

M I N U T E S
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 6, 2017
5:30 PM
Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Stiehm. Council Members Jeff Austin, Judy Enright, Steve King, Laura Helle, Paul Fischer and Council Member-at-Large Janet Anderson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Council Member David Hagen

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Craig Clark, Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert, Public Works Director Steven Lang, Fire Chief Jim McCoy, City Attorney David Hoversten, Police Chief Brian Krueger, Police Captain David McKichan, Park and Rec Director Kim Underwood, Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace, Interim Library Director Sara Steinhoff and City Clerk Ann Kasel

OTHERS PRESENT: Angela Harty, KAUS Radio, Austin Daily Herald, Public

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

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

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, approving the Council minutes from January 17, 2017. Carried.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Police Chief Brian Krueger recognized Angela Harty for her actions on January 30, 2017 by saving a neighbor and her granddaughter who were sickened from carbon monoxide poisoning.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Licenses:

Cigarette: Duffy's BP, 3010 W. Oakland Avenue

Concrete: MasTec North America, 7004 11th Avenue SW, Rochester

Concrete: Wagner Construction Company, PO BOX 698

Excavation: Husemoller Excavating, 26375 555th Avenue

Excavation: Ulland Brothers, 2400 Myers Road, Albert Lea

Exempt Gambling (raffle): Austin Area Chamber of Commerce on July 4, 2017
Exempt Gambling (raffle): United Catholic Schools Foundation on April 29, 2017
Food: Austin Youth Hockey at Packer Arena and Riverside Arena
Food: Duffy's BP, 3010 W. Oakland Avenue
Food: Shopko #041, 1209 18th Avenue NW
Food: Sudanese Community International Market, 501 1st Street NW
Gas Station: Duffy's BP, 3010 W. Oakland Avenue
Massage Therapist: Alisha Wigham, 133 1st Street SW, Blooming Prairie
Sign Installer: Leroy Signs, Inc., 6325 Welcome Avenue N, Brooklyn Park
Sign Installer: Precision Signs Service & Install, LLC, 1000 10th Drive SE
Temporary Liquor: Friends of the JC Hormel Nature Center on April 21, 2017
Temporary Liquor: Pacelli Catholic Schools on April 29, 2017
Water Conditioning: Culligan Water, 1308 8th Street NE

Claims:

- a. Credit Card Report.
- b. Pre-list of bills.

Carried.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace reviewed the proposed changes to the subdivision regulation ordinance. The ordinance needs to be updated to be compliant with State Statutes regarding safe routes to school for eligibility of grants. The modified language would provide for complete streets for all modes of transportation. Ms. Wallace stated the department also updated the ordinance for relevancy.

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

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, for adoption and publication of the ordinance. Carried 6-0.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace requested the Council approve a minor subdivision of property for Habitat for Humanity. The piece of property contains three lots used as one parcel but Habitat would like to create two parcels out of the three lots. She requested any necessary easements to be included with the subdivision of the land.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution approving a minor subdivision petitioned by Habitat for Humanity. Carried 6-0.

City Clerk Ann Kasel requested the Council set the hearing for the Board of Equalization and Appeals on April 24th at 10:00 a.m. at the Mower County Courthouse. She also requested Council appoint Dennis Schminke, Peggy Young, Arianna Hicks and Taggert Medgaarden to the board. All of the members have received the necessary training.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Enright, setting the hearing for the Board of Equalization and Appeals for April 24, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. and making the following appointments to the 2017 Board of Equalization and Appeals:

First Ward: Dennis Schminke
Second Ward: Peggy Young
Third Ward: Arianna Hinks
At-Large: Taggert Medgaarden

Carried.

Public Works Director Steven Lang requested the Council approve additional engineering consulting fees with SEH, Inc. for Phases 2-7, 9 & 12. He stated that additional modeling was required as part of the technical report with resulted in \$6,500 in additional costs. He requested the additional amount be approved with funding coming from Local Option Sales Tax.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, seconded by Council Member King, approving additional consulting fees with SEH, Inc. for the North Main Street Flood Control Project, Phases 2-7, 9 & 12. Carried 6-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang requested the Council approve a limited use permit with MnDot. The permit authorized the city use parts of the I-90 right-of-way for a recreational trail and highway beautification and would be in effect for 10 years.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Enright, adopting a resolution approving a limited use permit with Mn DOT. Carried 6-0.

Fire Chief Jim McCoy requested authorization from Council to trade in their old SCBA gear with Ultimate Safety Concepts for a credit of \$8,750 to purchase additional items associated with recently purchased SCBA gear. Chief McCoy stated this is a unique situation because it allows them to purchase additional gear instead of paying to dispose of their old gear.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, approving a SCBA equipment trade in for the Fire Department. Carried.

Parks and Recreation Director Kim Underwood requested the Council approve a \$40,902.97 change order for the interpretive center at the Nature Center. She stated that \$6,633 will be billed back to Split Rock for exhibit purposes.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Enright, adopting a resolution approving a change order on the Nature Center construction project. Carried 6-0.

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

Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert requested Council approve budget amendment number 2 which would amend the budget of the Fire PERA fund for the SCBA grant.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution approving a SCBA grant – Budget Adjustment number 2. Carried 6-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang requested the Council approve a MnDNR grant application for a trail extension along Turtle Creek. The proposed trail would run from 4th Street SW to 10th Street SW along the North side of Turtle Creek. The DNR has \$800,000 available and the grant would be asking for \$125,000 with the City contributing \$62,500 and Vision2020 also contributing \$62,500 as a matching grant.

Mayor Stiehm asked if Mr. Lang had conversations with the Foundation regarding funding the project.

Mr. Lang stated the City has been in communication with the Vision 2020 Bike-Walk Committee and they would provide a letter of support to the Foundation.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Austin, adopting a resolution approving a MnDNR Trail Grant application. Carried 6-0.

REPORTS

Council Member Enright stated there are lots of Paint the Town Pink events coming up with Paint the Rink Pink on February 10th, Fishing for a Cure on February 11th and Smashing for Pink on February 12th.

Mayor Stiehm stated he watched the plunge and Judy's team should be commended for raising over \$20,000.

Council Member Austin stated he attended and Park and Rec board meeting the previous week where they approved honey bees at the Nature Center.

Council Member-at-Large Anderson stated citizens can check out the Paint the Town Pink website for all the upcoming events. She also stated she recently attended the SE Minnesota League of Municipalities meeting.

Council Member Helle stated she recently attended the Coalition of Greater MN Cities conference and their priorities of increased LGA, economic development, environmental impact and transportation issues are similar to the City's priorities.

City Administrator Craig Clark recently met with Senators about the City's state fire aid issue and hopefully the matter will be resolved soon.

Mayor Stiehm asked when the Oakland Place bridge project going to be completed.

Mr. Lang stated the project is moving forward as scheduled and will reopen June 1st. At that time the 11th Drive NE bridge will close for replacement.

Mr. Lang also stated the City sent out 280 assessment notices to homeowners on the 2017 street projects. There will be an informational meeting on Wednesday, February 15th for property owners to find out more information on the projects.

He added that the signal light at 1st Avenue and 4th Street SW will be operational the week of February 13th.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, adjourning the meeting to February 21, 2017. Carried.

Adjourned: 5:55 p.m.

Approved: February 21, 2017

Mayor: _____

City Recorder: _____