

MINUTES12
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
July 5, 2011
5:30 PM
Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Stiehm. Council Members Jeff Austin, Brian McAlister, Steve King, Judy Enright, and Marian Clennon. Council Member-at-Large Janet Anderson.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Roger Boughton

STAFF PRESENT: Jim Hurm, Tom Dankert, Jeanne Howatt, Craig Hoium, Jon Erichson, David Hoversten, Mickey Healey, Kim Underwood, and Dave McKichan.

OTHERS PRESENT: Post Bulletin, Austin Daily Herald. Scott Richardson.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm.

Added to the agenda: A resolution to exchange airport entitlement funds.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, approving the agenda as amended. Carried.

The council minutes of June 18, 2011 and June 30, 2011 will be approved on July 5.

Council Members Clennon and Enright have picked the 2011 City Art Award. The artist is Scott Richardson and the painting is entitled "Skating at the Lagoon." Mr. Richardson presented his painting and noted that the five women skating depicted in the painting are copied from the front cover of a 1947 Squeal magazine.

Mayor Stiehm read a proclamation for Speed Awareness Month for July.

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

Licenses:

Exempt Gambling (bingo): Riverland Community College Foundation,
1900 8th Avenue, July 23

Food: Austin Park & Rec, Todd Park South Diamonds

Food: Austin Park & Rec, Todd Park North Diamonds

Food: Fuel Stop, 3401 W. Oakland Avenue

Food-Mobile: Richard Lee dba Earl's Ice Cream

Temporary Liquor: Austin Area Art Center, 1301 18th Avenue NW, August 25

Temporary 3.2 Beer: Chamber of Commerce Ag Appreciation, Fairgrounds, July 19

Temporary Food: Relay for Life of Mower County, Veterans Pavilion, August 6&7

Claims:

- a. Credit Card.
- b. Pre-list of bills.
- c. SuAnne Schloo, Bloomington, MN. This claim was forwarded to the city attorney to protect the city's interest.

Carried.

Council is requested to approve a resolution amending the Healthcare Savings Plan Addendum for AFSCME. As in several other such amendments, there is no cost to the City.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, seconded by Council Member Enright, adopting a resolution amending the Healthcare Savings Plan Addendum for AFSCME. 6-0. Carried.

The Downtown Retailers Committee has scheduled a Crazy Day for 8:00 am-7:00 pm Thursday, July 21 and have requested a street closing. Council did not need to take any action.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution adopting the Findings of Fact relating to the violation of the liquor code for El Parral. 6-0. Carried.

The City has received a request from Peer Engineering for three soil borings within the public right-of-way. The soil borings are for determining the extent of contamination from the site which was previously Regner Cleaners. The soil borings would be capped immediately after installation. The approval is required due to the classification of a well. The borings would be sealed using Minnesota Department of Health guidelines. The following conditions would be placed upon Peer: 1) Businesses would not be blocked, 2) Information would be shared with the City, and 3) they would provide a 24-hour notice.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member McAlister, adopting a resolution accepting the proposal from Peer Engineering to perform soil borings in the public right-of-way. 6-0. Carried.

The City has a policy which allows homeowners to request sidewalk replacement and have the costs assessed to their property. We have received two such requests. The assessments would be for 10 years at 6% interest.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Enright, adopting a resolution approving a Petition & Agreement for Sidewalk Replacement for Mary Dahl, and a Petition & Agreement for Sidewalk Replacement for Gregory A. and Darla Hartquist. 6-0. Carried.

The IRS periodically makes changes to the mileage reimbursement rate. This change usually takes effect on January 1 but there have been more frequent changes mid year. The IRS recommends an increase from 51 cents per mile to 55.5 cents per mile effective July 1. We have historically adopted the IRS rate.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution adjusting the mileage reimbursement rate to 55.5 cents per mile effective July 1. 6-0. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, setting a public hearing for July 18 for a variance from the zoning code governing the minimum corner side yard setback

in an R-1 Single Family Residential District, petitioned by Mower County and the Austin HRA. Carried.

The City receives annual funding for qualified projects from the Federal Aviation Administration. As part of the Austin Airport expansion, we reserved the 2008 allocation of \$99,000 to pay for any costs not covered by the Airport Improvement Grants. We are in the process of closing out our final airport grant, and we have been reimbursed for all remaining items. One of our options is to designate these funds to another community and in return we would receive their allocation in a future year. The City of Orr is interested in acquiring our \$99,000 and repaying us with their 2012 funds.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution to exchange airport entitlement funds. 6-0. Carried.

REPORTS: Council Member Clennon thanked the many volunteers who worked the 4th of July celebration. The event went very well. Council Member asked for the specific schedule for Community Conversations.

Council Member-at-Large Anderson participated in the 1st Annual Walk for a Cancer Free World sponsored by The Hormel Institute. The event was very successful with approximately 250 participants.

Council Member Austin commended Council Members Enright and Clennon for a good choice for the art award.

Council Member McAlister reported that the Port Authority met on June 22 and approved a small project grant for Top Noodle to assist in the cost of the trash facility to be built across the street from them. The other action the Port took was to approve repairs to the loading dock at the “Walker Building.” That project will cost \$9,000.

Mayor Stiehm also commended Council Member Enright and Clennon on an excellent painting choice. Mayor Stiehm thanked Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Sandy Forstner and the Chamber members for the parade and the whole 4th of July celebration.

Mayor Stiehm shared that the two people behind him in the parade are making a documentary on immigration in Austin.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, adjourning the meeting to July 18, 2011.

Adjourned: 5:47 pm

Approved: July 18, 2011

Mayor: _____

City Recorder: _____