City of Northfield

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

Meeting Minutes
City Council

Tuesday, July 5, 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

Council requested to move items 4 & 6 from the consent agenda to the regular agenda and to add C. Nakasian's request to item 4.

A motion was made by Council Member Pownell, seconded by Council Member Zweifel, to approve the agenda as revised by moving items 4 and 6 to the regular agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Not Present: 1 - C. Peterson White

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Pownell, to approve the June 21, 2016 City Council Meeting Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Not Present: 1 - C. Peterson White

1. 16-295 June 21, 2016 City Council Meeting Minutes

CONSENT AGENDA

City Administrator Martig introduced the items on the consent agenda.

C. Peterson White arrived at 7:02 pm.

A motion was made by Council Member Pownell, seconded by Council Member DeLong, to approve the consent agenda items. 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

2. 16-296 Consider Approving Disbursements totaling $1,130,081.60

Enactment No: M2016-097

3. 16-297 Consider Approving Appointment to the Mayor's Youth Council

Enactment No: M2016-098

5. Res. 2016-066 Consider Approval of the Service Agreement with Cannon River Offroad Cycling and Trails (CROCT) to Perform Various Trail Building and Maintenance Activities in Sechler Park

7. 16-299 Consideration of Declaring Excess Property Aerial Fire Truck.

Enactment No: M2016-099

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

Griff Wigley, 1133 Heritage Dr., Marty Larson, 912 Meadowview Drive, thanked Council and staff for the work done on the CROCT agreement.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND RELATED ACTION

8. 16-300 Continued Public Hearing on Assessments for the Woodley Street Reconstruction Project.

Mayor Graham declared the public hearing open at 7:04 pm.

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

John Cromer, 402 Woodley Street E., thanked City Administrator Martig for the supplemental memo. Asked Council for a fair assessment and valuation for their property. Stated appreciation for the work done on the assessment and the opportunity to come before Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Pownell, to close the Public Hearing. Motion carried by the following vote:

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

9. Res. 2016-068 Consideration to Adopt Findings Related to Assessment Objection for Woodley Street Reconstruction City Project 2013STRT - A18.

A motion was made by Council Member Pownell, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, to approve the Resolution 2016-068 - Passing upon objection to proposed special assessment for edgewood townhomes with alternative # 2 in the amount of $8,570. 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

REGULAR AGENDA

4. 16-298 Consider Approving Costs for Mayor Graham, Youth Delegates and Youth Chaperone to Attend the National League of Cities Conference.

City Administrator Martig introduced this item. Mayor Graham provided information and answered questions posed by Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Pownell, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, that the Northfield City Council approves reimbursement of costs for the transportation, registration, lodging and miscellaneous expenses for Mayor Graham, two youth delegates, and one youth chaperone to attend the National League of Cities Conference in November 2016, in the estimated amount of $6,500. The motion carried by the following vote:

Enactment No: M2016-093

TMP-2172 Approve Registration Fee Costs For Councilor Nakasian for the National League of Cities Conference

A motion was made by Council Member Pownell, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve the request for Councilor Nakasian to attend the National League of Cities Conference in Pittsburg for a cost for registration fees of $545. 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

Abstained: 1 - C. Nakasian

Enactment No: M2016-094

Recess

The meeting was recessed at approximatly 7:45 pm due to the storm. The meeting was called back to order at 8:07 pm.

6. Res. 2016-067 Consideration of Resolution Approving State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements with the City of Northfield on Behalf of Its City Attorney and Police Department.

C. Nakasian left the meeting during the recess at approximately 7:45 pm.

City Administrator introduced this item and answered questions posed to Council. City Attorney Hood answered questions posed by the Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Pownell, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve Resolution 2016-067 - Approving State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements with the City of Northifeld on behalf of its City Attorney and Police Department.

A motion was made by Council Member Zweifel, seconded by Council Member Ludescher, to postpone this item to the next meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No: 2 - C. Peterson White, and C. Pownell

Not Present: 1 - C. Nakasian

10. Res. 2016-069 Consideration to fund Arbor Street Crosswalk Improvements.

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

Mar Valdecampos, 6 Fareway Drive, noted the 246 Solutions Group was concerned with safety and feel that painting of lines is not enough. Noted that she spoke to Rice County about the County Road 1/246 intersection. Suggested waiting until study is done to start making improvements. Feels beacons are a must.

Wil Schroeer, 206 Winona, thanked Council for their work. Spoke regarding incremental safety benefit for relatively low cost. Encouraged Council to pursue improvements before results of study. Noted that this project has the beginnings of nice gateway.

A motion was made by Council Member Zweifel, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve Resolution 2016-069 - Authorizing Trunk Highway 246 and Arbor Street crosswalk improvements.

A motion was made by Council Member Delong, seconded by Council Member Pownell, to amend the resolution by adding #3 to the Now Therefore Be It Resolved clause, the City Council authorizes the City Engineer to implement option 1 (temporary bumpout) if cost savings are available. The motion carried by the following vote:
Yes: 6 -

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

11. 16-304 Consider Job Classification and Compensation Study Consultant Contract

Human Resources/Communications Manager Mahowald introduced this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Pownell, seconded by Council Member DeLong, that the Northfield City Council approves Victoria McGrath, Ph.D., SPHR, McGrath Human Resources Group, to conduct the Job Classification and Compensation Study, and authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the contract. 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

Enactment No: M2016-095

12. 16-301 Consideration of Waterford Township Settlement Agreement Regarding Annexation Agreement.

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

A motion was made by Council Member Zweifel, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, that the Northfield City Council directs Mayor Graham and City Staff to consider negotiating a new orderly annexation agreement with Waterford Township in addition to the settlement and release agreement between the City and Waterford Township as outlined in Council Member Zweifel's motion dated February 1, 2016. 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

Enactment No: M2016-096

13. Ord. 979 Consider Amendment to City Code Chapter 10 - Animals

Council Member Ludescher recused himself from this item.

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

David Ludescher, attorney for Helen Edell, noted that he has appeared before Council twice to ask for a permit. Judge Neuville ruled that the Council was wrong both times that it was unconstitutional to deny the permit. Asked Council to reverse the previous decision and stated that the Council should have given his client a permit. Noted that he was asking for a third time for a permit and the dog is important to his client.

City Attorney Hood answered questions posed by Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Zweifel, seconded by Council Member Pownell, to approve the Frist Reading of Ordinance No. 979 - Amending City Code Chapter 10 - Animals, Article II: In General, Division 1. - Generally, Sec. 10-39 - Permit to Keep. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Not Present: 1 - C. Nakasian

Recused: 1 - C. Ludescher

TMP-2174 Consider Permit to Keep More Than Three Animals

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Mayor Graham, to approve a permit for Helen Edell to keep more than three animals over 3 months of age.

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Mayor Graham, to amend the motion to include: a. Permits would only be valid for twelve months from issuance; and b. Proof of current rabies vaccination to be maintained in compliance with Section 10-35 of City Code. The motion failed on the following vote:
Yes: 2 - C. DeLong and Mayor Graham
No: 3 - C. Peterson White, C. Pownell, C. Zweifel
Recused: C. Ludescher, Not present: C. Nakasian

Vote on original motion, the motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Mayor Graham, and C. DeLong

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

Not Present: 1 - C. Nakasian

Recused: 1 - C. Ludescher

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

C. Peterson White - Reported on the CVB meeting including the mini road trip blogger, inn keepers meetings, event hosting Tourism Directors in September, hosting joint meeting with the NDDC and upcoming marketing professionals meeting. Noted the CVB is hearing interest from movie folks about Northfield and the Board is excited about the brewery buzz.
C. DeLong - Reported on attendance at Donah Broadhead's retirement party and celebration of her 42+ years of service to the City.
C. Zweifel - Attended workshops in Minneapolis sponsored by HUD focused on solar, renewables and how to get to low income households. Reported on Department of Energy Solar Garden program and ideas of a solar project on a brownfield site.
C. Ludescher - None
C. Pownell – Reported on the LMC Annual Conference. Noted that it was a joint conference with the Alliance for Innovation. Provided for a great opportunity to hear what other cities across the nation are doing. Attended sessions on racial equity and changing demographics. Noted that the LMC has hired former Northfield employee Melissa Reeder as a Chief Information Officer.
Mayor Graham – Reported on the Northfield Promise meeting and data on how Northfield compares to State statistics. Attended the NAFRS meeting on budget. The discussion will continue to discuss this month. The Board created an ad hoc committee to look at an administrator position for NAFRS. Currently testing pilings on the building. Reported on the Hospital Board meeting. The Hospital will be coming to the Council to discuss conduit financing.

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

City Administrator Martig noted the holiday weekend was pretty quiet from a law enforcement standpoint. Noted the City has received some fireworks feedback on show location and length. Welcome additional feedback. Appreciates Council patience on packets and is working on meeting the Thursday delivery schedule. Working on a number of items and projects. Reviewed the upcoming meeting items.

14. 16-303 Upcoming Agenda Items list

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to adjourn the meeting at 10:01 pm. 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