

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
December 3, 2012
5:30 pm
Council Chambers

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Jim Hurm, Jeanne Howatt, Craig Hoium, Steven Lang, David Hoversten, Mickey Healey, Kim Underwood, Brian Krueger.

OTHERS PRESENT: Post Bulletin, Austin Daily Herald. Matt Simonson. Public.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, adopting the agenda. Carried.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, seconded by Council Member Boughton, approving the minutes of November 19, 2012. Carried.

Marv Repinski, 1005 4th Street SW, told Council the HRA Board approved the hiring of Jon Erichson as the next executive director. A farewell event will be planned for Jim Hurm at the Hormel Historic Home. Mr. Repinski also spoke in favor of saving the Mower County grandstand. The architect who designed the grandstand designed six other residences in the city, including his own.

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

Licenses: *None*

Claims:

- a. Pre-list of bills.

6-1. Carried. Council Member Clennon voted nay.

Community Development Director Craig Hoium requested Council table the public hearing for rezoning of property located in the 200 block of 14th Street NW to the next council meeting for some staff discussion on procedural matters.

Moved by Council Member Boughton, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, to table the public hearing for rezoning of property located in the 200 block of 14th Street NW to the December 17 council meeting. 6-1. Carried. Council Member Clennon voted nay.

A public hearing was held for final plat of the replat of Dobbins Creek Estates. The plat consists of five new single-family lots, private infrastructure and extension of 28th Street NE. Included with the plat are conditions for approval; those conditions have been completed. The plat is being replatted to realign 28th Street NE so fewer trees would need to be cut.

Moved by Council Member Boughton, seconded by Council Member Enright, approving the final plat for *Dobbins Creek Estates Replat*. 7-0. Carried.

There will be a \$14,000 increase to the city health insurance premiums. Staff recommends a \$20 increase to all plans.

Council Member Clennon asked if it were possible to take the \$14,000 out of dollars saved with the opt-out program. Finance Director Tom Dankert said those dollars are now built into the operational costs.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member Boughton, adopting a resolution setting plans and rates for 2013 health insurance. 6-1. Carried. Council Member Clennon voted nay.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, adopting a resolution approving health insurance plans and employee contribution for non-bargaining unit employees for 2013. 6-1. Carried. Council Member Clennon voted nay.

Council is requested to approve a resolution setting positions and wage rates for 2013 seasonal and part-time positions. Two categories have been added: Board of Appeal and Equalization and Park & Rec assistant for instruction and training.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Austin, adopting a resolution setting positions and wage rates for 2013 seasonal and part-time positions. 6-1. Carried. Council Member Clennon voted nay.

Council is requested to approve the annual resolution establishing and fixing license and miscellaneous fees. The resolution is the same with the addition of the vehicle forfeiture fees added by Council via resolution last spring.

Moved by Council Member Boughton, seconded by Council Member Enright, adopting a resolution establishing and fixing license fees and miscellaneous operational fees. 7-0. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member Austin, adopting a resolution accepting Hormel Foundation grant awards. 7-0. Carried.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, seconded by Council Member Austin, reappointing Jim Weber to the Fire Civil Service, 2/21/12 to 12/31/15. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, reappointing Jake Vela to the Human Rights Commission, 6/7/10 to 12/31/15. Carried.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Austin, appointing Darya Gemmel to the Human Rights Commission, 1/1/13 to 12/31/15. Carried.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Enright, appointing Tiago Miguel Sousa Ferreira to the Human Rights Commission, 1/1/13 to 12/31/14, replacing Jack Witkopp. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, reappointing Lysie Moritz to the Human Rights Commission, 12/07/09 to 12/31/15. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Boughton, seconded by Council Member Austin, reappointing Don Leathers to the Library Board, 07/01/11 to 12/31/15. Carried.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, reappointing Barry Irish to the Library Board, 12/07/09 to 12/31/15. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Boughton, seconded by Council Member Austin, appointing Jodi Krueger to the Library Board, 01/01/13 to 12/31/15. Carried.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, seconded by Council Member Austin, reappointing Gretchen Ramlo to the Park & Recreation Board, 12/20/04 to 12/31/16. Carried.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Austin, reappointing Lynn Spainhower to the Planning Commission, 12/20/04 to 12/31/16. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, appointing Laura Helle to the Planning Commission, 01/01/13 to 12/31/16. 6-0. Carried. Council Member Clennon abstained.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, seconded by Council Member Austin, appointing Dick Schindler to the Police Civil Service Commission, 1/1/13 to 12/31/15. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Boughton, reappointing Jerry Mohrfeld to the Port Authority, 7/20/87 to 12/31/18. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, reappointing Mary Lindgren to the Austin Mower County Homeownership Fund Board, term expiring 12-31-15. Carried.

Council Member Clennon questioned why the appointment of Shirley Schlieve to the HRA Board was removed from the agenda to be discussed at the work session. She stated that Ms. Schlieve is an HRA resident, and that requirement will still be there whether or not Council discusses this. City Administrator Jim Hurm said the proposed resolution clarifies that she would be able to be reappointed. The previous resolution stated members could serve no more than two full terms. She has served a partial term as she filled a vacancy and then served a full term. This needs to be clarified so that she can be reappointed.

Council Member Boughton questioned Laura Helle's appointment to the Planning Commission despite her application marked for the Port Authority. Mayor Stiehm said he talked to her and told her there would be potential conflicts on that board with her connection to Vision 2020. Ms. Helle was happy to take the Planning Commission vacancy, he noted.

Council discussed the transfer of property at 410/412 North Main Street (the former Top Ten Nails) building at the last work session. Council agreed that it should be under the Port's control. The Port Authority agreed to the transfer at its recent meeting.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, approving the transfer of property at 410/412 North Main Street (former Top Ten Nails) to the Austin Port Authority. 6-1. Carried. Council Member Clennon voted nay.

Council is requested to approve a moratorium on permits for solar panels. Council Member McAlister confirmed with Mr. Hoium that that is for electrical and supplemental heating.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, for preparation of the ordinance. 6-1. Carried. Council Member Clennon voted nay.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, to adopt and publish the ordinance. 6-1. Motion failed for lack of unanimous vote. Council Member Clennon voted nay. *(A second reading will be placed on the December 17th council agenda for simple majority approval.)*

An additional feasibility report is requested. The street is near the new Mower County Humane Society facility.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Enright, adopting a resolution requesting a feasibility report for street improvement on 22nd Street SE (Oakland Avenue to 1st Avenue SE), Project 8-A-13. 7-0. Carried.

Mr. Hoium requested that the property at 1009 4th Avenue NE on the agenda to be approved for junk removal be removed as the issue has been resolved today.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, granting the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 206 3rd Avenue SE, Anderson property. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, granting the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 1207 30th Avenue NE, Briggs property. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, adopting a resolution accepting a \$50,000 Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of Minnesota grant to the library to address health inequalities and health risks specific to Mower County. 7-0. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution accepting a \$14,000 grant from the Library Services and Technology Act funds administered by the State to present early math literacy programming. 7-0. Carried.

Council Member Clennon thanked Mr. Dankert for allowing her to watch a video of the recent closed work session regarding the negotiations for the Police Supervisors contract. However, she

said, she was very disappointed that no council had input on this issue. Mayor Stiehm noted that we asked for input, and that Council must have been happy with the contract.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Austin, adopting a resolution approving the Police Supervisors agreement, effective January 1, 2013. 6-1. Carried. Council Member Clennon voted nay.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Boughton, authorizing the balance of Fire PERA funds for the purchase of the 800 mhz radio equipment. Council Member Enright confirmed that these radios are compatible with the new LEC console. Carried.

REPORTS

Council Member Enright helped with the Beyond Yellow Ribbon Committee to host a holiday party for our National Guard and their families; it was well attended.

Council Member Boughton attended Christmas in the City. He thanked those involved and said it was very well done.

The Truth In Taxation public hearing will be held tomorrow evening. Mr. Dankert will give a presentation on the proposed 2013 tax levy and budget.

Mayor Stiehm announced the annual City/County Salvation Army food drive which is on now until Friday, December 14.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Austin, adjourning the meeting to December 17, 2012.

Adjourned: 6:03 pm

Approved: December 17, 2012

Mayor: _____

City Recorder: _____