



City of Northfield

City Hall
801 Washington Street
Northfield, MN 55057
northfieldmn.gov

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

6:00 PM - REGULAR AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pownell called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

- Present:** 6 - Council Member Brad Ness, Mayor Rhonda Pownell, Council Member George Zuccolotto, Council Member Kathleen Holmes, Council Member Davin Sokup, and Council Member Jessica Peterson White
- Absent:** 1 - Council Member Jami Reister

Also present: City Administrator Ben Martig, Police Chief Mark Elliott, Community Development Director Jake Reilly and City Clerk Lynette Peterson.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pownell noted information in Supplemental Agenda Background Memo No. 1 that included the addition of Agenda Item No. 11 Resolution 2024-045 Consider Resolution Authorizing Application to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Workforce Housing Development Program.

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Holmes, to approve the agenda with the addition of Item No. 11 Res. 2024-045 Consider Resolution Authorizing Application to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Workforce Housing Development Program. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Yes:** 6 - C. Ness, Mayor Pownell, C. Zuccolotto, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, and C. Peterson White

PRESENTATIONS

1. [24-250](#) Quarterly Police Report, Quarter 1, 2024

Police Chief Mark Elliott presented the Quarter 1, 2024 Police report highlighting calls for service, crime data, significant calls and the purchase of a new speed/message trailer. Elliott indicated he will be retiring in September and reviewed the hiring process for the new Police Chief. Elliott answered questions from the Council.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Ness, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - C. Ness, Mayor Pownell, C. Zuccolotto, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, and C. Peterson White

2. [24-251](#) Consider Approval of April 2, 2024 City Council Meeting Minutes.
3. [24-252](#) Consider Approval of April 9, 2024 City Council Work Session Minutes.
4. [24-253](#) Consider Approving Disbursements totaling \$1,748,880.15
5. [24-254](#) Consider Approval of a Temporary Liquor License for The Meetinghouse, LLC DBA Chapel Brewing for May 16, 2024 at the Friends of Downtown Northfield and Riverwalk Market Fair Third Thursday Block Party.
6. [Res. 2024-042](#) Consider Resolution Proclaiming April 26, 2024 as Arbor Day in Northfield.
7. [24-255](#) Consider a Motion to Execute a Stormwater Maintenance Agreement - Carleton College - Lilac Student Housing.
8. [24-256](#) Consider a Motion to Execute a Stormwater Maintenance Agreement - Carleton College - Union Student Housing.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

Emily Ball, 909 Superior Drive, addressed the Council with regarding Emerald Ash Borer preventative injections.

Pat Fick, 519 8th Street E., addressed the Council regarding the 8th Street Reconstruction project.

Julia Tassava, Carleton College student, addressed the Council in support of the ceasefire resolution.

Jenny Hartley, 12436 100th Street E., addressed the Council in support of the ceasefire resolution.

Fatin Abu Al Ardat, 1520 St. Olaf Avenue, addressed the Council in support of the ceasefire resolution.

Jessica Meredith, 902 Maple Street, addressed the Council in support of the ceasefire resolution.

Candance Lutt, 206 Orchard Street North, addressed the Council in support of the ceasefire resolution.

Angie Erickson, 817 First Street West, addressed the Council in support of the ceasefire resolution.

Patricia Owusu, 1712 Humphrey Court, addressed the Council in support of the ceasefire resolution.

Greg Neis, 422 Division Street, addressed the Council in support of the ceasefire

resolution.

Bruce Benson, 670 Green Meadow Court, addressed the Council in support of the ceasefire resolution.

Joe Rutar, 1500 St. Olaf Avenue, Students for Justice in Palestine, addressed the Council in support of the ceasefire resolution.

REGULAR AGENDA

9. [Res. 2024-043](#) Consider Resolution of Support for Ceasefire in Gaza.

Council Members Davin Sokup and George Zuccolotto introduced the item giving statements regarding the reasons they support the resolution supporting the ceasefire in Gaza.

Allison Schmitt, 305 Elm Street, addressed the Council in support of a ceasefire resolution in Gaza.

Fred Rogers, 12436 100th Street E., addressed the Council in support of a ceasefire resolution in Gaza.

Adam Ailahouni, 307 Elm Street, addressed the council in support of a ceasefire resolution in Gaza.

Council Members Ness, Peterson White, Holmes and Mayor Pownell gave statements regarding their positions on the resolution.

A motion was made by Council Member Zuccolotto, seconded by Council Member Sokup, to approve Resolution No. 2024-043 Resolution of Support for a Ceasefire in Gaza. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - C. Zuccolotto, and C. Sokup

No: 2 - C. Ness, and Mayor Pownell

Present-Not Voting: 2 - C. Holmes, and C. Peterson White

Recess

Council recessed at 7:18 p.m. Council meeting resumed at 7:28 p.m.

10. [Res. 2024-044](#) Consider Resolution Referring to the Northfield Economic Development Authority (EDA) to Provide Advisory Role to City Council Related to the 5th & Water and 5th & Washington Redevelopment Projects.

Community Development Director Jake Reilly introduced the item giving background information. City Administrator Ben Martig added additional information. Reilly and Martig answered questions from the Council. The Council added input of items to be added to the resolution.

A motion was made by Council Member Holmes, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to postpone Resolution No. 2024-044 for the Northfield Economic Development Authority (EDA) to Provide an Advisory Role to the City Council Related to Potential Redevelopment in Project Areas Currently Known as the "5th

and Washington Street Redevelopment" and "5th and Water Street Redevelopment" to the May 7, 2024 Council Meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - C. Ness, Mayor Pownell, C. Zuccolotto, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, and C. Peterson White

11. [Res. 2024-045](#) Consider Resolution Authorizing Submittal of an Application to Minnesota Housing for a deferred, forgivable, no-interest loan to develop workforce housing at 1000 Division Street

Council Member Holmes recused herself on this matter stating she has a professional contract with the CAC.

Community Development Director Jake Reilly introduced the item giving background information on the request. City Administrator Ben Martig added additional information regarding the request and the transportation plan for the area. Martig and Reilly answered questions from the Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Sokup, seconded by Council Member Ness, to approve Resolution No. 2024-045 Authorizing Application to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Workforce Housing Development Program. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - C. Ness, Mayor Pownell, C. Zuccolotto, C. Sokup, and C. Peterson White

Recused: 1 - C. Holmes

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

12. [24-258](#) City Administrator's Update.

City Administrator Ben Martig reminded the Council of the Special Council Meeting next Tuesday, April 23.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

C. Sokup - CAC Housing Group.

C. Peterson White - No report.

C. Holmes - Third Thursday event sponsored by Friends of Downtown Northfield and Riverwalk Market Fair.

C. Zuccolotto - No report.

C. Ness - Rice Steele County 911 Meeting; CVB Meeting.

Mayor Pownell - Viking Terrace Resident Association Meeting; Fannie Mae meeting.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Holmes, to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - C. Ness, Mayor Pownell, C. Zuccolotto, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, and C. Peterson White