

**M I N U T E S**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
September 16, 2019  
5:30 PM  
Council Chambers

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mayor Stiehm. Council Member 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, Human Resources Director Trish Wiechmann and City Clerk Ann Kasel

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Honorary Council Member Austere Apolo, Austin Daily Herald, Public

Council Member-at-Large Austin 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 Fischer, seconded by Council Member King, approving Council minutes from September 3, 2019. Carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**Licenses:**

Temporary Liquor: Mower County Ag Society on October 12, 2019  
Sign Installer: Signapolis, Inc, Edina

**Claims:**

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

**Event Applications:**

Harvest Fest Run on September 21, 2019  
Homecoming Parade on September 27, 2019

Fire Station Open house on October 9, 2019  
Governor's Pheasant Opener Parade on October 12, 2019

Carried.

#### **PETITIONS AND REQUESTS**

Director of Administrative Services Tom Dankert requested the Council set the preliminary tax levy at \$7,150,000 for 2020. He detailed the proposed budget for the City for 2020. The Truth in Taxation hearing will be held December 4, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution setting the property tax levy and adopting a proposed budget for taxes payable in 2020. Carried 6-0.

Library Director Julie Clinefelter requested the use of \$6,025 in 2019 contingency funds to complete a lighting project at the Library. The extra funding is due to additional concrete work to secure the light poles.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Helle, approving \$6,025 from 2019 contingency funds for the Library lighting project. Carried.

Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Nelson requested the Council add the Stivers Nursery property to the City archery deer hunt.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member King, approving Stivers Nursery property as part of the City archery deer hunt. Carried.

Human Resources Director Trish Wiechmann requested the Council approve a memorandum of understanding with the Police Supervisors for 2019. It would allow for a retroactive increase for 2019 wages to January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, adopting a resolution approving a memorandum of agreement with the Police Supervisor's Unit. Carried 6-0.

Fire Chief Jim McCoy requested the Council authorize the donation of the City's portion of the jointly owned fire trailer to the Owatonna Fire Department. The trailer was purchased jointly in 2004 and is in need of \$2,500 in repairs. The value of the trailer is \$2,000 and Chief McCoy requested the donation to alleviate the City of any future liability for repair.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution approving the donation of a fire trailer to Owatonna. Carried 6-0.

Police Chief David McKichan requested the Council authorize a Toward Zero Deaths grant agreement with the State of Minnesota for additional law enforcement patrol hours for traffic safety.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, adopting a resolution approving a Toward Zero Deaths grant agreement. Carried 6-0.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace requested the Council approve a contract with WSB & Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$79,991 for updating the City's zoning and subdivision code. Funding for the update would come from the 2019 and 2020 capital improvement program.

Council Member Helle commented she was excited about the update based on her experience on the Planning Commission.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Helle, adopting a resolution approving an agreement with WSB & Associates, Inc. for a zoning and subdivision code update. Carried 6-0.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Fischer, authorizing the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 1007 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW, Lau Property. Carried.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Fischer, authorizing the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 1507 16<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Moser Property. Carried.

## REPORTS

Council Member Helle stated it is Welcoming Week with the Austin Human Rights Commission. She noted the objection in the paper from a citizen about concerns for flying other countries flags on 9-11. She felt the flags were appropriate and that people from many countries died that day.

City Administrator Craig Clark stated there will be a mini legislative session on October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for the elections committee.

Mr. Clark also stated he recently visited with the Chamber of Commerce and they will be handling the parade on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July only. Other organizations will need to handle the other aspects of the festival.

Library Director Julie Clinefelter stated there will be a community building presenter on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Administrative Services Director Tom Dankert provided a handout to illustrate to Council where the taxes are allocated on an average home.

Public Works Director Steven Lang reviewed the heavy rain event on September 12<sup>th</sup> where the City received 4 inches of rain in a 2 hour time period. He stated there were large spikes at the Waste Water Treatment Plant but overall there weren't huge impacts to residents.

Moved by Council Member Helle, seconded by Council Member King, adjourning the meeting to October 7, 2019. Carried.

Adjourned: 5:50 p.m.

Approved: October 7, 2019

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

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