



City of Northfield

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

6:00 pm Closed Meeting; 7:00 pm Regular Meeting

7:00 PM - REGULAR AGENDA CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Graham called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Rollcall

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

C. DeLong requested that item 12 be moved to the beginning of the regular agenda, followed by the proposed items on the green sheet, resolution on safe inclusive community and discussion on agenda meeting date for a related ordinance review.

C. Nakasian arrived at 7:02 pm.

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Zweifel, to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Not Present: 1 - C. Ludescher

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve the November 1, 2016 City Council Meeting Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Not Present: 1 - C. Ludescher

2. [16-505](#)

PRESENTATIONS

3. [16-506](#)

Police Chief Nelson introduced Ryan Bollig. City Clerk Little conducting the swearing in of Patrol Officer Ryan Bollig.

4. [16-507](#)

Introduction of the City of Northfield's Poet Laureate.

Director of Library & IT Services Jensen introduced Rob Hardy, Northfield's first Poet Laureate. The Poet Laureate is a joint program between the Northfield Public Library and the Arts & Culture Commission. The City recently received notification a \$9,600 SEMAC grant award for this program. Mr. Hardy provided information on program activities since September and read a poem that he wrote following the election.

CONSENT AGENDA

City Administrator Martig introduced the items on the consent agenda.

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

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

Not Present: 1 - C. Ludescher

5. [16-508](#)

Consider Approving Disbursements totaling \$874,558.47

6. [16-509](#)

Consider Approval of New Public Conduct in City Facilities Policy for the Employee Handbook.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lisa Stark, Union Pacific Railroad, presented \$5,000 grant award from the Union Pacific Foundation for the restoration of the depot to the Save the Northfield Depot group. Ms. Stark spoke regarding the leadership and vision of the Save the Northfield Depot group and the support of the City of Northfield.

Victor Summa, 812 St. Olaf Ave., addressed questions to Council Member Pownell regarding conservative views and asked about reconsidering previous votes. Spoke against the NDDC contract and noted that there was nothing new in the packet related to this contract.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND RELATED ACTION

7. [16-510](#)

Public Hearing to certify 2016 Delinquent bills.

Mayor Graham declared the public hearing opened at 7:19 pm. Finance Director Lammers introduced the item and reviewed the process.

C. Ludescher arrived at 7:20 pm.

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to close the Public Hearing at 7:21 pm. 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

8. [Res. 2016-111](#) Consider approving assessing delinquent accounts receivables

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Pownell, to approve Resolution 2016-111 - Certifying Delinquent Charges to Taxes Payable 2017. 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

REGULAR AGENDA

[Res. 2016-115](#) Resolution Affirming the City of Northfield's Commitment to be a Safe, Inclusive, and Welcoming Community For All

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

Victor Summa, 812 St. Olaf Ave., spoke regarding council member comments speaking in the interest of the City of Northfield. Spoke regarding the fear expressed by children and others. Asked about Human Rights Commission and Charter Commission meeting and minute information and noted that it is difficult to find. Applauded Council for taking action on this topic.

Richard DeBeau, Chair of Human Rights Commission, 46 Fareway Dr., spoke regarding testimony of fear and anxiety from affected population. Received numerous reports of acts of hostility and intimidation following the election.

Mar Valdecantos, 6 Fareway Drive and member of the Human Rights Commission, noted that this wasn't created because of President Elect Trump, and wanted to ensure the new Mayor continues the approach started by Mayor Graham. Noted this is a start, but there is a long way to go. Stated Northfield is a wonderful community, but is a fully segregated community. Need to take action to make a united community.

Lucy Velasquez, thanked Council for support, spoke regarding fear of policies stated by the President Elect. Stated that she appreciates the attention, care and sympathy expressed and asked council to keep fighting with them.

Speaker thanked everyone for commitment to the issue and the support for our community. Noted that everyone feels calmer now because of the efforts that have been made and asked for support as we are moving forward. Noted they are hard working families. Referenced compatriots in the audience that are part of the community that would also like to give their opinions and give thanks.

Anthony Bakke, 409 Lincoln Str. N., expressed support for resolution and spoke regarding policing section and division of powers. Stated makes policing better and more transparent.

Kathleen Doran Norton, 10895 Farrell Court, noted Father Dempsey asked her to come, stated that the Hispanic community is an important part of her faith and our entire community. Spoke regarding being a united community.

Arique Aguilar, 1180 Cannon Valley Place, spoke regarding undocumented immigrants and the level of stress that they have dealt with. Noted undocumented immigrants are working hard to fix papers in the community. Feels the process is getting pushed along with added angst. Appreciates support of Police and feels support in the community.

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council

Member Nakasian, to approve Resolution 2016-115 - Affirming the City of Northfield's Commitment to be a Safe, Inclusive, and Welcoming Community for All. 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

Enactment No: Res. 2016-115

16-524

Consideration of Meeting Agenda Date for Ordinance Amendment
Review Related to Employee Authority in Immigration Matters.

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

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to direct staff to bring information back for Council discussion on Tuesday, December 13, 2016. 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

12. Res. 2016-114

Summary of conclusions of the evaluation of the performance of Ben Martig, City Administrator, pursuant to Minn. Stat. Section 13D.05, subd. 3 and consider approval of salary increase.

Human Resources/Communications Manager Mahowald introduced this item. Mayor Graham read the following summary of conclusions regarding the performance evaluation of City Administrator Martig. Mr. Martig has met and exceeded expectations as City Administrator. Mr. Martig has solid knowledge and experience, works hard and has made a significant effort to become knowledgeable of the community and City's operations in a short period of time. Mr. Martig has worked to become active in the community and works well with other City employees, the public and local businesses. The City Council appreciates Mr. Martig's service and dedication to the City, looks forward to continuing its employment relationship with Mr. Martig, and to working towards the betterment of the Northfield community.

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, to approve Resolution 2016-114 - Approving a Salary Increase for City Administrator Ben Martig. 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

Recess

The City Council took a five minute recess at 8:55 pm.

9. Res. 2016-112

Approve Abstract of Votes Cast at the November 8, 2016 General Election

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

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Ludescher, to approve Resolution 2016-112 - Approving Abstract of Votes Cast at the November 8, 2016 City General Election. 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

10. [Res. 2016-113](#) Consideration of Funding 2018 County Road 1 Non-Motorized Improvements.

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

Kathleen Doran Norton, 10895 Farrell Court, Bridgewater Township Supervisor, noted there are 50 residences along where the tunnel and trail along south side have been discussed. Most important thing to residents is that the speed is slowed down. Spoke regarding no Safe Routes to School Plan that includes areas to the south of the Middle School. Stated it would be helpful for Bridgewater, Dundas and Northfield to create a plan that involves the School District in order to take advantage of Federal or State funding. Talked about having a wider shoulder rather than a grade separated trail.

A motion was made by Council Member Zweifel, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve Resolution 2016-113 - County State-aid Highway 1 from TH 3 to TH 246 Non Motorized Improvements with Option 2 that includes 45% of the north half of the underpass for \$74,250; 1/3 of the 45% of the trail improvement on the south side for \$28,500. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No: 3 - Mayor Graham, C. Ludescher, and C. Nakasian

11. [16-511](#) Consideration of 2017 Services Contract with the Northfield Downtown Development Corporation (NDDC).

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

Dan Bergeson, current President of NDDC, thanked Council for considering request. Spoke in favor of scope of services document. Provided status report on new executive director. Noted they are interviewing three candidates and hope to hire within 10 days.

Brett Reese, NDDC Board Member, noted appreciation for work of the City Administrator. Asked Council for support of the agreement.

A motion was made by Council Member Zweifel, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve the attached service contract with the Northfield Downtown Development Corporation (NDDC) in the amount of \$17,500. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - C. Nakasian, C. Peterson White, C. Pownell, and C. Zweifel

No: 3 - Mayor Graham, C. DeLong, and C. Ludescher

13. [16-512](#) Review proposed 2017 Budget, Capital Improvement Plan (2017-2021) and Capital Equipment Plan (2017-2021).

Finance Director Lammers introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council. City Administrator Martig provided information regarding amendments needed, asked for input from Council and answered questions posed by Council.

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

City Administrator Martig provided updates on the following: Age Friendly Community meeting on Wednesday; NAFRS presentation on construction project proposal on December 8; noted the classification and compensation study is underway; an Ice Arena Task Force page has been created under boards/commissions page with agendas and minutes added; there will be a public meeting in mid December on the 246 study; working on a change order for the East Cannon River Trail Project for the construction delay due to the weather; draft Waterford agreements were sent to the township, will be following up regarding possible action on December 6; will be discussing engagement with boards/commissions in the new year, will be serving as the staff liaison for the Human Rights Commission and Charter Commission. Will have discussions with both groups about getting agendas and minutes posted.

14. [16-513](#)

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Council Member Ludescher, seconded by Council Member Zweifel, to adjourn the meeting at 9:59 pm. 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