

**M I N U T E S**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
March 4, 2013  
5:30 PM  
Council Chambers

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Stiehm. Council Members Judy Enright, Steve King, Jeff Austin, Michael Jordal, Roger Boughton, Jeremy Carolan. Council Member-at-Large Janet Anderson.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Austin Daily Herald. Public. Stephnee Leathers and Laura Helle. Odean Oyer.

Mayor Stiehm called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

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

Moved by Council Member Boughton, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, approving the minutes of February 19, 2013. Carried.

Steven Lang was sworn in as the city engineer.

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

\*Consent Agenda

Licenses:

Food: Austin Dairy Queen, 1200 W. Oakland Avenue, Austin

Food: A R Grocery, 1000 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE, Austin

Temporary gambling (raffle): Austin Junior All-Star Baseball, Inc., on June 30  
at Todd Park Complex

Claims:

- a. Pre-list of bills.
- b. Bernard Brandsmeier, 2106 E. Oakland Avenue. This claim was forwarded to the city attorney to protect the city's interest.

Carried.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member Austin, adopting a resolution approving the Code of Conduct documents. Carried.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution accepting the donation of a stage for the downtown plaza. 7-0. Carried.

Stephnee Leathers, representing the Downtown Destination Committee of Vision 2020 invited everyone to an open house on Wednesday, March 6 at the Coffee House on Main, sponsored by the committee.

Council is requested to approve new sewer user rates which provide the funds for the operation and maintenance of the Waste Water Treatment Plant. The current and suggested increases are as follows:

	<u>Current</u>	<u>April 2013</u>	<u>January 2014</u>
Connection charge	\$7.25	\$7.83	\$7.98
Flow charge	\$1.85/unit	\$2.00/unit	\$2.04/unit

The typical, average usage is eight units per month, noted City Engineer Steven Lang. Together, the two proposed increases represent an increase of \$2.25 per month for the average user.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Enright, adopting a resolution approving the two-step sewer user increase rate structure, effective April 1, 2013 and January 1, 2014. 7-0. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Boughton, seconded by Council Member Austin, adopting a resolution approving an increase in sewer user rates for Belleman's Addition Sewer Association. 7-0. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Boughton, seconded by Council Member Austin, adopting a resolution approving an increase in sewer user rates for Maplevue. 7-0. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Carolan, adopting a resolution authorizing UAW Parks & Recreation employees to participate in the Minnesota State Retirement System Healthcare Savings Plan and authorizing the Mayor to sign a contract addendum. 7-0. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Enright, granting the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of refuse and junk at 206 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue SE, Anderson property. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution setting a public hearing for March 18<sup>th</sup> on a rezoning of property located at 1001 1<sup>st</sup> Drive NW from an R-2 Multi-Family Residential District to a B-1 Neighborhood Business District. 7-0. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, adopting a resolution approving a gambling premises permit for Mower Council for the Handicapped at Star Liquor, 209 11<sup>th</sup> Street NE. 7-0. Carried.

The City has informally worked with the HRA on acquisitions of floodplain property for the flood mitigation projects. Now that the city administrator is no longer the HRA director, it was felt that a formal arrangement should be agreed upon by both entities. The HRA has approved a Memorandum of Understanding at a recent meeting.

Moved by Council Member Boughton, seconded by Council Member Enright, adopting a resolution approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the HRA. 7-0. Carried.

The improvement on 18<sup>th</sup> Street NW from Oakland Avenue to 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue does not include any replacement of the curb & gutter. The 36-foot width will remain the same but because the project will include Municipal State Aid Funding, state aid standards require restricting parking. Parking will be banned on the west side and restricted to the east side only.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, seconded by Council Member Enright, adopting a resolution restricting parking on 18<sup>th</sup> Street NW from Oakland to 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue. 7-0. Carried.

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, staff received bids for biosolid removal and Council awarded the bid to United Waste Recycling, Inc. City Engineer Steven Lang said bids were later analyzed and it was found that some necessary documentation was missing from the bid. The same was reviewed by the city attorney who recommends a) rescinding the award to United Waste Recycling, Inc., b) rejecting all bids, and c) authorizing the Engineering Department to rebid the project.

Odean Oyer of Oyer Trucking, Hayward, Minnesota, spoke to Council. He stated he has been doing the biosolid projects since 2006, minus a couple of applications. He has been working with an attorney at Hammargren & Meyer who has written a letter to the City objecting to the City's recommendation that all bids be rejected. Mr. Oyer reviewed some of his history working with the City. He is certified, he stated, he his local, and he has a good track record. Mayor Stiehm said it was not a question of whether he had done a good job. City Attorney David Hoversten noted that Mr. Oyer did not have the lowest bid, rather the third lowest. Mr. Oyer argued that everyone else had complete bids, not United. Mr. Lang stated that United Liquid Waste was the apparent low bidder. He stated the City's recommendation is to reject all bid and re-bid the project.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Austin, adopting a resolution rescinding Resolution No. 14453. 7-0. Carried.

## REPORTS

Council Member Enright attended the recent Chamber of Commerce meeting. They are moving ahead with Workforce 2020 with a recruitment plan and assisting with people applying and moving to Austin. She also attended the HRA Board. They held a reception for welcoming the new board. She was able to meet the employees and maintenance staff. A Paint the Town Pink meeting was held this afternoon, and it was reported that the week of the Paint the Town Pink events brought in over \$115,000. People interested in joining this effort or have ideas should send them to the CVB office.

Council Member-at-Large Anderson also attended her first HRA meeting. She also announced the Sustainability Taskforce and invited anyone interested to attend those meetings on the third Thursday of the month. They are currently looking at recycling projects. The Paint the Town

Pink group is possibly looking at Paint the County Pink and encouraging other cities in the county to participate. All money raised goes to breast cancer research at The Hormel Institute.

Mr. Lang thanked the Mayor and Council for appointing him. He also thanked other department heads, co-workers and his family.

Police Chief Brian Krueger gave an update on the LEC remodel project. There will be some noticeable changes in the near future. Dispatch will be relocated to the basement. The East side of the LEC will be closed off and the 200 block of 1<sup>st</sup> street will also be closed off. The entrances will be on the north side.

Mayor Stiehm stated Hormel was named Business of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce at their annual banquet.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, adjourning the meeting to March 18, 2013. Carried.

Adjourned: 5:58 pm

Approved: March 18, 2013

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

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