn McAlister, MaryAnn Duren, Austin Daily Herald

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

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Postma, approving the agenda with additional backup. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Baskin, approving Council minutes from June 6, 2022. Carried.

#### AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Representative Patricia Mueller provided a recap of the legislative session stating that the session ended in disappointment since there was unfinished business. She stated that the City's waste water treatment request was on the agenda but was not passed. She is hopeful for a special session to pass the matter.

Mayor King read a proclamation in honor of Juneteenth which is a new federal holiday in 2022.

The Freedom Fest Committee, consisting of MaryAnn Duren, Mark and Taylor Bliese and Shawn McAlister, provided an update for the festival. Mr. McAlister described the festival and thanked the City for its support of the festival which will be two days – July 3 & 4<sup>th</sup>.

Council Member Poshusta asked about mosquito spraying before the festival.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated he is working on those dates.

## CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Council Member Poshusta, seconded by Council Member Postma, approving the consent agenda as follows:

### Licenses:

Mobile Food: Infuzn Foods, LLC, Pine Island

Temporary Food: La Senda Antigua, 100 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE

### Claims:

- a. Pre-list of bills
- b. Investment and Financial Reports.

Carried.

## BID OPENING AND AWARD

The City received the following bids for the Oakland Avenue West Trail:

Contractor	Bid
Hansen Hauling & Excavating	\$137,170
Ulland Brothers, Inc.	\$215,000

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the Council originally rejected the initial bids at the May 16, 2022 meeting because the prices greatly exceeded the budget. Staff then looked into ways to reduce costs on the project. City crews will complete the asphalt milling and paving to reduce out of pocket costs and the project was rebid. There is a \$100,000 Hormel Foundation Grant for the project and the remaining funding would come from the capital improvement fund. He recommended awarding the bid to Hansen Hauling & Excavating.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Baskin, awarding the bid for the Oakland Avenue West trail to Hansen Hauling & Excavating. Carried 6-0.

## PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

Administrative Services Director Tom Dankert reviewed the 2021 audit report stating the City received a clean audit opinion from the CliftonLarsonAllen audit firm. The full audit report was reviewed at the June 6, 2022 work session with the Council.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, approving the 2021 audit report. Carried.

The Council reviewed modifications to the tobacco ordinance. Police Chief David McKichan stated the ordinance needs to be updated to correspond with State Statutes for the provision

regarding administrative penalties.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, for preparation of the ordinance. Carried 5-1 with Council Member Baskin voting nay.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Fischer, for adoption and publication of the ordinance. Ordinance fails 5-1 due to lack of a unanimous vote. Council Member Baskin voted nay. The ordinance will move to the July 5, 2022 meeting for a second reading.

Administrative Services Director Tom Dankert stated effective July 1, 2022 the federal mileage reimbursement rate will increase to 62.5 cents per mile due to higher gas prices.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Postma, setting the mileage reimbursement rate. Carried 6-0.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Austin, adopting a resolution accepting donations to the City of Austin. Carried 6-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the Nu-Tek Biosciences plant will be opening in the future and the City had developed an individual control mechanism (ICM) agreement for the sanitary sewer strong waste discharge into the sanitary sewer system. The initial ICM agreement will be for a period of six months while the plant is starting up and will be reevaluated after that six month period.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, approving an ICM agreement with Nu-Tek Biosciences, LLC. Carried 6-0.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace requested the Council establish the Joint Airport Zoning Board and appoint members to the board. Members for the City of Austin will be Rick Stoulil and Greg Vortherm and there will be other member from the surrounding townships.

Moved by Council Member Baskin, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution authorizing the creation of a joint airport zoning board. Carried 6-0.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, authorizing the municipality to zone areas around its airport. Carried 6-0.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Baskin, granting the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 1802 3<sup>rd</sup> Street NE, Andree Property. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Baskin, granting the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 701 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, Hoffman/Gross Property. Carried.

## REPORTS

City Administrator Craig Clark stated there were three applications for the vacated first ward council seat – Varinh Van Vugt, Geoff Baker and Steve Barrett. They will be evaluated on the July 7<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

Library Director Julie Clinefelter stated the summer reading program has begun and there are over 450 kids signed up. She also introduced Sally Olson as the youth services librarian.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated that there are 48 plan holders for the waste water treatment plant bids and that bid will be moved to July 12<sup>th</sup>. He stated there may be a special Council meeting on August 11<sup>th</sup> due to award the bid for the treatment plant.

Council Member Poshusta thanked City staff for the good audit results.

Council Member Postma thanked everyone for 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Fest and the Pride Event. He also stated the Hormel Institute is celebrating its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary soon.

Council Member Baskin recognized Austin Utilities for their work in the heat.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adjourning the meeting to July 5, 2022. Carried.

Adjourned: 6:11 p.m.

Approved: July 5, 2022

Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

City Recorder: \_\_\_\_\_