

M I N U T E S
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
July 6, 2020
5:30 PM
Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Stiehm. Council Member-at-Large Jeff Austin

MEMBERS APPEARING
ELECTRONICALLY: Council Members Steve King, Paul Fischer, Rebecca Waller,
Laura Helle, Jason Baskin, Joyce Poshusta

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

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, City Attorney Craig Byram, Human
Resources Director Trish Wiechmann, Library Director Julie
Clinefelter and City Clerk Ann Kasel

STAFF APPEARING
ELECTRONICALLY: Planning and Zoning Administrator Holly Wallace

OTHERS PRESENT: Austin Daily Herald, Mike Cooper, Diane Baker, Tom Schulte

OTHERS APPEARING
ELECTRONICALLY: Boy Scout Troop 113

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

Added to the agenda:

Consent Agenda Addition

4. License:
Concrete: ACI Asphalt & Concrete, Inc., Maple Grove

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Fischer, approving the agenda as amended.

Moved by Council Member Fischer, seconded by Council Member King, approving Council from June 15, 2020, June 22, 2020 and June 29, 2020. Carried.

Recognitions and Awards

Firefighter Tom Schulte stated the Minnesota Professional Firefighters Conference will be held in Austin on September 28th and 29th and invited the Council to attend a hands-on event.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Licenses:

Sign Installation: Signs of Schuppe, Oronoco

Exempt Gambling (raffle): United Catholic Schools Foundation on August 22, 2020

Temporary On-Sale Liquor: Pacelli Catholic Schools on August 22, 2020

Concrete: ACI Asphalt & Concrete, Inc., Maple Grove

Claims:

a. Pre-list of bills

b. Credit Card and Financial Reports.

Carried.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS

City Administrator Craig Clark presented a proposal for a 30-unit complex known as River Bend Townhomes. The development would be located on a 4.66 acre parcel on 15th Avenue NE east of Kuehn Motors and adjacent to Interstate 90. Mr. Clark requested Council support for a TIF district to be established in support of the development. He stated this is a highly competitive application.

Chad Adams added that there will be three separate buildings in the complex along with an outdoor play area. Construction is expected to begin in summer or fall of 2021.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Helle, adopting a resolution in support of the River Bend Townhomes tax credit application. Carried 7-0.

City Clerk Ann Kasel stated bars and restaurants have been hard hit from the COVID-19 pandemic and were unable to sell liquor which has a high license cost. She proposed refunding a prorated portion of 2020 license fees for on-sale liquor, on-sale wine, club, 3.2 beer and Sunday on-sale licenses. The total refund would be approximately \$12,800.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, adopting a resolution authorizing a prorated refund to on-sale liquor license holders. Carried 7-0.

City Clerk Ann Kasel requested the Council appoint the election judges for the 2020 elections.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution appointing election judges for the 2020 primary and general elections. Carried 7-0.

Police Chief David McKichan requested the Council approve a contract with the school district for two police liaison officers.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adopting a resolution approving a contract with Independent School District No. 492 for police liaison officers. Carried 7-0.

Public Works Director Steven Lang requested the Council approve a point source implementation grant application for a project at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. The grant would cover 80% of eligible costs, up to \$7 million.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Poshusta, adopting a resolution in support of a Point Source Implementation Grant for the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Carried 7-0.

City Clerk Ann Kasel requested the Council authorize a law passed in special session to allow hard liquor at Riverside Arena for Bruins Hockey.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution authorizing special liquor licenses enacted by special legislation during the 2020 legislative session. Carried 7-0.

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 1007 11th Street NW, Telles 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 removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 807 14th Avenue SE, Shaw Property. Carried.

REPORTS

Council Member Baskin thanked the boy scouts for attending the meeting.

Council Member Helle stated she has received a lot of comments about dogs being off leash in Austin. She encouraged people to keep their animals on leashes.

Council Member Poshusta congratulated Craig Clark for being named to the League of Minnesota Cities board.

Council Member-at-Large Austin stated he recently attending a Park and Rec board meeting where they increased ice rental fees and talked about prioritizing parks for the order of mowing.

Mayor Stiehm stated he is confident in the decision to cancel the 4th of July and encouraged people to wear masks.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Austin, seconded by Council Member Fischer, adjourning the meeting to July 20, 2020. Carried.

Adjourned: 5:58 p.m.

Approved: July 20, 2020

Mayor: _____

City Recorder: _____

