



City of Northfield

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

6:00 PM - CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pownell called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Present: 7 - Council Member Brad Ness, Mayor Rhonda Pownell, Council Member Jami Reister, Council Member George Zuccolotto, Council Member Kathleen Holmes, Council Member Davin Sokup, and Council Member Jessica Peterson White

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

LISTENING SESSION

No residents were in attendance to speak at the Listening Session.

RECESS

Council recessed at 6:05 p.m. Council meeting resumed at 6:30 p.m.

6:30 PM - APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pownell noted information in Supplemental Agenda Background Memo No. 1.

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

Yes: 7 - C. Ness, Mayor Pownell, C. Reister, C. Zuccolotto, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, and C. Peterson White

PRESENTATIONS

1. [24-590](#)

Oath of Office Ceremony for Northfield Police Chief.

Mayor Pownell introduced Police Chief Jeffrey Schroepfer. City Clerk Lynette Peterson administered the Oath of Office to Police Chief Schroepfer. Police Chief Schroepfer's family pinned his badge. The Council took a photo with him, welcomed and congratulated him.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Yes: 7 - C. Ness, Mayor Pownell, C. Reister, C. Zuccolotto, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, and C. Peterson White

2. [24-591](#) Consider Approval of September 17, 2024 City Council Meeting Minutes.
3. [24-592](#) Consider Approving Disbursements totaling \$3,883,991.33
4. [Res. 2024-098](#) Proclaim October 15 as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day.
5. [Res. 2024-099](#) Request for Northfield Area Fire and Rescue Services (NAFRS) Budget Amendment of \$31,041 for the purchase of portable and mobile radios and a mobile data computer (MDC).
6. [Res. 2024-100](#) Consider Amendments to Council Rules of Business and Appendices.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND RELATED ACTION

7. [24-594](#) Public Hearing for Liquor License for Fielder's Northfield LLC DBA Fielder's Choice Tap and Table at 2300 Gleason Court.

Mayor Pownell declared the public hearing open at 6:43 p.m. City Clerk Lynette Peterson introduced the item. Naim Vrangalla, owner of Fielders Northfield LLC, addressed the Council giving background information regarding their experience in the restaurant business.

A motion was made by Council Member Holmes, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to close the Public Hearing at 6:47 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Ness, Mayor Pownell, C. Reister, C. Zuccolotto, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, and C. Peterson White

8. [24-595](#) Consideration of New Liquor License for Fielder's Northfield LLC DBA Fielder's Choice Tap and Table at 2300 Gleason Court.

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve the on-sale and Sunday liquor license for Fielder's Northfield LLC dba Fielder's Choice Tap and Table at 2300 Gleason Court. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Ness, Mayor Pownell, C. Reister, C. Zuccolotto, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, and C. Peterson White

REGULAR AGENDA

9. [Ord. 1067](#) Consideration of Approval of the First Reading of Ordinance 1067 Text Amendments Related to Sign Regulations in the Historic-Overlay District in Chapter 34 - Land Development Code of the Northfield City Code.

Community Development Director Jake Reilly introduced the item giving background information on the text amendments for the changes to Ordinance No. 1067 amending Northfield City Code, Chapter 34 - Land Development Code. The amendments address sign shape changes, color changes, coordination of colors and font changes, physical

relief changes, ghost signs, moving sign changes and major work vs. minor work changes. Reilly answered questions from the Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Sokup, to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 1067 Amending Northfield City Code, Chapter 34 - Land Development Code with the recommended Alternate No. 4 wording.

An amended motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Holmes, to remove any reference to fluorescent colors from Ordinance No. 1067.

The amended motion carried by the following vote:

- Yes:** 6 - C. Ness, C. Reister, C. Zuccolotto, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, and C. Peterson White
- No:** 1 - Mayor Pownell

The original motion carried by the following vote:

- Yes:** 7 - C. Ness, Mayor Pownell, C. Reister, C. Zuccolotto, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, and C. Peterson White

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

10. [24-596](#) City Administrator's Update.

City Administrator Ben Martig gave an update on construction projects, economic development and other information regarding the City.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

*C. Sokup - EQC Meeting; Federal Reserve Presentation in Minneapolis.
C. Peterson White - EDA Meeting; 5th and Washington Open House; Friends of Downtown Northfield Meeting.
C. Holmes - EDA Meeting; PRAB Meeting.
C. Zuccolotto - HRA Meeting.
C. Reister - Northfield Hospital Quality Committee Meeting; NAFRS Meeting; Hospital Board Meeting; Thank you to those who worked on Jefferson Parkway.
C. Ness - Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Committee; NAFRS Meeting; Riverside Park Meeting; 5th and Washington Open House.
Mayor Pownell - 5th and Washington Open House; Hospital Board Meeting; Federal Reserve Presentation in Minneapolis; EDA Meeting.*

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Yes:** 7 - C. Ness, Mayor Pownell, C. Reister, C. Zuccolotto, C. Holmes, C. Sokup, and C. Peterson White