

M I N U T E S
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
July 7, 2014
5:30 PM
Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Stiehm. Council Members Steve King, Jeremy Carolan, Judy Enright, Jeff Austin and Council Member-at-Large Janet Anderson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Council Members Roger Boughton and Michael Jordal

STAFF PRESENT: Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert, Community Development Director Craig Hoium, Public Works Director Steven Lang, City Attorney David Hoversten, Police Chief Brian Krueger, Fire Chief Jim McCoy, Park and Rec Director Kim Underwood and City Clerk Ann Kasel

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mayor Stiehm called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm.

Added to the agenda:

22. Granting a Sunday on-sale liquor license to Austin, LLC dba Barley's, 1207 North Main Street.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, approving the agenda as amended. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Carolan, seconded by Council Member King, approving the minutes of June 16, 2014. Carried.

CITIZENS ADDRESSING THE COUNCIL

Nancy Schnable with the Austin Convention and Visitor's Bureau presented a new campaign to "Be a Tourist in Your Own Hometown" which is a dining challenge promote local dining. Citizens can dine at 30 different restaurants in the City of Austin through the end of 2014 and bring in receipts to the CVB to be eligible for prizes. The first person to complete the challenge will receive \$100 in Chamber Bucks and the remaining individuals will be entered in a drawing for additional Chamber Bucks.

Marv Repinski, 1005 4th Street SW, thanked the Austin Chamber of Commerce for the 4th of July celebration and recognized the Mayor's weight loss as covered in the Austin Daily Herald. He

also noted that he would like the City to negotiate with the Lansing residents on the contested sewer issues.

Matt Simonson expressed his concerns about flooding issues in the Wildwood neighborhood and concerns about the Hormel Company.

Roger Jorgenson, 2906 11th Street NE, inquired as to the status of the Lansing Township annexation assessment issues.

Mayor Stiehm stated it will be discussed at the work session later in the evening.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Mayor Stiehm presented the key to the City to Craig Hoium and recognized his 18 years of service with the City.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Licenses:

Consume and Display: Austin Area Commission for the Arts, 300 North Main
Temporary on-sale: Austin Area Commission for the Arts, 300 North Main
Street, August 21, 2014

Claims:

- a. Pre-list of bills.
- b. Anna Erie, 1111 4th Street SW. This claim was forwarded to the City Attorney to protect the City's interest.

Carried.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, seconded by Council Member Carolan, authorizing a street closure on Main Street from First Avenue to Second Avenue NW and from Second Avenue to Fourth Avenue NW on July 17th, 2014 from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. for Downtown Crazy Days. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Enright, adopting a resolution accepting gifts to the City of Austin. Carried 5-0.

City Clerk Ann Kasel requested the Council pass resolutions appointing election judges and designating polling places for the 2014 primary and general elections.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution designation the judges of election for the Primary and General election. Carried 5-0.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Enright, adopting a resolution designating the voting places for the City, Utility, County and State primary election to be held on August 12, 2014 and for the City, Utility, County and State general election to be held on November 4, 2014. Carried 5-0.

Director of Public Works Steven Lang requested the Council approve a grant amendment from the State of Minnesota for the purchase of a mower at the Austin Municipal Airport. The grant previously provided funding in the amount of \$12,666.66 and that funding has now been increased to \$15,200. The City's portion of the mower purchase would be \$3,800.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, adopting a resolution approving a grant amendment for the purchase of a mower at the Austin Municipal Airport. Carried 5-0.

Director of Public Works Steven Lang requested the Council approve an amendment to the City's airport maintenance and operations grant. The grant provided funding in the previous amount of \$39,319 and now funding is proposed to increase to \$43,250.90.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution approving a grant amendment for additional funding in fiscal year 2014 for the Austin Municipal Airport. Carried 5-0.

Director of Public Works Steven Lang presented a proposal from Stantec for the following construction inspection services on the Public Works wash bay: shop drawing review, special inspections, punchlists, and as-built drawings. The price for construction inspection services is proposed to be \$18,326 with City staff will complete the onsite day-to-day inspections.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, adopting a resolution approving construction inspection services with Stantec on the Public Works wash bay. Carried 5-0.

Community Development Director Craig Hoium presented a revised swimming pool ordinance for Council review. The ordinance contained additional language in regard to the fencing requirement stating fencing is only required around the ladder or entrance to an above ground swimming pool over four feet deep.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, for preparation of the ordinance. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Enright, for adoption and publication of the ordinance. Carried 5-0.

Community Development Director Craig Hoium presented a proposed sandwich board sign ordinance. The ordinance would allow sandwich board signs on private and public property up to three feet in width and four feet in height with no balloons or streamers attached or electrical components. The sign would be required to be located within 20 feet of the entrance of the

building, leave a four foot area for pedestrian traffic and only be displayed during business hours. The property owner must provide proof of insurance to the City. One sandwich board sign would be allowed per parcel. The matter was reviewed with the Planning Commission and was recommended for approval.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Austin, for preparation of the ordinance. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, for adoption and publication of the ordinance. Carried 5-0.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Carolan, setting a public hearing for July 21, 2014 for a variance from the Austin City Zoning Code governing minimum yard setbacks and encroachments, requested by Brent Frankhauser. Carried.

Community Development Director Craig Hoium presented a site plan for redevelopment of the Austin National Guard Armory. The remodel of the property calls for eleven trees to be removed and six of the replacement trees would be located in an easement area due to Department of Military Affairs setback requirements for anti-terrorism. The matter was reviewed with the Planning Commission and was recommended for approval.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Austin, approving a variance to the City code section 11.71 by accepting a tree mitigation plan submitted by the Minnesota National Guard Armory. Carried.

Community Development Director Craig Hoium requested that Council rescind resolution 12785, which was an annexation in Austin Township. There was a mix up with the legal descriptions on the document.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution rescinding resolution 12785 (orderly annexation in Austin Township). Carried 5-0.

Community Development Director Craig Hoium requested the Council annex seven parcels, two of which are included in the previously rescinded resolution, in Austin Township. Mr. Hoium stated he had made contact with the Township and the property owners and all are supportive of the annexation. The total area to be annexed is approximately 9.5 acres and the taxes would be paid to the City on a graduated scale over eight years. If the parcels contain private well or septic systems then the owners would have one year to hook into City services.

The annexation would require that all parcels have an initial "R-1" district and parcels that are not this classification would be grandfathered in as a non-conforming use parcel. If the business was expanded in the future then the owner would need to petition for proper zoning classification.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, adopting a resolution approving orderly annexation agreements in Austin Township. Carried 5-0.

Mr. Hoium presented the proposed resolution for annexations in Lansing Township stating that the terms are the same as the Austin Township resolution. The annexed area contains four separate parcels and approximately 5.72 acres.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, adopting a resolution approving orderly annexation agreements in Lansing Township. Carried 5-0.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Carolan, granting the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 1810 2nd Avenue SE, Esse Property. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Enright, 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 408 12th Street SE, Haug Property. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member Austin, granting the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 1204 9th Avenue SW, Midwest Properties of Austin Property. Carried.

Community Development Director Craig Hoium requested the Council approve a minor subdivision request from Paul Sween in relation to Nature Ridge Addition. The property boundaries need to be realigned to meet minimum setback requirements which were violated when the contractor poured the foundation for a home on the property.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Austin, adopting a resolution granting a minor subdivision requested by Paul Sween in Nature Ridge Addition. Carried 5-0.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Austin, adopting a resolution granting an on-sale liquor license to Austins, LLC dba Barley's, 1207 North Main Street. Carried 5-0.

REPORTS

Council Member Carolan thanked the Chamber of Commerce and City employees for a great 4th of July Celebration.

Council Member-at-Large Anderson also gave her compliments to Freedom Fest and stated she recently attended the League of Minnesota Cities conference in St. Cloud.

Council Member Austin attended the League of Minnesota Cities conference and found it to be informative and beneficial. He also attended a recent Park and Rec board meeting.

Council Member King congratulated Craig Hoium on his upcoming retirement stating it had been a pleasure working with him.

Council Member Enright felt the 4th of July celebration was great added she is going to miss working with Craig.

Parks and Recreation Director Kim Underwood noted there will be a track meet at Wescott Field on July 17th 6:15 p.m.

Community Development Director Craig Hoium expressed his appreciation of working with the Council over the last 18 years and stated Austin is very fortunate to have such a great community. He estimated he attended 440 Council meetings, 220 Planning Commission meetings and held over 1300 public hearings.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated it will be very hard to fill Craig's shoes as he was a great asset to the City and will be missed.

Mayor Stiehm echoed the comments regarding Mr. Hoium. He added a lot of the improvements in the City are due to Craig's efforts.

Mr. Stiehm also attended the League of Minnesota Cities Conference. He also thanked the Chamber, Police Department, Fire Department and City staff for the wonderful 4th of July celebration.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, adjourning the meeting to July 21, 2014. Carried.

Adjourned: 6:14 pm

Approved: July 21, 2014

Mayor: _____

City Recorder: _____