



City of Northfield

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

Meeting Minutes City Council

Tuesday, August 16, 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: 6 - Mayor Dana Graham, Council Member David DeLong, Council Member David Ludescher, Council Member Suzie Nakasian, Council Member Jessica Peterson White, and Council Member Rhonda Pownell

Absent: 1 - Council Member Erica Zweifel

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Graham noted the items on supplemental memo.

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

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

Not Present: 2 - C. Nakasian, and C. Peterson White

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [16-364](#) August 2, 2016 City Council Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Council Member Pownell, seconded by Council Member Ludescher, to approve the August 2, 2016 City Council meeting minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Not Present: 2 - C. Nakasian, and C. Peterson White

PRESENTATIONS

2. [16-365](#) Presentation of Life Saving Awards to Officers Klostermeier and Wierson

Police Chief Nelson provided information regarding the Life Saving Awards to Officers Steve Klostermeier and Drew Wierson for their quick and professional response and care of a cardiac arrest victim. Mayor Graham presented the Northfield Police Lifesaving Award to Officers Wierson and Klostermeier for their excellent service and life saving efforts.

C. Nakasian arrived at 7:07 pm.

3. [16-366](#) Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation Presentation (SMIF)

City Administrator Martig introduced Jennifer Nelson, VP of Development for the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF). Ms. Nelson provided information on SMIF and their contributions to the community. Ms. Nelson answered questions posed by Council. SMIF is requesting \$5,800 from the City for 2017.

CONSENT AGENDA

City Administrator Martig introduced the items on the consent agenda.

Betsy Gasior, 809 Aldrich Dr., spoke in support of the Opt Out of Temporary Health Care Dwellings Legislation ordinance. Spoke against mentally ill, elderly and vulnerable adults being allowed to live in temporary structures. Noted that often times these individuals need a higher level of care than living in a temporary situation provides.

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

Yes: 5 - Mayor Graham, C. DeLong, C. Ludescher, C. Nakasian, and C. Pownell

Not Present: 1 - C. Peterson White

4. [Res. 2016-086](#) Consideration to Accept Public Improvements and Approve Final Payment for 2015 Second Street Reconstruction Project (STRT2015-A20).

A motion was made by Council Member Pownell, seconded by Council Member DeLong, to approve the Resolution. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

5. [Ord. 982](#) Opt Out of Temporary Health Care Dwellings Legislation Ordinance

6. [16-367](#) Consider Approving Appointment to the Planning Commission & Zoning Board of Appeals

A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Enactment No: M2016-114

7. [16-368](#) Consider Approving Community Event In Kind Grant Award.

Enactment No: M2016-113

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Flaherty, 14025 Falk Ave., spoke regarding preservation of hunting and fishing. Spoke against the fishing restriction ordinance. Stated this will infringe on constitutional rights.

REGULAR AGENDA

9. [Ord. 981](#) Consider Amending City Code Chapter 50 - Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions Related to Disorderly Conduct, Loud Parties and Noise.

Mayor Graham noted item #8 will be addressed when Bond Counsel arrives.

Police Chief Nelson introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council.

C. Peterson White arrived at 7:25 pm.

Norman Butler, 709 Summit Ave., asked Council to reconsider option 2 (music until 11 pm on Thursday).

Laurie Hoheisel, 407 3rd Str. W., asked Council to reconsider option 2 with music until 11 pm on Thursday. Noted Thursday night is the start of the weekend.

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance 981 - Amending Northfield City Code, Chapter 50 - Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions.

A motion was made by C. Nakasian, seconded by C. DeLong, to amend the motion to extend the hour to midnight for Thursday in the C-1, C-2 and I-1 zoning districts by amending the ordinance to read: 10 pm - 7 am Sunday - Wednesday, between Midnight and 7 am Thursday through Saturday.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

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

The motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 981 as amended carried by the following vote:

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

8. [Res. 2016-087](#) Consider Resolution Awarding Bid from the Sale of Bonds for 2016 Street Project, Fire Trucks, and Wastewater UV Project

Finance Director Lammers introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council. Nick Anhut, Ehlers & Associates, provided information on the bond sale and answered questions posed by Council. Noted favorable results for the bond sale with 7 bids received with the low bid interest rate of 1.32%. Noted the City's AA bond rating was affirmed by S&P and that this rating is one notch above most cities. The City's overall financial performance and financial stability allows for a better rating.

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Ludescher, to approve Resolution 2016-087 - Awarding the Sale of \$2,610,000 General Obligation Improvement and Utility Revenue Bonds, Series 2016C Fixing Their Form and Specifications; Directing Their Execution and Delivery; and Providing for Their Payment. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

10. [16-369](#) Consider Approving Summary Publication of Ordinance No. 981 Amending City Code Chapter 50 - Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions Related to Disorderly Conduct, Loud Parties and Noise.

Police Chief Nelson introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council. Council asked staff to take additional opportunities to let people know about the changes.

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member DeLong, to approve Summary Publication of Ordinance No. 981 – Amending City Code Chapter 50 – Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions Related to Disorderly Conduct, Loud Parties and Noise. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Enactment No: M2016-115

11. [Ord. 983](#)

Consideration of a new Ordinance Restricting Fishing on the Riverwalk Area.

Police Chief Nelson introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council.

Adam Kruse, Lonsdale, noted that he has lived, worked and fished in Northfield all his life. Noted the incident that occurred in April. Hopes all can come to terms and get along.

Laurie Hoheisel, 407 3rd Str S. and owner of Froggy Bottoms, spoke regarding the statement that sand bags were dumped in the river. Noted she paid to have sand bags removed from Froggy Bottoms property. Spoke regarding this being a safety issue. Spoke regarding hooks in umbrellas and lures going past people sitting & dining. Stated that she is not against fishing, but wants people to be safe. She also noted that the flow of the walkway ends at Froggy's.

Brian Kruse, currently lives in Dundas, noted area behind Froggy's is the best area in town for fishing. Asked Council to consider safety net or privacy fence to keep lures out.

Betsy Gasior, 809 Aldrich Dr., noted that she has had fishing lures come close to where they were dining. Noting several people use walkway for dining from other restaurants and general enjoyment in addition to Froggy's. Stated that it is dangerous to allow this sport so close to where people are gathering. Spoke about lawsuits. Stated that she supports fishing and noted other areas are opening up.

Don McGee, 710 Highland, stated that times of best fishing may be when business is not using the outdoor area. Asked council to consider amending to allow for these times.

Cody Kruse, Cannon Falls resident, noted anglers are going to go where fish are. Fisherman in waders will be in the river and casting towards froggy's.

A motion was made by C. DeLong, seconded by C. Peterson White, to postpone the Second Reading of Ord. 983 to the next Council meeting and give direction to staff to provide an adjusted buffer zone, lamp post or a little further, and language on dining hours or when people are present. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - C. DeLong, C. Ludescher, C. Peterson White, and C. Pownell

No: 2 - Mayor Graham, and C. Nakasian

12. [16-370](#) Consider Funding Request from Northfield Senior Citizens for a new sign.

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

Jerry Gegenbach, 1608 Maple Str. Past President of Senior Center Board, noted issues with people trying to find the Senior Center, CAC and Headstart. Stated the current sign isn't visible and is not lighted. Noted a donor has offered to pay for a majority of the new sign. The sign will be in a new location and will have some information from each of the various organizations in the building related to events. Nancy Ashmore, 925 Ivanhoe Dr., noted the sign would say Northfield Community Resource Center across the top. The current proposal for the seven non profits to share equally in time allotted on the sign.

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Pownell, to approve \$7,489 from the Wellness Center "Exterior Maintenance Fund" for contribution toward the purchase of a new digital message board sign. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No: 1 - C. Ludescher

Enactment No: M2016-116

13. [16-371](#) Discussion of the 2017 Budget Request by the Northfield Area Fire & Rescue Services (NAFRS).

City Administrator Martig introduced this item and representatives from NAFRS to present the budget. Bron Scherer, Vice Chair of NAFRS and on Finance Committee. Noted the budget is for NAFRS third full year. Reviewed current and proposed budget. Mr. Scherer and City Administrator Martig answered questions posed by council. City Administrator Martig noted the NAFRS budget would be part of the Council's budget discussions.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

C. Nakasian - Attended meetings of the 911 Call Center Board and Mill Towns Trail Joint Powers Board. Learned of the acquisition of the last piece of property to connect Northfield trail with Faribault trail.

C. Peterson White - Noted the CVB meeting was canceled today. There will be a CVB Retreat next week.

C. DeLong - Attended quarterly intergovernmental meeting. Noted all 4 townships and Rice County Commissioner Jake Gillen were present. Attended Hospital Board meeting. Noted they are working on a new campaign and logo. Congratulated Vintage Band Festival for a great event. Asked about adding short term parking in the area where the bus stop was removed by the Library.

C. Ludescher - Reported on July EDA meeting. Attended Charter Commission meeting. Charter Commission is looking at the City Council and their relationship to the Charter. Noted the Charter Commission received a request on whether the Council has the authority to give away money to Big Ten LLC. Noted that City Administrator Martig is getting information from other Charter cities related to interpretation and enforcement of the Charter.

C. Pownell - none.

Mayor Graham - Reported on the Beyond Yellow Ribbon meeting. BYR now has a network of 300 business, organizations and individuals. Noted the Traveling Wall Vietnam Memorial will be at the Fairgrounds August 31 - September 5. Attended NAFRS meeting. Met with Waterford negotiating team and making progress. Looking at bringing Orderly Annexation Agreement forward before talking about actual dollars. Noted that he has formed a Mayor's Ice Area Task Force. St. Olaf had a presentation on their plans of moving forward with one sheet of ice. Stated that they are open to adding a second sheet. The Task Force is looking at all previous studies.

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

City Administrator Martig noted the upcoming budget meeting for next Tuesday, August 23 at 6 pm at the Police Department training room. Noted there will be an upcoming meeting on the NAFRS taxing district. Will include more information in the Administrators memo. We are currently taking applications for the Economic Development Coordinator. Jasper Kruggel is moving on to the City of LeSueur. The position will be posted soon.

14. [16-372](#)

Upcoming Agenda Items

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Ludescher, to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

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