



City of Northfield

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, June 21, 2016

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

7:00 PM - REGULAR AGENDA CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Graham called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Present: 7 - Mayor Dana Graham, Council Member David DeLong, Council Member David Ludescher, Council Member Suzie Nakasian, Council Member Jessica Peterson White, Council Member Rhonda Pownell, and Council Member Erica Zweifel

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Yes: 6 - Mayor Graham, C. DeLong, C. Ludescher, C. Peterson White, C. Pownell, and C. Zweifel

Not Present: 1 - C. Nakasian

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [16-285](#) June 7, 2016 City Council Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Pownell, to approve the June 7, 2016 City Council Meeting Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Graham, C. DeLong, C. Ludescher, C. Peterson White, C. Pownell, and C. Zweifel

Not Present: 1 - C. Nakasian

2. [16-286](#) June 14, 2016 Work Session Minutes

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve the June 14, 2016 Work Session Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Mayor Graham, C. DeLong, C. Peterson White, C. Pownell, and C. Zweifel

No: 1 - C. Ludescher

Not Present: 1 - C. Nakasian

CONSENT AGENDA

City Administrator Martig introduced the items on the consent agenda and answered questions posed by Council.

C. Nakasian arrived at 7:03 pm.

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

Yes: 7 - Mayor Graham, C. DeLong, C. Ludescher, C. Nakasian, C. Peterson White, C. Pownell, and C. Zweifel

3. [16-287](#) Consider Approving Disbursements totaling \$1,278,336.84

Enactment No: M2016-089

5. [Res. 2016-061](#) Consider Approval to Join the Dakota County Multi-Agency Assistance Group (DC-MAAG) tactical team.

4. [16-288](#) Consider Approval of Updated Personnel Policies for the Employee Handbook

Enactment No: M2016-090

6. [16-289](#) Consider Approving Appointment to the Arts & Culture Commission

Enactment No: M2016-091

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

Norman Butler, 709 Summit Ave., spoke regarding the noise ordinance discussion at the last Council Work Session. Asked for additional time to gather opinions and supporters. Filed a data request for noise complaints and feels that this is information that may help the Council in their decision making. Asked Council to allow more time to analyze information gathered from the data request. Spoke regarding enhancements done to his outdoor area and dollars invested to improve the river view property. Asked the Council to consider the time limitations to be 10 pm Sunday - Thursday and midnight Friday & Saturday.

Victor Summa, 812 St. Olaf, spoke regarding Councilor DeLong's remarks on work session minutes. Spoke regarding lack of information from Work Sessions so discussions are left to recollections of the Council. Noted there is not good records of these meetings and the current work session minutes are incomplete.

Don McGee, 710 Highland Ave., spoke regarding crossing of Washington Street at Fifth Street. Talked about many traffic issues downtown for all. Noted the Planning Commission could be used to put together a framework for a plan to evaluate issues and put together comprehensive plan for the entire downtown.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND RELATED ACTION

7. [16-290](#)**Public Hearing on Assessments for the Woodley Street Reconstruction Project.**

Mayor Graham declared the public hearing open at 7:15 pm. Public Works Director/City Engineer Bennett introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council.

John Cromer, 402 Woodley Str. and Townhome Association President, asked Council for special consideration regarding the assessments. Spoke regarding what other corner lot assessments have been in the past. Noted that they were unaware of the disparity at the time they were assessed for the Winona Street improvements.

Victor Summa, 812 St. Olaf Ave., spoke regarding Councilor DeLong's remarks about 6th Street assessment issue. Spoke regarding needing to fix assessment problems. Asked Council to direct staff to put on an agenda to be fixed so there is a better process that works for the whole City.

A motion was made by Council Member Pownell, seconded by Council Member DeLong, to close the Public Hearing at 7:36 pm with the exception of the two properties in question, 820 Woodley Str. and the Edgewood Townhome Association properties on the 400 Block of Woodley Str. E. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Mayor Graham, C. DeLong, C. Ludescher, C. Nakasian, C. Peterson White, C. Pownell, and C. Zweifel

8. [16-291](#) Public Hearing for Conveyance tax forfeited property, containing Part of Outlot D, Fargaze Meadows

Mayor Graham opened the public hearing at 7:42 pm. Public Works Director/City Engineer Bennett introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council. City Administrator Martig and Community Development Director Heineman answered questions posed by Council.

C. Pownell called for a point of order at 7:51 pm regarding C. DeLong's line of question bordering on harassing. Mayor Graham noted that all Council members are allowed to ask questions and allowed C. DeLong to continue.

C. Peterson White called for a point of order at 7:55 pm. for C. DeLong's rhetorical questions. Mayor Graham agreed.

C. Peterson White called for a point or order at 7:56 pm for C. DeLong's rhetorical questions. Mayor Graham noted that Council Member DeLong represents the area and that he would give the same latitude to other Council members. Mayor Graham asked C. DeLong to stick to questions.

C. Pownell called for a point of order at 7:58 pm and asked that C. DeLong address questions to the Chair and requested that they be on the topic of the public hearing. Mayor Graham asked C. DeLong to address questions to the Chair.

Richard Schulte, Planning Commission Chair, spoke regarding this transaction being a land use matter and rezoning of land and questioned why this issue has not been brought before the Planning Commission for a recommendation.

Victor Summa, 812 St. Olaf Ave., noted that the public wasn't properly informed. Feels it may have been done legally, but not properly. Noted that the process has been going on for well over a year and that input was sought from the Housing & Redevelopment Authority, Park Board, EDA, etc. Noted 2015 action seems to separate 4.3 acres. Noted much input and discussion happened at the October meeting.

Don McGee, 710 Highland Ave., noted he had similar questions to those posed by Council. Asked about expiration date for the conveyance noted in packet. Spoke regarding Planning Commission Chair Schulte's comments regarding conveyance of land and this item not being taken to the Planning Commission.

Director of Public Works/City Engineer Bennett noted that no rezoning has taken place. Community Development Director Heineman answered questions posed by the Council that the Planning Commission held a public hearing in 2015 regarding this issue. However, there was no vote by the Planning Commission.

C. DeLong called for point of order at 8:16 pm about his comments being characterized by C. Peterson White. Mayor Graham noted comments were personal and asked C. Peterson White to continue.

A motion was made by Council Member Ludescher, seconded by Council Member Zweifel, to postpone indefinitely and send back to the Planning Commission for proper review and input. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Mayor Graham, C. DeLong, C. Ludescher, and C. Nakasian

No: 3 - C. Peterson White, C. Pownell, and C. Zweifel

REGULAR AGENDA

9. [Res. 2016-064](#) Consider Resolution Consenting to Private Sale of Lot 3, Block 1, Crossing of Northfield

Community Development Director Heineman introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council.

C. Pownell called for a point of order at 8:32 pm. regarding C. Ludescher's statements. Mayor Graham agreed.

Victor Summa, 812 St. Olaf Ave., asked questions regarding map of Crossings area regarding grassy areas and if that is where building would occur and asked Council to review and how this folds in the Pitsavis development and the other Rebound purchases.

A motion was made by Council Member Pownell, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve the Resolution 2016-064 - Consenting to Private Sale of Lot 3, Block 1, Crossings of Northfield. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Yes:** 6 - Mayor Graham, C. DeLong, C. Nakasian, C. Peterson White, C. Pownell, and C. Zweifel
- No:** 1 - C. Ludescher

Recess

A five minute recess was taken at 8:52 pm.

10. [Res. 2016-062](#) Consider authorization to fund a 2004 Sutphen SPH 100 Aerial Platform Ladder for the Northfield Area Fire and Rescue Services.

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

Gerry Franek, NAFRS Fire Chief, noted discussion on combining aerial ladder with platform truck. A combined truck was tried in the past and it did not work. Explained what ladder and platform trucks are used for. Noted concerning safety features, age, and reliability of existing truck and answered questions posed by Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Pownell, to approve Resolution 2016-062 - Approve the Northfield Area Fire and Rescue (NAFRS) Board Purchase of a 2004 Sutphen Imperial SPH 100' Mid-Mount Platform Aerial Truck. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Yes:** 7 - Mayor Graham, C. DeLong, C. Ludescher, C. Nakasian, C. Peterson White, C. Pownell, and C. Zweifel

11. [Res. 2016-065](#) Consideration to fund Arbor Street Crosswalk Improvements.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Bennett introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council.

William Schroeer, 206 Winona Str., spoke as a parent and stated he was glad additional sidewalk is being kept on north side of drive. Feels that action may be premature before the Jefferson Parkway & 246 study is completed. Suggested delay and study as part of the broader traffic discussion.

C. Zweifel called a point of order at 9:36 pm. regarding C. Ludescher being recognized by the Chair before speaking. Mayor Graham agreed.

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member DeLong, to approve Resolution 2016-065 - Authorizing Trunk Highway 246 and Arbor Street Crosswalk Improvements with the amendment of moving the crosswalk to shorten the distance and include sidewalk on north side of drive.

A motion was made by Council Member Ludescher, seconded by Council Member DeLong, to postpone indefinitely. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 2 – C. DeLong, C. Ludescher.

No: 5 – C. Nakasian, C. Peterson White, C. Pownell, C. Zweifel and Mayor Graham.

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Ludescher, to amend the motion to Approve Resolution 2016-065 as originally proposed. The amendment to the motion failed by the following vote:

Yes votes: 3 - C. DeLong, C. Ludescher and Mayor Graham

No votes: 4 - C. Nakasian, C. Peterson White, C. Pownell, C. Zweifel

A motion was made by Council Member Pownell, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to postpone this item to July 5 to get assurance from School District for sidewalks on both sides of drive. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Graham, C. DeLong, C. Ludescher, C. Peterson White, C. Pownell, and C. Zweifel

No: 1 - C. Nakasian

12. [Res. 2016-063](#) Consider Resolution Authorizing Budget Amendment and Transfer of Funds From Unencumbered Balances for the Crossings Project.

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

C. Pownell called for a point of order at 9:52 pm that C. Ludescher be recognized by the Chair. Mayor Graham noted that he was recognized.

A motion was made by Council Member Pownell, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve Resolution 2016-063 - Authorizing Budget Amendment and Transfer of Funds from Unencumbered Balances for the Crossings Project. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Mayor Graham, C. DeLong, C. Nakasian, C. Peterson White, C. Pownell, and C. Zweifel

No: 1 - C. Ludescher

13. [16-292](#) Finance and Fund Balance Update

Finance Director Lammers introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Ludescher to extend the meeting by five minutes. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - C. Ludescher, C. Peterson White, and C. Pownell

No: 4 - Mayor Graham, C. DeLong, C. Nakasian, and C. Zweifel

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

City Administrator Martig provided an update on the meeting with Waterford Township and noted he would provide information to the Council on July 5. Will be bringing forth Age Friendly resolution in the future. Noted working on budget and interviews of comp study consultants.

14. [16-293](#) Upcoming Agenda Items list

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10 pm.