



City of Northfield

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Tuesday, January 3, 2017

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

7:00 PM - REGULAR AGENDA CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pownell called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Present: 6 - Council Member David DeLong, Council Member Suzie Nakasian, Council Member Brad Ness, Council Member Jessica Peterson White, Council Member Erica Zweifel, and Mayor Rhonda Pownell

3. [17-571](#) Oath of Office

City Clerk Little conducted the swearing in of Mayor Rhonda Pownell and Council Members Erica Zweifel, David DeLong and Brad Ness.

15. [17-572](#) Consideration of Election of Mayor Pro Tem.

A motion was made by Council Member Zweifel, seconded by Council Member Ness, to appoint Council Member Jessica Peterson White as the Mayor Pro Tem for 2017. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [17-587](#)

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Zweifel, to approve the December 6, 2016 City Council Meeting Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

2. [17-588](#)

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Ness, to approve the December 13, 2016 City Council Meeting Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

PRESENTATIONS

Rob Hardy, Poet Laureate, read a poem for the 2017 Council. The poem was written in memory of the first woman elected to the Rice County Board of Commissioners Molly Woehrlin.

4. [17-573](#) Poet Laureate Rob Hardy's new poem for the 2017 Council sessions

CONSENT AGENDA

C. Nakasian arrived at 7:13 pm.

City Administrator introduced the items on the consent agenda.

Victor Summa, 812 St. Olaf Ave., congratulated the Mayor on her list of appointments. Asked that the names of the appointees be read.

Darrin Stowe, past Commander of Northfield VFW, spoke regarding the VFW appropriating funds for the NAFRS Heavy Rescue Truck. Noted they have donated funds every 10 years for rescue vehicles. Asked Council to transfer the title to NAFRS to be used as a trade for the new truck.

Jon Denison, 1108 Highland Ave., spoke regarding having names read on the items on the consent agenda.

Mayor Pownell read the names of those appointed to boards/commissions.

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

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

9. [17-574](#) Consider Approving Disbursements totaling \$2,719,214.22
5. [17-575](#) Consider Authorizing Execution of Addendum to the Recreation Funding Donation Agreement with Northfield Hospital & Clinics.
6. [17-576](#) Consider Designation of Official Newspaper.
7. [17-577](#) Consider Designation of Official Depository for the City of Northfield.
8. [17-578](#) Approve Board/Commission Appointments
10. [Res. 2017-001](#) Consider Resolution Creating Northfield Ice Arena Advisory Board.
11. [17-579](#) Consider Transferring Title of Lance Heavy Rescue Truck to the Northfield Area Fire and Rescue Service (NAFRS).
12. [17-580](#) Consider Approval of Updated Joint Powers Agreement with the Cannon River Drug and Violent Offender Task Force

13. [17-581](#) Consider Approval of Liquor Licenses for Chapati Corporation - 214 Division Str. S.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

Victor Summa, 812 St. Olaf Ave., spoke regarding a closed meeting called without City Council activity and input and approval of the personnel policy regarding immigration. Asked Council to do better with transparency and following procedure.

Jim Flaherty, 14825 Falk Ave., spoke regarding looking for new locations for a new Fire Department and new Liquor Store and the length of time that has been spent on this. Spoke regarding federal funding being threatened for sanctuary cities.

REGULAR AGENDA

18. [17-582](#) Presentation of Ice Arena Condition Assessment.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Bennett introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council. Mark Hayes, ATS&R, presented information on the facility assessment of the Northfield Ice Arena and answered questions posed by Council.

14. [Res. 2017-002](#) Consider Resolution Declaring Vacancy to Exist for Council Member At-Large Position.

City Administrator Martig introduced this item.

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Ness, to approve Resolution 2017-002 - Declaring a Vacancy to Exist in the Office of Council Member At-Large with Term Expiring December 31, 2018. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

17. [17-583](#) Consider Approval of Council Vacancy, Interview and Appointment Process

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

Victor Summa, 812 St. Olaf Ave., spoke about voting in a block. Asked Council to discuss value of paper ballots without discussion. Feels Council should spend more time deciding the process. Suggested the Council have a Special Election in the future closer to the time of a vacated seat rather than appointments.

City Attorney Hood answered questions posed by Council.

Council Members were asked to send any amendments or additional questions to the City Administrator Martig and City Clerk Little by 8 am on Thursday.

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, to approve the vacancy, interview and appointment process as attached. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

16. [17-584](#)

Consider approving Change Order No. 2 for East Cannon River Trail Project.

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

Peggy Prowe, 619 9th Str. E., encouraged Council to complete the trail to serve the community. Spoke regarding health and tourism benefits of the trail.

At 8:51 pm, a point of order was called for by C. DeLong regarding Mayor Pownell asking Public Works Director/City Engineer Bennett to answer questions posed by C. DeLong. Mayor Pownell asked Public Works Director/City Engineer Bennett to continue answering the questions.

City Attorney Hood recommended adding "contingent upon City of Northfield funding" to the amendment of the motion.

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Zweifel, to approve authorizing Change Order No. 2 for the East Cannon River Trail, City Project No. 2011 STRT A10 with Crane Creek Asphalt for \$136,322.60 and a park fund transfer of \$63,000 to the project.

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Zweifel, to amend the motion by deleting the words "and a park fund transfer of \$63,000 to the project."

A motion was made by C. Ness, seconded by C. Zweifel, to amend the motion to add the words "and contingent upon City of Dundas approval."

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 – C. DeLong, C. Nakasian, C. Ness and C. Peterson White

No: 2 – C. Zweifel and Mayor Pownell

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Ness to amend the motion by adding the words "and contingent upon City of Northfield funding." All in favor. Motion carried.

Vote on the motion as amended Authorizing Change Order No. 2 for the East Cannon River Trail, City Project No. 2011 STRT A10 with Crane Creek Asphalt for \$136,322.60, contingent upon City of Dundas approval and contingent upon City of Northfield funding, carried by the following vote:

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

TMP-2601

Funding for Change Order No. 2 East Cannon River Trail Project

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve a Park Fund transfer of \$63,000 for Change Order No. 2 for the East Cannon River Trail. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Peterson White, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell

No: 1 - C. DeLong

19. [17-585](#)

Review of Resolution Related to Fire Hall Project.

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

Motion to Extend Meeting

During the discussion of the Fire Hall Project, a motion was made to extend the meeting until 10:05 pm.

A motion was made by Council Member Zweifel, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to extend the meeting until 10:05 pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Peterson White, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell

No: 1 - C. DeLong

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

City Administrator Martig provided information on upcoming council items for the Special Meeting next week. Noted Special City Council Meeting noticed to allow for filling the vacancy if needed. Other items on the agenda will be discussion only items. Spoke regarding purchase agreement on property at 1700 Dundas Boulevard. Noted discussion of the process of strategic planning would take place in February.

20. [17-586](#)

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Ness, to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

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