



City of Northfield

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Tuesday, February 19, 2019

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

6:00 PM - REGULAR AGENDA CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pownell called the meeting to order at 6 pm. Mayor Pownell noted she would be leaving for a portion of the meeting. Mayor Pownell turned the meeting over to Mayor Pro Tem Ness.

Present: 6 - Council Member David DeLong, Council Member Clarice Grabau, Council Member Suzie Nakasian, Council Member Brad Ness, Council Member Jessica Peterson White, and Mayor Rhonda Pownell

Absent: 1 - Council Member Erica Zweifel

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

Not Present: 1 - C. Peterson White

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [19-719](#) February 12, 2019 City Council Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by Mayor Pownell, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, to approve the February 12, 2019 City Council Meeting Minutes. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Not Present: 1 - C. Peterson White

CONSENT AGENDA

City Administrator Martig introduced the items on the consent agenda.

C. Peterson White arrived at 6:02 pm.

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

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

2. [Res. 2019-013](#) Consider Resolution Accepting Bids and Award Project for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Biosolids Processing Equipment.

3. [Res. 2019-014](#) Consider Resolution Authorizing Negotiations with Bridgewater Township for a New or Extended Orderly Annexation Agreement.
4. [19-720](#) Consider Approving Disbursements totaling \$643,622.51
Enactment No: M2019-027
5. [Res. 2019-015](#) Resolution for Link Center Services to transfer to Library Services
6. [19-721](#) Approve Costs for Mayor Pownell to attend the MN Mayors Together Meeting
Enactment No: M2019-028
7. [19-722](#) Consider Approval of Liquor License Renewals
Enactment No: M2019-029

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

Don McGee, 710 Highland Ave., spoke regarding followup for action on sidewalks on Ivanhoe Drive. Noted he submitted questions on the back of the comment card regarding the progress of the sidewalks. Asked Council to take action and get this accomplished as soon as possible.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND RELATED ACTION

8. [19-723](#) Public Hearing for Liquor License for 5th & Division Street Partners LLC - 501-505 Division Str. S.

Mayor Pro Tem Ness opened the Public Hearing at 6:06 pm. City Clerk Little introduced this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to close the Public Hearing at 6:08 pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - C. DeLong, C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Peterson White, and Mayor Pownell
9. [19-724](#) Consider Approval of Liquor Licenses for 5th & Division Street Partners LLC at 501-505 Division Str. S.

City Clerk Little introduced this item.

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve On-sale Intoxicating and Sunday Liquor Licenses for 5th & Division Street Partners LLC, dba Reunion, located at 501-505 Division Str. S., Northfield subject to: Department of Public Safety Alcohol & Gambling Enforcement approval; Submittal of all final documents; and Final inspection of premises. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Enactment No: M2019-030

REGULAR AGENDA

10. [19-727](#) Update on Northfield Hospital Clinic and Birthing Unit Expansion.

City Administrator Martig introduced this item. Martig introduced Northfield Hospital President Steve Underdahl and Chief Operating Officer Jerry Ehn. Northfield Hospital President Underdahl provided an update on the project. Noted RFP's were delivered to 8 companies. The Hospital received 6 proposals and interviewed all 6 companies. All companies were qualified, with two being identified as top choices. RJM, partnering with BWBR Architects, was selected. RJM scored the highest, had the lowest fees, and met the goals. Underdahl reviewed the upcoming schedule and noted the following: Design updates to the Board and Council in April/May, bids awarded by Council in June, with construction starting late summer 2019.

Mayor Pownell left the meeting at 6:22 pm.

11. [Res. 2019-017](#) Consider Resolution for 2019 Federal Recreation Trail Program (FRTP) Grant for Mill Towns Trail at TH 246 and Jefferson Parkway.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Bennett introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council. Bennett spoke regarding the park & trail plan update, proposed alignment of Mill Towns Trail, the opportunity of using grant funds for construction of the underpass, and that staff would continue to look at additional funding opportunities.

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Grabau, to approve Resolution 2019-017 - Federal Recreational Trail Program 2019 Trail Grant Application. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, and C. Peterson White

No: 1 - C. DeLong

Not Present: 1 - Mayor Pownell

12. [Res. 2019-018](#) Conditional Use Permit for 1MW Community Solar Garden.

City Planner Tempel introduced this item and answered questions posed by Council. City Administrator Martig answered questions posed by Council. Dan Rogers, Nokomis Energy and representing Mr. Fink, answered questions related to taxes posed by Council. Rogers noted that with respect to taxes in almost every case when the property goes from AG use to Commercial use it typically results in an increase in taxes.

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve Resolution 2019-018 - Approving a Conditional Use Permit for a 1MW Community Solar Garden in the A-S District with the addition of screening by the developer on the west side (in addition to the proposed north and east sides). The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, and C. Peterson White

No: 1 - C. DeLong

Not Present: 1 - Mayor Pownell

13. [19-725](#)

Consider Discussion of Dick's Sanitation, Inc. Waste Hauling Contract.

Utilities Manager Wagner introduced this item, reviewed the contract terms and answered questions posed by Council. Public Works Director/City Engineer Bennett answered questions posed by Council.

Jeff Weast, Dick's Sanitation, spoke regarding yard waste and providing opportunity for organics and yard waste pickup. Weast spoke about using a 20 gallon container. Noted that DSI can pickup small containers with inserts, but noted these containers are not quite as safe as the current containers. Stated there are better ways to do accommodate lower volumes. Stated DSI welcomes the opportunity to partner with the City of Northfield for the long term.

Mayor Pownell returned to the meeting at 7:14 pm.

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

City Administrator Martig provided an update on the following: LMC Legislative event & meeting with legislators, ADU community engagement work, will send out a staffing update on a number of key positions, upcoming agenda items, the joint meeting with the Planning Commission and PRAB this week on the parks plan and noted this will be coming forward to a future Council meeting. Will send update on the dates of the Bridgewater Incorporation meetings. Noted the next Bridgewater meeting is on February 27 at 7 pm.

14. [19-726](#)

City Administrator's Update.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

Mayor Pownell - Reported on the CAPAB meeting with Great Plains Institute. Also attended the NASAP meeting where the Tobacco 21 initiative was introduced by Tracy Ackman Shaw. Noted the Faribault Mayor has brought this forward to the Faribault City Council as well as sending out information to other Rice County Mayors. The NASAP group discussed and will be doing additional research.

C. Nakasian - Reported on the first Transportation Advisory Committee meeting and noted the second meeting will be held on Thursday, March 5. Noted productive conversation with Minnesota Valley Transit as a potential provider of regional bus connections for Northfield.

C. Peterson White - Attended first Northfield Hospital Board meeting.

C. Grabau - Attended LMC Newly Elected Official Conference. Great resources from meeting. Attended Northfield Promise meeting on poverty task force. Working on raising awareness related to poverty. They are also working on transportation. Connected Hiawathaland Transit with this group. Noted a lot of different people working on transportation. Received calls from students and residents on what to do if heat went out during the extreme cold weather. Noted the process seems confusing on what people can do if it happens in the middle of the night and the CAC is working on a more coordinated response plan. Attended first MYC meeting as well as the CAPAB workshop. Reported on the HRC meeting and noted members met with representatives from both colleges to discuss the ways to recognize indigenous peoples in telling our history.

C. DeLong - Noted he is receiving comments about downtown snow removal. Noted difficulty accessing downtown businesses. Would like to see proposals or ideas on how to do a better job with snow removal downtown.

C. Ness - Attended neighborhood street meeting. Thanked staff for their work on this. Attended the Northfield Area Chamber Annual Business Meeting and Recognition Dinner. Attended the Rice/Steele 911 Joint Powers meeting. Reported on the CVB meeting where they began discussions how the CVB, Chamber and NDDC will function together.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Council Member DeLong, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

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