



City of Northfield

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Tuesday, November 19, 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

Mayor Pownell noted the items on the supplemental memos including moving item #11 after item #12 and removing item #13.

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [19-1189](#) November 5, 2019 City Council Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Zweifel, to approve the November 5, 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

PRESENTATIONS

2. [19-1190](#) Swearing In New Police Officer- Champagne Eiklenborg.

Police Chief Monte Nelson introduced Champagne Eiklenborg. City Clerk Little conducting in the swearing of Patrol Officer Champagne Eiklenborg.

3. [19-1191](#) Presentation Update on Housing & Redevelopment Authority.

Housing Coordinator Atchison introduced this item and provided an update on the Housing and Redevelopment Authority's work in 2019, the 2020 proposed budget, and current and anticipated projects. Atchison answered questions posed by Council.

4. [19-1192](#) Presentation Update on Economic Development Authority

Economic Development Coordinator Carlson introduced this item and presented information on the Northfield Economic Development Authority's work in 2019, the 2020 proposed budget, and other projects completed. Carlson answered questions posed by Council.

CONSENT AGENDA

City Administrator Martig introduced the items on the consent agenda.

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, 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

5. [19-1193](#) Consider Community Event In-Kind Grant Support.
6. [19-1194](#) Consider Approving Disbursements totaling \$1,425,012.87
7. [Res. 2019-120](#) Consider approving designation of City of Northfield polling places for 2020.
8. [Res. 2019-121](#) Approve Resolution accepting the Rice County All Hazard Mitigation Plan.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND RELATED ACTION

9. [19-1195](#) Public Hearing to certify 2019 Delinquent bills.

Mayor Pownell opened the public hearing at 6:55 pm. Finance Director Angelstad introduced this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, to close the Public Hearing at 6:56 pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

10. [Res. 2019-122](#) Consider certifying delinquent charges to taxes payable 2020.

A motion was made by Council Member Zweifel, seconded by Council Member Ness, to approve Resolution 2019-122 - Certifying Delinquent Charges to Taxes Payable 2020. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

REGULAR AGENDA

12. [19-1197](#) Discussion of FiftyNorth Phase I Completion Report and Discussion of Phase II NCRC Building Planning.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Bennett introduced this item. Lynne Pederson,

FiftyNorth, reviewed a summary of the objectives and findings from the Phase 1 planning work. Noted the findings of Phase 1 included that more space is needed and a connection to the community is important to what they do and who they serve. Moving to Phase 2 to assist with space planning, space programming, and needs at the NCRC for current tenant organizations. Bennett reviewed the process moving forward. Noted Community Services will be vacating the building in 2020. Reviewed proposed process, committee to review and guide process, schedule, and future phases such as financing and remodel and/or construction. Bennett and Pederson answered questions posed by Council.

11. [19-1196](#)

Review Proposed Ordinance Amending Northfield City Code, Chapter 30 - Health Care and Sanitation, Article II. - Tobacco (Tobacco 21 Ordinance) and Consider Motion Approving Meeting Date for First Reading of the Proposed Ordinance.

City Administrator Martig introduced this item. Michelle Dumonceaux, member of NASAP, teacher and parent. Spoke regarding work that has been done since the group started discussing T21 in August 2017. Spoke regarding the impact on students in High School. Shelly Dickinson, member of NASAP and professor at St. Olaf. Spoke regarding nicotine addiction and youth. Reviewed data related to vaping statewide and in Northfield. Tracy Ackman Shaw, Rice County Public Health Educator, spoke regarding the eCigarette epidemic. Noted 95% of current smokers started before the age of 21. Showed examples of devices. Spoke regarding policy impact on initiation, research, access and by changing the age gap to 21 helps remove the source of how students access tobacco and related products. Reviewed statistics on T21 noting there are 54 communities that have passed T21, 18 counties, and an additional 25 cities currently having conversation regarding making the change. NASAP youth members Belinda Zubia, Nancy Vega, and Brekken Modory spoke regarding T21, noted it is common for 18 year olds to supply to underage youth at the High School and Middle School, thanked City Council for taking the time to discuss Tobacco 21, noted vaping is prevalent for youth and teens are asking for help in stopping the trends with vaping, raising the age to 21 will stop distribution at school. Members noted they have seen the effects that vaping has had on family members and friends. Liz Heimer, American Lung Association, noted she specializes in tobacco control policies and stated we are running out of time with this youth epidemic and cannot wait for the State to act. Noted action by communities will help compliment the state movement by influencing legislators. Spoke regarding real addiction for youth. Katie Reed, Coordinator for Rice County Chemical Health Coalition and support services for NASAP. Requested Council make the proposed changes to the ordinance. City Administrator Martig noted the committee and staff reviewed a host of changes. Staff is also working on a resolution of support to approve at adoption to send to the Legislature related to items such as flavors for asking for legislation to prohibit on a statewide basis. Members answered questions posed by Council.

Council discussed the League of Minnesota Cities webinar on T21 and the mention of prohibition until age 25. Members noted nationwide a few places have banned the sale of tobacco altogether, but no adoption of age 25 restrictions have taken place. To-date, no Rice County cities that have approved T21. However, Rice County is discussing. Chief Nelson answered questions posed by Council.

Council spoke regarding sending a letter to neighboring cities encouraging consideration of T21, getting additional information regarding flavor restrictions instituted by other communities, whether there is interest in T25 to come back as an option and thanked NASAP for their work.

The Council took a break at 8:10 pm. The meeting resumed at 8:18 pm.

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Zweifel, to approve the timeline to have the First Reading of the proposed Ordinance Amending Northfield City Code, Chapter 30 - Health Care and Sanitation, Article II. - Tobacco (Tobacco 21 Ordinance) on January 7, 2020. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

14. [19-1199](#) Consider a Resolution Amending Budget for Consulting Services to Explore Community Recreation Needs Analysis.

City Administrator Martig introduced this item and noted that there is no need to consider a budget amendment. It is unlikely that costs would be incurred in 2019 related to this item. There are funds budgeted in the 2020 budget.

15. [19-1200](#) Discussion of 2020-2021 Budget and Levy.

City Administrator Martig introduced this item. Martig highlighted items from the last work session, reviewed potential location areas for HCI playground grant, reviewed proposed levy, positions included and noted materials are being prepared for 9.4% levy for the public hearing and resolutions. Mayor Pownell noted 9.4% is what will be presented. If council members, want other options, they should get to staff in advance of the meeting so there is time to prepare.

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

16. [19-1201](#) City Administrator's Update.

City Administrator Martig noted City offices will be closed Thursday and Friday next week for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Reminded all of the December 5 Holiday Social.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

C. Nakasian - No report.

C. Zweifel - Reported on the Riverfront Enhancement Committee meeting and noted it is going well. Attended the CAPAB final meeting and the Recycling Association of Minnesota Conference where she presented on the collaboration between the CAC, Carleton and City reducing food waste with the Food Recovery Project. The Governor and Commissioner of MPCA are looking at it as a model to replicate elsewhere in Minnesota. Attended a presentation on recycling and how to improve recycling. Noted the consultant reported the best way to improve recycling is to reduce contamination. Noted going to weekly recycling does not improve recycling with costs rising 40% for weekly collection and amount of recycling being picked up only increasing 11%. Noted some communities are starting to do separate glass from commingled recycling. Entrepreneurs willing to take glass if separated.

C. Ness - Attended the Chamber Manufacturers Luncheon where Xcel Energy spoke regarding savings on plans for businesses in community. Attended the 911 Joint Powers Board meeting and a farewell reception for Scott Tempel.

C. Grabau - Attended CAPAB meeting, initial HCI meeting on playground equipment and a community solar garden visit.

C. DeLong - Attended Veterans Day program at the Middle School. Noted tax statement received today showing an increase in taxes and increase of valuation on house.

Mayor Pownell - Asked members to mark calendars for the December 5 Holiday Social.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Ness, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

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