



# City of Northfield

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

## Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

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Tuesday, February 18, 2020

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

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### 6:00 PM - REGULAR AGENDA

#### CALL TO ORDER

**Present:** 5 - Council Member David DeLong, Council Member Clarice Grabau, Council Member Suzie Nakasian, Council Member Brad Ness, and Mayor Rhonda Pownell

**Absent:** 2 - Council Member Jessica Peterson White, and Council Member Erica Zweifel

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Mayor Pownell noted the supplemental memo items including the addition of a resolution to the consent agenda Recognizing the Cannon Valley Regional Orchestra's 40th Anniversary. A request was made to move item #9 from consent agenda to the regular agenda. This will be the last item on regular agenda.*

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

**Yes:** 5 - C. DeLong, C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, and Mayor Pownell

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [20-106](#) February 4, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes.

**A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member DeLong, to approve the February 4, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - C. DeLong, C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, and Mayor Pownell

#### PRESENTATIONS

2. [20-107](#) Update on the Cultural Plan Implementation.

*Library/IT Director Jensen introduced Alyssa Melby. Melby provided an update on the Cultural Plan Implementation. Reviewed what they have done and some of the upcoming items they will be working on such as: looking at whether a cultural designation is needed; PARC review committee for roundabout; mural policy, and artists program. Melby 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 Grabau, to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried by the following**

## vote:

Yes: 5 - C. DeLong, C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, and Mayor Pownell

3. [Ord. 1010](#) Consider amendment to Northfield City Ordinance, Chapter 86 - Vegetation, Article 1 Regarding Noxious Weeds.

**The second reading of Ordinance No. 1010 was approved.**

4. [Res. 2020-017](#) Consider Resolution to Accept Public Improvements - Hills of Spring Creek 7th Addition.
5. [Res. 2020-018](#) Consider Resolution to Accept Public Improvements - Hills of Spring Creek 8th Addition.
6. [20-108](#) Consideration of Services Contract with FiftyNorth for Age Friendly Northfield Action Plan Implementation.
7. [20-109](#) Consider Approval of Liquor License Renewals.
8. [Res. 2020-019](#) Consider Approval of Warranty Deeds and Temporary Construction Easement for TH 246 and Jefferson Parkway Roundabout.
10. [20-111](#) Consider Summary Publication of an Ordinance Amending Northfield City Code, Chapter 86 - Vegetation, Article I - Noxious Weeds.
11. [20-112](#) Consider Approving Disbursements totaling \$989,837.60
12. [Res. 2020-020](#) Consider Resolution in Support of the Minnesota Department of Transportation's Request for State General Funds for a Corridor Study of Regional Passenger Rail Service Connecting South Central Minnesota and the Twin Cities on Existing Rail Line Through Northfield.
13. [Res. 2020-021](#) Consider Approval of Resolution Supporting Local Cable Franchising including Public, Educational, and Governmental Access Channels.
14. [20-113](#) Consider Motion accepting the Assignment of TIF Agreement for 5th Street Lofts from Rebound Stencil Development, LLC to 5th Street Lofts, LLC.
15. [Res. 2020-022](#) Consider Resolution of Support Establishing a Policy to Support Improved Energy Performance Standards in the State of Minnesota.
16. [Res. 2020-023](#) Consideration of Resolution Approving a Minor Subdivision of Lot 2 Block 1 of the Locust Development 3rd Addition.
17. [20-114](#) Consider Approval of Proposed Amendments to Strategic Plan.

18. [Res. 2020-024](#) Consider Resolution Supporting Legislation Authorizing Infrastructure Development Fees.
19. [Res. 2020-025](#) Consider Resolution of Support for State Capital Bond Funding for the Might Ducks Grant R-22 Refrigerant System Replacement Grant program.
- [Res. 2020-028](#) Recognizing Cannon Valley Regional Orchestra's 40th Anniversary by Proclaiming March 8, 2020 as Cannon Valley Regional Orchestra Day

## OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

*Brad Shaftner, Library Director of Carleton College and member of the Library Board. Stated he was impressed with Library staff and thanked them for their work. Thanked the City Council for supporting the Library.*

## REGULAR AGENDA

20. [Res. 2020-026](#) Consider a Conditional Use Permit request for up to a 1MW Solar Garden.

*City Planner Schmidt introduced this item and reviewed the CUP request. Public Works Director/City Engineer Bennett answered questions posed by Council. City Administrator Martig answered questions posed by Council. Marta Jensen, Geronimo Energy, answered questions posed by Council. Jensen spoke regarding drainage issues. Noted Berkshire Hathaway is working with St. Olaf to remediate drainage issues at the 5MW site. Noted soil under panels is pervious and allows water to dissipate rather than run off. Noted conditions C & D addressing drainage were added to the current CUP and they will be held to those during the life of the project.*

**A motion was made by Council Member Grabau, seconded by Council Member DeLong, to approve Resolution 2020-026 - Approving a Conditional Use Permit to Allow a Community Solar Garden Up to 1MW in Size.**

**A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Ness, to postpone this item until March 17, 2020. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 4 - C. DeLong, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, and Mayor Pownell

**No:** 1 - C. Grabau

21. [Res. 2020-027](#) Consider Resolution Approving a Reduction in Park Dedication for Fifth Street Lofts.

*Public Works Director/City Engineer Bennett introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council. Scott Koester, Rebound Enterprises, answered questions posed by Council noting the overall development costs of \$13.3 million and related to the open green space along the southern side of the development.*

*Scott Koester, Rebound Enterprises, spoke regarding the project and noted they were not aware of the park dedication fees as part of urban redevelopment and how they arrived at 50% request.*

*City Administrator Martig answered questions posed by Council.*

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member DeLong to approve Resolution 2020-027 - Approving a Reduction in Park Dedication for Fifth Street Lofts.

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Ness, to postpone this item to March 10, 2020. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes:** 4 - C. DeLong, C. Grabau, C. Ness, and Mayor Pownell

**No:** 1 - C. Nakasian

9. [20-110](#) Consider Approval of First Amendment to the Development Agreement for Maple Brook Townhomes

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

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, to approve the First Amendment to the Development Agreement for Maple Brook Townhomes. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Yes:** 5 - C. DeLong, C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, and Mayor Pownell

## ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

*City Administrator Martig noted the Legislative session has started and he will be submitting the resolutions approved by Council. Noted the upcoming LMC legislative conference, NCRC steering committee meeting, and the March 16 State of the City at 6:30 pm. at the Weitz Center.*

22. [20-115](#) City Administrator's Update.

## REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

*C. Nakasian - provided an update on the Riverfront Enhancement Committee and noted the Transportation Committee had a productive meeting. Noted that Hiawathaland Board has approved bus service between Northfield and Faribault to start in March.*

*C. Ness - Attended the CVB meeting today where they discussed tourism and conventions. Noted it is difficult to hold conventions in Northfield due to the lack of adequate space. Attended Chamber legislative dinner in St. Paul and provided information to legislators in attendance.*

*C. Grabau - noted there will be live Spanish and ASL interpretation at the State of the City event. Reminded everyone of the Precinct Caucuses on February 25 and Primary Election on March 3. Noted the Human Rights Commission land acknowledgement statement will be brought forward for Council consideration. Noted this was a joint effort with both Carleton and St. Olaf. Attended Census workshop with other teachers. Noted the significant source of funding and for every person not counted, the State of Minnesota will lose \$3,000 per year. Noted invitations will be in the mail mid-March.*

*C. DeLong - Attended the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Omelette Breakfast fundraiser. Age Friendly Northfield continues to meet and is looking for steering committee and domain team members. Referenced a 2004 council packet regarding changes in the healthcare field and noted perhaps it is time to look at again just as we would at reviewing/updating the comprehensive plan. City Administrator Martig provided an update on the City/Hospital Governance Committee. Noted facilitator has been hired and this*

*topic could be raised during discussions. Next meeting is in early April. DeLong reported on the NCRC Committee meeting where they interviewed consultants for a needs study and information gathering. Information will be forthcoming to keep Council informed. Mayor Pownell - Transportation Committee met on Thursday. Received a presentation from Dakota County. Noted Highway 19 industrial users were in attendance. Committee work is moving forward.*

## **ADJOURN**

**A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Grabau, to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 pm. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - C. DeLong, C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, and Mayor Pownell