



City of Northfield

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

Meeting Minutes - Final City Council

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

6:00 PM - REGULAR AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

- Present:** 6 - Council Member Greg Colby, Council Member David DeLong, 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

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [17-792](#) April 4, 2017 Joint City Council, Planning Commission, Economic Development Authority Work Session Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Colby, to approve the April 11, 2017 Joint City Council, Planning Commission, Economic Development Authority Strategic Planning Meeting Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

2. [17-793](#)

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Ness, to approve the April 18, 2017 City Council Meeting Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

PRESENTATIONS

3. [17-794](#) Presentation on Youth First Initiative

City Administrator Martig introduced this item. HCI Director Zach Pruitt, HCI Youth Engagement Coordinator Meleah Follen, and HCI Coordinator Ashley Anderson provided an update on the Youth First Initiative, youth engagement, youth health and youth future. This is a three-year public-private partnership through the end of the 2017-2018 school year. There are currently 81 youth appointed to local boards/commissions, with the largest applicant pool ever for the upcoming appointments. Representatives provided information on Northfield's YouthBank

Chapter, youth health initiatives including working with the Northfield Hospital & Clinics on Naloxone, and the TIP 411 text based anonymous reporting system, and Youth Future. Noted the Northfield Public Safety Explorer program, 54 internships with a variety of local partners, and the Business and Technical Trades Career Exploration Day on May 12 at the Northfield Middle School. Provided information on Tri-City Bridges to the Future partnership with Faribault and Red Wing targeting at high-risk youth with bridging support for GED and future career. Noted expanded partnerships with Riverland Community College with the hope to offer courses locally. Representatives answered questions posed by Council and thanked Council for willingness to partner on efforts.

4. [17-795](#) Presentation Proclaiming May 7-13, 2017 as National Travel and Tourism Week

City Administrator Martig introduced this item. Northfield Area Chamber of Commerce Director of Tourism Lisa Peterson presented information on National Travel & Tourism Week May 7-13, 2017 and the economic impacts that tourism has on the community. Ms. Peterson encouraged everyone to attend the 2017 Hospitality General Membership Luncheon to celebrate National Travel Tourism Week on May 9 at the Northfield Golf Course from 11:30-1:00 pm. The event will include a presentation of the 2nd annual Northfield Excellence in Tourism award winners.

5. [17-796](#) Presentation by the Northfield Downtown Development Commission & Northfield Roundtable.

City Administrator Martig introduced representatives from the NDDC and Northfield Roundtable. Dave Neuger, Charlie Kyte & Will Schroeer presented information on NDDC's Vision for Downtown Group and The Northfield Roundtable. The group presented next steps to develop a work plan around ideas. Noted the intent is for the City to be partners in many of the items. Members answered questions posed by Council and invited everyone to participate in their meetings.

CONSENT AGENDA

City Administrator Martig introduced the items on the consent agenda.

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

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

6. [17-797](#) Consider Approving Disbursements totaling \$645,327.67

Enactment No: M2017-056

7. [Res. 2017-035](#) Consider Approving Labor Agreement and Memorandums of Understanding between the City of Northfield and International Union Of Operating Engineers Local 70 (Utility Unit).

8. [Ord. 987](#) Consider Ordinance Amendment to Chapter 6 Alcoholic Beverages related to Sunday liquor sales.

A motion was made by Council Member Zweifel, seconded by Council Member Colby, to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 987. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

9. [Res. 2017-036](#) Consideration to Accept Donation of a Little Library at Dresden Hills Park
10. [Res. 2017-037](#) Consider Resolution Proclaiming May 7-13, 2017 as National Travel and Tourism Week

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

Victor Summa, 812 St. Olaf Ave, spoke regarding registered lobbyists to the Minnesota legislature. Stated Ms. Pownell is a registered lobbyist for the League of Minnesota Cities. Referenced State of City address and asked about conflicts. Noted dollars spent by LMC for lobbying.

Kathleen Doran-Norton, Bridgewater Township 10895 Farrel Ct., spoke regarding Environmental Quality Commission and Spring Creek Surface Water Management Plan Summary. Noted completion of project that reinstated flow of water underneath Division Street. Noted project made an improvement within the City. Asked Council to consider working cooperatively moving forward and encouraged Council to continue in the partnership.

Todd Lippert, Senior Minister United Church of Christ 710 3rd Str. W., urged Council to set goal to be carbon free by 2033. Noted installation of solar panels on the church building. Stated he was speaking on behalf of 10 other religious leaders and submitted a signed petition to be carbon free by 2033 from this group.

Bonnie Jean Flom, Chair of Arts & Culture Commission 1009 Greenleaf Ct. , provided a brief update on ACC activities. Thanked the Engineering Department for assistance with sidewalk poetry. Noted the ACC is in the process of creating a public art policy. The ACC has invited the NDDC visioning group to the attend their next meeting. Encouraged those in attendance to take time to view the art in City Hall.

Alan Anderson, 2700 Oaklawn Dr. and member of citizens climate lobby, supported carbon free by 2033. Stated we need to have a goal of heading towards a carbon free future.

REGULAR AGENDA

11. [Ord. 988](#) Ordinance Amendment Related to Establishment of Mayor's Youth Council

City Clerk Little introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council. Meleah Follen answered questions posed by Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Colby, to approve the First Reading of Ordinance No. 988 - Amending Article VI. Boards and Commission - Establishing a Mayor's Youth Council. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Not Present: 1 - C. Peterson White

12. [17-799](#) Update on Hiawathaland Transit Activities and Depot/Transit Hub Site

Public Works Director/City Engineer Bennett introduced this item and provided an update on the Depot/Transit Hub site. Amy Repinski, Hiawathaland Transit, provided an update on transit activities in Northfield and the surrounding counties. Provided information on the HART program, where people are paired with volunteer drivers for transportation in areas that they cannot service by bus. Reviewed operations and facilities and noted we have exceeded the 100,000 mark for ridership. Noted there is now a marketing person working in Northfield. Provided information on future items and expansions into Lonsdale. Received a grant to expand services and have hired a multicultural transit trainer. Adding evening hours 6-9 pm Monday - Friday. A new bus will also be brought to Northfield for expansion. Reviewed short term goals and meeting transit needs into the future.

13. [17-800](#)

Environmental Quality Commission's Visions and Goals for the City of Northfield.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Bennett introduced this item. George Kinney, Kim Smith, Matt Rohn, members of the EQC, provided information on the EQC's Visions and Goals for the City, the Northfield Energy Working Group and reviewed items on the Climate Action Plan. Noted the EQC encourages the Council to adopt a Climate Action Plan and recommends a community wide planning project. Stated this would need some city resources such as a dedicated staff person. Stated they have included a draft resolution and asked Council to adopt to get the project started. Members answered questions posed by Council.

Corrine Smith, 505 College Str., spoke regarding focusing on the people. Spoke in support of environmental initiatives for health of the planet, to look to the greater good and become carbon free by 2033. Spoke in support of youth members to board/commissions.

Carla Hanson, 416 6th Str. E., part of the energy working group, noted appreciation for staff and Council. Spoke in support of the EQC. Asked Council to insert climate change into goals during strategic planning process.

14. [Res. 2017-038](#)

Consideration to Accept Donation and In-kind Contribution to Landscape Honey Bee in Riverside Park

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

Judy Code, 912 Highland Ave., noted she wrote the grant from Northfield Foundation and Northfield Shares. Stated the project resulted from Northfield Roundtable discussions. Trying to be good steward of land. Picked things that would be of interest/important to people of Northfield. Distributed information on decline of bees.

A motion was made by Council Member Zweifel, seconded by Council Member Colby, to approve Resolution 2017-030 - Accepting Donation Received for Landscaped Honey Bee at Riverside Park. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

15. [17-801](#)

Consideration of Meadows Park Naming Process.

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

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

Colby, that the Northfield City Council approves the Meadows Park naming process.

A motion was made by Council Member Zweifel, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, to eliminate (non-living) in lines 3 & 4 of the proposed guidelines. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

The amended motion carried by the following vote:

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

Enactment No: M2017-057

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

City Administrator Martig noted the upcoming strategic planning sessions and provided the following: The community survey is on line with a deadline of Thursday; Paper copies are also available; Background data for the sessions will be coming out on Monday; Council Members are encouraged to complete the SWOT analysis. Noted State of Cities address and Board/Commission Recognition event held last week. Stated the internal work list includes an administrative code on policies and procedures. Noted youth will be attending the LMC annual conference in June. Received e-mail on GARE on speaker series, May 24 6-8 in Bloomington. Council, Human Rights Commission and Leadership Team members are invited.

16. [17-802](#)

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

C. Ness - none

C. Zweifel - Attended board/commission recognition event and liked the format. Attended Earth Day celebration and March for Science. Attended ribbon cutting for Content Bookstore and Pat Lamm Tennis Center dedication. Participated in the HCI breakfast. Thanked community for safe and fun prom weekend.

C. Nakasian - none

C. DeLong - Reported on the age friendly survey committee and progress on the survey. Attended Tanzenwald ribbon cutting. Reported on the Intergovernmental meeting. Noted a Dakota County Sheriff's Deputy attended and talked about theft of mail from mailboxes. Reported on Planning Commission meeting.

C. Colby - Attended Tanzenwald ribbon cutting, intergovernmental meeting and board/commission event. Complimented Mayor Pownell on State of City address. Mayor Pownell - Reported on Ice Arena Advisory Board meeting. Attended Beautify Northfield Coalition meeting where they discussed arts corridor and marketing as a destination. Reported on the EDA meeting where they approved a micro grant on deaf friendly biz and continue looking at the business subsidy policy and updating. This policy will be coming back to council for adoption. The EDA is also reviewing the bylaws. Micropolitan Summit will be June 7. Noted the NDDC entered Northfield into a main street contest. Northfield is in the finals. Encouraged people to vote daily through May 28 at www.mainstreetcontest.com. Northfield could win \$25,000.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Council Member Colby, seconded by Council Member Zweifel, to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

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