

**M I N U T E S**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
July 1, 2019  
5:30 PM  
Council Chambers

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Council Members Laura Helle and Jason Baskin

**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 and City Clerk Ann Kasel

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Curtis Sorenson, Austin Daily Herald, Public

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

Added to the Agenda:

(res) 15. Approving a contract with American Engineering & Testing for vibration monitoring on the Turtle Creek Flood Control Project.

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

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Fischer, approving the Council minutes from June 17, 2019. Carried.

#### **AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS**

Elizabeth Wefel with the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities provided a legislative update to the Council. She thanked the City of Austin for its support over the past year. She stated the big accomplishment of the CGMC was restoring local government aid to the 2002 level and hope to have increases in future years. Additional child care and transportation funding are also goals of the CGMC in the future.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

Licenses:

Liquor Catering: ATI Hotel, LLC, 1701 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Sign Installer: Indigo Signworks, Inc., Alexandria  
Temporary 3.2 Beer: Austin Area Chamber of Commerce on July 16, 2019

Claims:

- a. Pre-list of bills
- b. Credit Card and Financial Reports.
- c. Fidel Eurique Molina, 1709 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW. The matter has been forwarded to the City Attorney to protect the City's interest.
- d. Gauge Thordor, 208 ½ 4<sup>th</sup> Street SE. The matter has been forwarded to the City Attorney to protect the City's interest.

Event Applications:

Minnesota State High School Cycling League Race on August 24-25, 2019  
SPAM Museum event on August 1, 2019

Carried.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

A public hearing was held for a tax abatement request from Randy and Deidre Smith. The matter was continued until the July 15, 2019 Council meeting.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member King, continuing the tax abatement public hearing for Randy and Deidre Smith until July 15, 2019. Carried.

## PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

City Clerk Ann Kasel reviewed ordinance modifications for small vehicle passenger service. She proposed modifications to the current small vehicle passenger service ordinance to make it compliant for transportation network companies to operate in the City.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member King, for preparation of ordinance modifications for the small vehicle passenger service ordinance. Carried.

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

Public Works Director Steven Lang stated the City is working on the Turtle Creek Trail project and has completed a Minnesota Natural Heritage Review, a Phase 1 Archeological Study, and a Level 2 Wetland Delineation. He stated there were no items of significant importance found in any of the documents. He requested Council permission to skip an Environmental Compliance review due to the small scale of the project and not finding any issues on all the other tests.

Moved by Council Member Poshusta, seconded by Council Member Waller, approving Turtle Creek Trail environmental documents and to moving forward with the project. Carried.

Public Works Director Steven Lang requested the Council approve a settlement agreement with Hammel, Green and Abrahamson for work completed on the cooling system at Riverside Arena.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Austin, adopting a resolution approving a settlement agreement with Hammel, Green and Abrahamson, Inc. Carried 5-0.

Police Chief David McKichan requested the Council approve an agreement for school resource officers in Austin Public Schools for the 2019-2020 school years. The agreement states that the school agrees to pay for 80% of the Ellis and 90% of the AHS school resource officers' salaries and benefits.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution approving a contract with Austin Public Schools for school resource officers. Carried 5-0.

Moved by Council Member Poshusta, seconded by Council Member King, approving an event application for Austin's Inaugural Ribfest. Carried.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace requested the Council approve a contract with Stantec for the procurement and implementation of a US EPA Brownfield assessment grant on the Oakland Avenue corridor. The application for the grant is at no cost to the City and Stantec would apply in 2020.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, adopting a resolution approving a master services agreement with Stantec. Carried 5-0.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace reviewed the plat and development agreement for Nature Ridge Second Addition. She stated there would be 13 lots in the subdivision.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution approving a plat for Nature Ridge Second Addition. Carried 5-0.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution approving a development agreement for Nature Ridge Second Addition. Carried 5-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang noted that the developer needs to install all of the public infrastructure prior to the area being developed.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, adopting a resolution declaring the garage at 1105 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE a hazardous structure. Carried 5-0.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member King, authorizing the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 1920 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW, Chen Property. Carried.

Public Works Director Steven Lang requested the Council approve a contract with American Engineering & Testing for vibration monitoring on the Turtle Creek Flood Control Project. Mr. Lang stated the company would monitor the vibrations and conditions of the nearby properties during construction.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Austin, approving a contract with American Engineering & Testing for vibration monitoring on the Turtle Creek Flood Control Project. Carried 5-0.

## REPORTS

Council Member-at-Large Austin stated the Park and Recreation board will meet on July 10<sup>th</sup> due to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday.

City Administrator Craig Clark stated the City is meeting with the Chamber of Commerce on July 18<sup>th</sup> about the future of Freedom Fest in Austin.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member King, adjourning the meeting to July 15, 2019. Carried.

Adjourned: 6:05 p.m.

Approved: July 15, 2019

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

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