

M I N U T E S
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
May 20, 2019
5:30 PM
Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Stiehm. Council Members Steve King, Paul Fischer, Rebecca Waller, Laura Helle, Jason Baskin, Joyce Poshusta
Council Member-at-Large Jeff Austin

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: City Administrator Craig Clark, Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert, Public Works Director Steven Lang, Fire Chief Jim McCoy, Police Chief David McKichan, Park and Rec Director Kevin Nelson, Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace, City Attorney Craig Byram, Library Director Julie Clinefelter, Human Resources Director Trish Wiechmann and City Clerk Ann Kasel

OTHERS PRESENT: Honorary Council Member Solomon Paul, Doug Myers, Ellis Robotics Team, Elaine Hanson, Mara Murphy, Austin Daily Herald, KAUS Radio, Public

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

Added to the agenda:

Consent Agenda

Appointing Solomon Paul as an Honorary Council Member through July 2019
Appointing Solomon Paul to the Police Civil Service Commission, term expiring
12/31/2019

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

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member King, approving the Council minutes from May 6, 2019. Carried.

AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS

Mayor Stiehm congratulated the Ellis Robotics Team. Mr. Fritz, the Robotics Coach, stated the team ranked #1 in Minnesota and the 29th ranked team in the world.

Mayor Stiehm thanked Doug Myers for serving on the Police Civil Service commission from February 7, 2005 to May 18, 2019.

Elaine Hanson with the Chamber of Commerce presented a certificate to the City recognizing a 30 year partnership with the City of Austin.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Licenses:

- Concrete: Crete Construction, Inc., Hollandale
- Concrete: Hodgman Concrete & Masonry, LLC, Owatonna
- Exempt Gambling: Mower County Veteran's Council on July 3-4, 2019
- Exempt Gambling: United Catholic Schools Foundation on June 14, 2019
- Food Transfer: Bella Victoria Italian Cuisine, LLC – 1801 14th Street NW, Suite 1
- Temporary Food: Regal's Concessions at Bandshell Park on July 3-4, 2019

Appointments:

- Appointing Solomon Paul as an Honorary Council Member through July 2019
- Appointing Solomon Paul to the Police Civil Service Commission, term expiring 12/31/2019

Claims:

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

Event Applications:

- Freedom Fest – June 28-29 & July 3-4, 2019
- Spam Museum Car Show – June 6, 2019

Carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Council reviewed a tax abatement application from James O. Rinehart and Kathleen G. Wencl. They are planning to build a single-family home with an estimated value of \$365,000 and have requested a 5-year tax abatement for the property.

City Administrator Craig Clark noted resolutions for the four tax abatements should all be modified to state the abatements shall be null and void if not commenced within one year, instead of 6 months as stated on the proposed resolutions.

Moved by Council Member Poshusta, seconded by Council Member King, approving a 5-year tax abatement for James O. Reinhart and Kathleen G. Wencl. Carried 7-0.

The Council reviewed a tax abatement application from Bigelow & Lennon Construction. They are planning to build a single-family home with an estimated value of \$284,900 and have requested a 5-year tax abatement for the property.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Fischer, approving a 5-year tax abatement for Bigelow & Lennon Construction. Carried 7-0.

The Council reviewed a tax abatement application from Angela Johnson. She is planning to build a single-family home with an estimated value of \$300,000 and has requested a 5-year tax abatement for the property.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Baskin, approving a 5-year tax abatement for Angela Johnson. Carried 7-0.

The Council reviewed a tax abatement application from Cedar City Builders. They are planning to build a single-family home with an estimated value of \$339,000 and have requested a 5-year tax abatement for the property.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, approving a 5-year tax abatement for Cedar City Builders. Carried 7-0.

BID OPENINGS AND AWARDS

The City received bids for the Turtle Creek Flood Control Project. The following bids was received:

Contractor	Bid
Reiner Contracting, Inc.	\$4,883,280.67

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the project will consist of earthen levee construction, sheet piling installation, modular block retaining walls, storm sewer piping, stormwater pumping stations, sanitary sewer construction and turf restoration. He stated the project will be funded with 50% DNR grants and 50% Local Option Sales Tax funds. He recommended awarding the bid to Reiner Contracting, Inc.

Mr. Lang noted there is a shortfall in funding from DNR grant but he would be working to modify the grant to utilize the 50% match.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member King, awarding the bid for the Turtle Creek Flood Control Project to Reiner Contracting, Inc. Carried 7-0.

Mr. Lang stated the project will also require construction inspection and administration services plus materials testing and special inspections. He stated Bolton & Menk has provided a proposal in the amount of \$284,239 for the construction inspection and administration services and American Engineering & Testing has provided an estimate in the amount of \$7,515 for the

materials testing and special inspection services. Mr. Lang recommended awarding both of these contracts.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Austin, approving a contract for construction inspection and administration services to Bolton & Menk. Carried 7-0.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Waller, approving a contract for materials testing and special inspection services to American Engineering & Testing. Carried 7-0.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert requested the Council revise the City's investment policy to allow for investment in federal agency securities which is allowed under Minnesota Statutes.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution revising the City's investment policy. Carried 7-0.

Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert requested the Council approve an extension to the contract for private redevelopment with Fox Pointe Townhomes, LP for the 38 unit townhome project. The contract would extend the completion date from June 1, 2019 to August 31, 2019 due to weather delays.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Baskin, adopting a resolution approving a first amendment to contract for private redevelopment with Fox Pointe Townhomes. Carried 7-0.

City Clerk Ann Kasel requested the Council approve a transfer of liquor license for Bella Victoria Italian Cuisine, LLC due to an address change.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Baskin, adopting a resolution granting a transfer of hard liquor on-sale and Sunday on-sale for Bella Victoria Italian Cuisine, LLC. Carried 7-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang requested the Council approve engineering construction inspection services with Bolton & Menk due to vacancies in the Public Works department. The proposed amount for the service is \$125,080 and would be billed hourly for actual time worked.

Mr. Lang stated the City will be interviewing for the vacant positions soon.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Austin, adopting a resolution approving engineering construction inspection services with Bolton & Menk. Carried 7-0.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace reviewed a proposed ordinance for the annexation of the Kehret property located in Lansing Township. She stated the City has attempted to annex this property jointly with Lansing Township but has not been successful. Ms. Wallace requested the Council annex the Kehret Property as I-1 light industrial zoning. She noted that the process for annexation by ordinance does not require the approval of the Township.

City Administrator Craig Clark stated the City is trying to prepare for growth with the annexation of the area.

Mara Murphy stated she doesn't believe that her land needs to be annexed into the City.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member King, for preparation of the ordinance for annexation of the Kehret property located in Lansing Township. Carried.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member King, for adoption and publication of the ordinance for annexation of the Kehret property located in Lansing Township. Carried 7-0.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace requested the Council continue the hearing until June 3, 2019 for the plat for Nature's Ridge Second addition.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Baskin, continuing the hearing until June 3, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. Carried.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Austin, authorizing the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 302 2nd Street SE, Martell Property. Carried.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member King, authorizing the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the repair and/or removal of a fence located at 1008 12th Avenue SW. Carried.

HONORARY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Honorary Council Member Solomon Paul introduced himself and thanked the Council for the opportunity to serve the community.

REPORTS

Council Member Helle stated Jim Wagner has an art exhibit currently at the Arts Center. She also stated 4th Avenue Fest will be held on June 12th. There will be free music, open swimming, an arts event and many other activities.

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated 4-5 semi loads of electronics were collected in the electronic recycling event.

Council Member King welcomed Solomon as the honorary council member.

Library Director Julie Clinefelter stated there is a filmmaker at the library on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 for the One Austin Many Stories series.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member King, adjourning the meeting to June 3, 2019. Carried.

Adjourned: 6:32 p.m.

Approved: June 3, 2019

Mayor: _____

City Recorder: _____