



City of Northfield

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Tuesday, June 20, 2017

5:00 PM

Council Chambers

5:00 pm - Closed Meeting; 6:00 pm Regular Meeting

6:00 PM - REGULAR AGENDA CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pownell called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Present: 7 - Council Member Greg Colby, Council Member David DeLong, Council Member Suzie Nakasian, Council Member Brad Ness, Council Member Jessica Peterson White, Council Member Erica Zweifel, and Mayor Rhonda Pownell

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pownell noted the supplemental memo items.

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

Yes: 7 - C. Colby, C. DeLong, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Peterson White, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. [17-870](#)

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Ness, to approve the May 9, 2017 Strategic Planning Work Session Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Colby, C. DeLong, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Peterson White, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell

3. [17-871](#)

Mayor Pownell noted the change made to the May 10, 2017 Strategic Planning Work Session Minutes.

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve the May 10, 2017 Strategic Work Session Planning Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Colby, C. DeLong, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Peterson White, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell

4. [17-872](#)

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, to approve the June 6, 2017 City Council Meeting Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Colby, C. DeLong, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Peterson White, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell

CONSENT AGENDA

City Administrator Martig introduced the items on the consent agenda.

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

Yes: 7 - C. Colby, C. DeLong, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Peterson White, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell

5. [17-874](#) Consider Approving Disbursements totaling \$902,648.96
6. [17-875](#) Approve Costs for Mayor Pownell to attend the 2017 Elected Officials Race Equity Community of Practice Sessions
7. [17-876](#) Consider Approval of Temporary Liquor License for Imminent Brewing, LLC for Tour de Save event on July 29, 2017.
8. [17-877](#) Consider executing a grant amendment extending the 2011 Legacy Trail Grant completion date to June 30, 2018.
9. [Res. 2017-049](#) Approve Agreement for Routine Maintenance to be performed by the City of Northfield on various Trunk Line Highways within the City of Northfield
10. [Res. 2017-050](#) Consider Declaring Amount to be Assessed - 2017 Street Reclamation Project
11. [Res. 2017-051](#) Consider Accepting Bids and Awarding Contract - 2017 Street Reclamation Project
12. [Res. 2017-052](#) 2017 Street Reclamation Project - Call for Assessment Hearing

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

Doug Oines, 1900 Sibley View Lane, spoke regarding the two minute time limit per comment on agenda items. Stated that will not be sufficient for the August street assessment hearing. Noted he will be requesting 8-10 minutes.

Victor Summa, 812 St. Olaf Ave., spoke regarding the last meeting. Stated he feels comments from Council members and rulings were offensive. Spoke regarding amount of time the Chair of the Charter Commission was given. Asked Council to think about the role of the Council and the role of the Charter Commission.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND RELATED ACTION

13. [17-878](#) Public Hearing on Heywood Road Vacation

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

Mayor Pownell opened the public hearing at 6:10 pm.

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to close the public hearing at 6:23 pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Colby, C. DeLong, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Peterson White, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell

14. [Ord. 989](#)

Consider Vacation of a Portion of Heywood Road Right-Of-Way

A motion was made by Council Member Colby, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, to approve the First Reading of Ordinance No. 989 - Vacating a Portion of Heywood Road Right of Way. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No: 1 - C. DeLong

REGULAR AGENDA

15. [17-879](#)

Presentation and Consideration of Acceptance of the City of Northfield Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the Year Ended December 31, 2016.

City Administrator Martig introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council. Tom Olinger, Abdo Eick & Meyers presented information on the 2016 City of Northfield Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the Year Ended December 31, 2016. Mr. Olinger answered questions posed by Council.

C. Colby left the meeting at 6:50 pm.

A motion was made by Council Member Zweifel, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, to accept the City of Northfield Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the Year Ended December 31, 2016. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Not Present: 1 - C. Colby

16. [Ord. 990](#)

Consider Rezoning of Northfield Hospital - Summit Orthopedic Clinic

City Planner Tempel introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council.

C. Colby returned to the meeting at 7:13 pm.

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 990 - Rezoning 1381 Jefferson Road from Neighborhood General (N1) to Public and Institutional (P1). The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Colby, C. DeLong, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Peterson White, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell

17. [Res. 2017-053](#) 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.

Mayor Pownell read the following summary of conclusions of the evaluation of the performance of Ben Martig, City Administrator, pursuant to Minn. Stat. Section 13D.05: City Administrator 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.

Victor Summa, 812 St. Olaf Ave., asked if all City Council Members were present at both sessions. Asked if there any negatives at the review and what they were.

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Ness, to approve Resolution 2017-053 - Approving a Salary Increase for City Administrator Ben Martig. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Colby, C. DeLong, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Peterson White, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell

18. [17-873](#) Presentation of Community Solar Subscription Opportunity.

City Administrator Martig introduced this item. Jane Qually & Rick Masloski, Community Solar, presented information on the Community Solar Garden Proposal and answered questions posed by Council.

Matt Rohn, 908 First Str. W., urged Council to support community solar. Noted opportunities for participation are closing fast. Reported on the 2013 Greater Community Climate Change Summit. Noted Northfield Community Solar will gain financially from subscriptions sold. Noted his research of Minnesota Community Solar and Cypress Creek.

George Kinney, 1814 Van Buren Court, Chair of EQC, and formerly involved in energy task force. Stated both groups are working on issues of renewable energy. Encouraged Council to continue work on this and referenced the related strategic initiative.

Brian Nowak, 515 Nevada Court, asked Council to consider other factors as they consider Community Solar. Stated he came to Northfield because it is a progressive community. If this project meets fiduciary tests, it should be a no brainer for the City. This will attract progressive people who want to invest in the community. Asked Council to consider the urgency or renewable energy sources and climate change.

Mary Jo Cristofaro, stated we are democratizing energy by sharing who gets to produce it. Creating own local energy makes a community more resilient. Thanked Council for considering this initiative.

Victor Summa, 812 St. Olaf Ave., thanked presenters, commenters and representatives of the EQC for attending. Spoke in favor of the initiative.

19. [Res. 2017-054](#) Receive Proposed Charter Amendment to Section 3.8 Subd. 2 and Call for

a Public Hearing

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

Victor Summa, 812 St. Olaf Ave., suggested the City Council communicate with the Charter Commission regarding the proposal.

Council discussed the proposed changes and waiting to call for the public hearing until after the presentation from the Charter Commission.

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, to approve Resolution 2017-054 - Receiving Charter Amendments.

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Colby to amend the resolution by eliminating #2 in the Now Therefore Be It Resolved clause and eliminating the Now Therefore Further Be It Resolved clause. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No: 1 - C. Nakasian

Resolution 2017-054 as amended carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - C. Colby, C. DeLong, C. Peterson White, C. Zweifel, and Mayor Pownell

No: 2 - C. Nakasian, and C. Ness

Extend Meeting

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, to extend the meeting to 9:15 pm. The motion failed by the following vote:

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

No: 3- C. Colby, C. DeLong, C. Ness

A motion was made by Council Member Colby, seconded by Council member Nakasian, to extend the meeting to 9:10 pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No: 1 - C. DeLong

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 9:11 pm.