

M I N U T E S
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 19, 2018
5:30 PM
Council Chambers

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

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 Captain David McKichan, Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace, Library Director Julie Clinefelter and City Clerk Ann Kasel

OTHERS PRESENT: Honorary Council Member George Bass, Austin Daily Herald, Public

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

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

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, approving the Council minutes from November 5, 2018. Carried.

AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS

Police Captain David McKichan introduced new officers Ryan McCormack and Joshua Bradley. The Council welcomed the new officers.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Licenses:

Exempt gambling (raffle): Austin Junior All Star Baseball on June 23, 2019

Claims:

- a. Pre-list of bills
- b. Investment Report.

Event Applications:
Christmas in the City on November 23, 2018

Carried.

BID OPENING AND AWARD:

The City of Austin received bids for the main pump house electrical improvements at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. The following bids were received:

Contractor	Amount
O'Connor Electric	\$43,492.00
Schammel Electric	\$53,600.00
Laketown Electric Corp.	\$57,188.00

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the project would replace the electrical distribution and motor control equipment which is over 40 years old. He recommended awarding the bid the O'Connor Electric.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, seconded by Council Member Enright, awarding the bid to O'Connor Electric for main pump house electrical improvements at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Carried 7-0.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

City Clerk Ann Kasel requested the Council adopt a resolution certifying the 2018 election results.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Enright, adopting a resolution accepting results of the 2018 general election. Carried 7-0.

City Clerk Ann Kasel requested the Council approve a resolution for the 2019 off-sale liquor licenses, club on-sale licenses, wine on-sale licenses and brewery licenses.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, adopting a resolution granting 2019 off-sale liquor licenses, club on-sale licenses, wine on-sale licenses and brewery licenses. Carried 6-0 with Council Member Helle abstaining.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Enright, adopting a resolution setting a public hearing for December 17, 2018 for the adoption of the 5-year Capital Improvement Plan. Carried 7-0.

Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert stated the City is required by its insurance company to pass a motion indicating the City does not waive the statutory tort limits for liability.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, stating the City does not waive the statutory tort limits for liability. Carried.

Public Works Director Steven Lang requested the Council approve an individual control mechanism (ICM) with MN Freezer Warehouse to adjust their sewer bill in the summer months due to evaporation in their condensing units. A process was developed to more accurately track the amount of water that is actually going into the sewer. Mr. Lang recommended approval of the three year ICM agreement.

Council Member Helle noted this is a great example of the City being business friendly.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Enright, adopting a resolution approving an ICM agreement with Minnesota Freezer Warehouse. Carried 7-0.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Hagen, reappointing Mary Lindgren to the Austin-Mower County Homeownership Board, term expiring December 31, 2021. Carried.

City Administrator Craig Clark requested the Council accept a grant in the amount of \$5,630 from the State of Minnesota Natural Resources Department, Division of Forestry. The grant would be used for equipment and supplies along the Tree Trek on East Side Lake. The City would also have a match of \$703.75.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Austin, adopting a resolution accepting a grant from the State of Minnesota Natural Resources Department, Division of Forestry. Carried 7-0.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Enright, adopting a resolution setting a final assessment hearing for December 17, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. one property on the 4th Drive SW street improvement project. Carried 7-0.

Fire Chief Jim McCoy requested the Council approve a donation of a forcible entry simulator from Firehouse Subs.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member Austin, adopting a resolution accepting a donation from Firehouse Subs Safety Foundation. Carried 7-0.

Library Director Julie Clinefelter requested the Council approve a contract with Kiker Bros. for Library roof repairs with funding coming from 2018 contingency funds. Ms. Clinefelter stated the bid was the lowest that was submitted and the Library Board approved the contract at their last meeting.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, seconded by Council Member Hagen, adopting a resolution approving a contract with Kiker Bros. for Library roof repairs with funding coming from 2018 contingency. Carried 7-0.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution declaring a structure at 1003 7th Avenue NE as hazardous. Carried 7-0.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Enright, granting the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 706 4th Avenue NW, Morales 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 110 4th Street SW, Kottner Property. Carried.

Mary Barinka, the Community Autism Resource Specialist, gave an overview of the autism initiative to the Council. She stated the Hormel Home has established autism as an outreach goal and in 2017 the Autism Friendly Initiative was formed as a way to encourage and support Austin residents with autism. She added that there are approximately 150 students in the school system and 275 adults in Austin with autism.

Mayor Stiehm thanked her for making a difference in the community.

Council Member Helle stated the Arts Center and the Paramount Theater are autism certified and encouraged other organizations to go through the training.

REPORTS

Council Member Helle stated Christmas in the City will take place Friday night with lots of things to do in the downtown.

Council Member-at-Large Anderson added that Matchbox Children's Theater will be painting faces at the Arts center. She also stated she attended a SE Minnesota Working Together meeting where the focus was child care and transportation.

Library Director Julie Clinefelter stated the Library will close at 2 p.m. on Wednesday and will be closed Thursday and Friday.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace stated there was a landlord meeting on the previous Thursday with over 100 people in attendance. The next meeting will be on December 13th at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated there will be a meeting on November 26th at 5:30 p.m. for residents along the Turtle Creek Flood Control Project.

Mayor Stiehm stated he attended the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities Conference recently and the recent legislative changes were discussed.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Hagen, adjourning the meeting to December 3, 2018. Carried.

Adjourned: 5:59 p.m.

Approved: December 3, 2018

Mayor: _____

City Recorder: _____