



City of Northfield

City Hall
801 Washington Street
Northfield, MN 55057
ci.northfield.mn.us

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

6:00 PM - REGULAR AGENDA CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pownell called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Present: 6 - Council Member David DeLong, Council Member Clarice Grabau, Council Member Suzie Nakasian, Council Member Brad Ness, Council Member Erica Zweifel, and Mayor Rhonda Pownell

Absent: 1 - Council Member Jessica Peterson White

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Ness, to approve the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - C. DeLong, C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell

Not Present: 1 - C. Peterson White

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [19-792](#) March 19, 2019 City Council Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Zweifel, to approve the March 19, 2019 City Council Meeting minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - C. DeLong, C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell

Not Present: 1 - C. Peterson White

CONSENT AGENDA

City Administrator Martig introduced the consent agenda items.

A motion was made by Council Member Grabau, seconded by Council Member Zweifel, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - C. DeLong, C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell

Not Present: 1 - C. Peterson White

2. [Res. 2019-028](#) Consider Resolution Approving Plans and Specifications and Order Advertisement for Bids for 2018 Spring Creek Road Bridge Replacement Project.

3. [19-793](#) Consider Motion Approving Temporary and Permanent Easements for the 2018 Spring Creek Bridge Replacement Project.
4. [Res. 2019-029](#) Consider Resolution Accepting Gifts Received by the City of Northfield in 2018.
5. [Res. 2019-030](#) Consider Resolution Proclaiming April 26, 2019 as Arbor Day in Northfield.
6. [Res. 2019-031](#) Consider Resolution Proclaiming April 27, 2019 as Earth Day in Northfield.
7. [19-794](#) Consider Approving Disbursements totaling \$1,012,643.42.
8. [19-795](#) Consider approval of City Council Professional Development and Travel Council Administrative Policy.
9. [19-796](#) Consider Approving Professional Service Agreement for TH 246 and Jefferson Parkway Roundabout Improvement Project.
10. [19-797](#) Consider Community Event In-Kind Grant Support.
11. [19-798](#) Consider Approval of a Temporary Liquor License for Imminent Brewing, LLC for July 27, 2019
12. [19-799](#) Approve Costs for Mayor Pownell to attend the Minnesota Mayors Association 2019 Annual Conference and League of Minnesota Cities Annual Conference.
13. [19-800](#) Consider Approval of Mayoral Board/Commission Appointment.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Ludescher, Northfield, spoke regarding loss of land of native americans. Spoke regarding the annexation agreement with Waterford. Asked Council to end narrative of land grabbing governments and urged council to honor the agreement that was made.

Mar Valdecantos, 6 Fareway Drive and HRC chair. Spoke regarding driver's licenses for all and immigration issues around the world. Noted driver's license for all will help at the State level. Noted many people want driver's licenses, but are not able to get them. Urged Council to approve the resolution of support and noted the HRC has already supported the resolution.

Sam Wilmes, Associate Editor Northfield News, introduced himself and invited people to feel free to reach out to him.

REGULAR AGENDA

14. [19-801](#) Discussion of the Pedestrian, Bike and Trail System Update Recommendations Submitted by Toole Design.

Streets/Parks Manager Behrendt introduced this item. Connor Cox, Toole Design, reviewed the changes made to the draft Pedestrian, Bike and Trail System report and the proposed Mill Towns Trail Route. Mr. Cox answered questions posed by Council. Council asked that the missing sidewalk/trail sections be added at 4th/Prairie/Wall Str. Rd intersection and Forest Avenue adjacent to Odd Fellows Park.

Don McGee, 710 Highland Ave., spoke regarding studies and plans and the need to do something regarding the Safe Routes to School gaps. Spoke regarding the need to study financing. Asked Council to find a way to come up with the money to fix these issues.

15. [19-802](#)

Discuss Resolution Designating Mill Towns State Trail Location in Northfield

Connor Cox, Toole Design, City Administrator Martig, and Streets/Parks Manager Behrendt answered questions posed by Council. Scott Haugen, DNR Division of Parks & Trails, answered questions posed by Council. Haugen spoke regarding design standards for multimodal use, daily traffic volumes and safety of intersections. Haugen noted he couldn't answer questions related to cost because there hasn't been any preliminary design done for either option. Haugen spoke regarding DNR as a funding partner and the designated funding in the bonding package.

Peggy Prowe, 619 E 9th Str., spoke regarding connecting Mill Towns Trail to other trails in the area. Spoke regarding complications of various areas. Feels comfortable with spur going into town. Spoke in support of sidewalks and noted trail will help other parts of community.

Council discussed option a & b, importance of signage and a spur to downtown if option b is chosen, additional or alternate crossing options for Highway 3 such as at Jefferson Parkway, crossing options for Woodley Str., economic benefits of getting people downtown versus potential costs of the options and inquired about getting high level cost estimates for each option.

Recess

Council took a break at 7:43 pm. The meeting resumed at 7:55 pm.

16. [Res. 2019-032](#)

Consider Resolution of Support Driver's License for all Legislation in Minnesota.

City Administrator Martig introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council. City Clerk Little answered questions posed by Council.

Mar Valdecantos, HRC chair, spoke regarding the status of the driver's license for all bill and noted it has been through 4 or 5 committees. State this is not Real ID and there will be language on the driver's license noting it is not for voting.

Olivia Frey, 401 Highland Ave., encouraged council to support the resolutions. Noted MN Human Rights Commission, Sheriffs and other law enforcement, Minnesota Chamber are all supportive of this. Important to pass to for safety reasons. Stated she had collected 232 signatures in community in support of driver's licenses for all. Stated more people will get insurance and it is an overall livability issue.

Lucy Gonzalez Miron, Human Rights Commission member, spoke in support of driver's licenses for all. Noted it is an important issue for the community to be able to get to

appointments and the grocery store. People drive out of necessity and having a driver's license would help everyone to feel safe. Thanked Council for support. Stated driving is not a privilege, but a right.

A motion was made by Council Member Grabau, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, to approve Resolution 2019-032 - Supporting HF1500 Drivers Licenses for All Legislation in the State of Minnesota. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - C. DeLong, C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell

17. [Res. 2019-033](#) Consider Resolution of Support for State of Minnesota Transit Hub Capital Investment Request.

City Administrator Martig introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Zweifel, to approve Resolution 2019-033 - Requesting Minnesota State Capital Investment Bonds for Regional Transit Hub in the City of Northfield. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - C. DeLong, C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

City Administrator Martig provided an update on the Finance Policy Subcommittee meeting noting the group had a grants policy kickoff discussion and followup conversation on amendments to the purchasing policy. Noted audit work is ongoing. Attended a Dakota County Legislative breakfast. Noted the retirement of Deputy Chief Mark Dukatz.

18. [19-803](#) City Administrator's Update.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

C. Ness - Reported on the 911 Joint Powers Board meeting, the NAFRS Finance Committee meeting and noted he was elected chair of this group, and also attended a Rice County Commissioners meeting.

C. Zweifel - Reported on the Climate Action Plan Advisory Board waste subcommittee meeting. Noted the chairs of the subcommittees will be bringing back their top priorities to the full group. Attended the Riverfront Enhancement Advisory Committee meeting. Noted the group reviewed plans that relate to the river.

C. Grabau - Had a tour of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Noted a group will be visiting Minnesota Recycling. Noted the upcoming April 8, 2019 Climate Action Plan Advisory Board all day retreat. Noted she and the Mayor will be meeting with the colleges to begin researching the history of indigenous people in the area. Attended the Council Employment Policy Committee and Finance Policy Subcommittee meetings as well as the retirement party for Deputy Chief Dukatz.

C. Nakasian - none

C. DeLong - Attended retirement party for Deputy Chief Dukatz. Noted it will be hard to replace him. Looking forward to the tour of the NAFRS building. Noted the Home & Garden Show is this Saturday, April 6.

Mayor Pownell - Reported on a multi jurisdiction meeting with Bridgewater Township and the City of Dundas. Noted Rice County was not able to attend.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Ness, to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - C. DeLong, C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell