



City of Northfield

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council

Tuesday, September 7, 2021

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

6:00 PM - REGULAR AGENDA CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pownell called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Present: 7 - Council Member Clarice Grabau, Council Member Suzie Nakasian, Council Member Brad Ness, Council Member Jessica Peterson White, Mayor Rhonda Pownell, Council Member Jami Reister, and Council Member George Zuccolotto

APPROVAL OF 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: 6 - C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, Mayor Pownell, C. Reister, and C. Zuccolotto

Not Present: 1 - C. Peterson White

PRESENTATIONS

1. [21-498](#) Oath of Office Ceremony for Northfield Police Department Officer.

Police Chief Mark Elliott introduced Officer Jessica Bohlken and presented background information. City Clerk Peterson administered the Oath of Office to Officer Bohlken and Officer Bohlken's father pinned her badge. The Council took a photo with Office Bohlken, welcomed and congratulated her.

2. [21-499](#) Racial Equity Action Plan Update.

Program Coordinator Beth Kallestad presented an update on the Racial Equity Action Plan detailing action that took place in 2020, 2021 and what is planned for the future. Kallestad answered questions from the Council.

CONSENT AGENDA

City Administrator Martig introduced the Consent Agenda.

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

Yes: 6 - C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, Mayor Pownell, C. Reister, and C. Zuccolotto

Not Present: 1 - C. Peterson White

3. [21-500](#) Consider Approval of August 17, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes.

4. [21-501](#) Consider Approval of August 25, 2021 City Council Special/Closed Meeting Minutes.
5. [21-502](#) Consider Approving Disbursements totaling \$1,525,192.74.
6. [Res. 2021-078](#) Approve Application for Off-Site Gambling Premises Permit for the Defeat of Jesse James Days Committee, Inc. at The Grand Event Center, 316 Washington Street, on October 17, 2021.
7. [21-503](#) Consider Community Event In-Kind Grant Support.
8. [21-422](#) Consider Motion Adopting Carbon Reduction Fund Policy.
9. [Res. 2021-079](#) Consider Resolution Accepting Public Improvements and Approving Final Payment for the Golf Course, Parmeadow Ponds 1 & 3 Dredging Project - STRM2020-K25.
10. [Res. 2021-080](#) Consider Resolution of Support for Phase 2 restoration of the Waterford Bridge Construction related to Mill Towns State Trail.
11. [21-504](#) Consider Motion to approve Trail Installation Agreement and Partial Release of Locust Development Agreement for Outlot F, Locust Development with Timberfield Apartment of Northfield Phase Two, LLLP.
12. [Ord. 1027](#) Consider Second Reading of the Ordinance on the Northfield Depot Reassessed as a Local Heritage Preservation Site.
13. [21-505](#) Consider Summary Publication of Ordinance No. 1027 designating the Chicago Milwaukee St. Paul & Pacific Railway Depot (Northfield Depot) as a local Heritage Preservation Site.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

Council Member Peterson White joined the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

Kathy Schuurman, 509 Ivanhoe Avenue, addressed the Council regarding SHED and opposition to the Rebound Properties development.

Bob Thacker, 505 Ivanhoe Avenue, addressed the Council regarding the housing crisis and how the City staff is communicating with the Council and Board/Commissions.

Karen Cherewatah, 505 Ivanhoe Avenue, addressed the Council regarding the Kraewood Development and communication with residents.

Barb Howe, 1114 St. Olaf Avenue, addressed the Council regarding the Kraewood Development and communication.

Jason Ripley, 520 Greenvale Avenue, addressed the Council regarding the City Attorney's memo regarding communication with citizens.

Andrea Berube, , 2651 Oak Lawn Drive, addressed the Council regarding funding for the Northfield Splash Pad.

Philip Spencley, 505 Lincoln Street North, addressed the Council regarding Board/Commission contact information on the website.

Mar Valdecantos, 6 Fareway Drive, addressed the Council regarding the Rental Ordinance updates and tenant protection.

Lucy Gonzalez Miron, 220 Greenvale Avenue, Apt. 207, addressed the Council regarding the Rental Ordinance Updates and the imbalances in housing.

REGULAR AGENDA

14. [Res. 2021-081](#) Consider Accepting Feasibility Report and Authorizing Plans and Specifications for the 2022 NW Area Mill and Overlay Project (STRT2022-A59).

Engineering Manager Sean Simonson introduced William Bauer and KC Atkins from SEH. Bauer and Atkins presented on the 2022 NW Area Mill and Overlay Project answering questions from the August 17 City Council discussion and detailing trail, sidewalk and on-street bikeway improvements. City Engineer/Public Works Director Dave Bennett, Bauer and Atkins answered questions from the Council.

Pat Ziegler, 1150 Spruce Court, owner of Ziggy's at 109 Water Street North, addressed the Council regarding the impact to his business with the proposed barriers/medians in the project and requested to include business owners in meetings with the railroad regarding the quiet zone.

Patrick Tomczik, 1203 Woodland Trail, addressed the Council regarding opposition to the project.

Dennis Buzanis, 413 First Street, addressed the Council regarding opposition to the project and the quiet zone.

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Nakasian, to approve Resolution No. 2021-081 Accepting Feasibility Report and Authorizing Preparation of Plans and Specifications 2022 NW Area Mill and Overlay Project STRT2022-A59 to include Alternative 2 - The City will consider such improvements, in accordance with the report, with the exception of North Avenue, which shall be the Buffered Bike Lanes option with the addition of no median on St. Olaf Avenue from the railroad tracks to the east.

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Nakasian to remove the language of no median on St. Olaf Avenue from the railroad track to the east. Vote on the Amendment to the Motion:

Yes: 6 - C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Peterson White, Mayor Pownell, C. Reister and C. Zuccolotto

No: 1 - C. Ness

Vote on the original motion to include Alternative 2:

Yes: 6 - C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Peterson White, C. Reister, and C. Zuccolotto

No: 1 - Mayor Pownell

Recess

Council recessed at 7:56 p.m. Council meeting resumed at 8:04 p.m.

15. [21-506](#) Carbon-Free Electricity Strategy.

Program Director Kallestad presented on the Northfield Roadmap to Carbon-Free Electricity to include carbon-free and renewable energy; greenhouse gas emissions, 2020 electricity use for City operations and upcoming electrical efficiency efforts. The Council was given a ranking of priorities to return to Kallestad by Friday, September 10. Kallestad answered questions from the Council.

16. [21-507](#) Review of Proposed Ordinance Amendments Related to the Residential Rental Licensing Code and Nuisance Code.

Alissa Harrington, Attorney with Flaherty and Hood, presented on the Northfield Rental Licensing and Nuisance changes. Harrington presented an overview identifying weaknesses in the current code and outlining goals to include the following: improve quality of housing; clearer standards and procedures; efficient use of resources and staff time; engage stakeholders; shift focus to tenants; and remove outdated provisions. Harrington went through proposed changes to the code in detail. Harrington answered questions from the Council.

Extend the Meeting

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Ness, to extend the meeting until 9:15 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - C. Grabau, C. Ness, C. Peterson White, Mayor Pownell, C. Reister, and C. Zuccolotto

No: 1 - C. Nakasian

16. [21-507](#) Review of Proposed Ordinance Amendments Related to the Residential Rental Licensing Code and Nuisance Code.

Administrator Martig commented on the history and process of updating the Residential Rental Licensing Code and Nuisance Code.

This item will continue to be reviewed by staff, Boards/Commissions, stakeholders and the Council with feedback provided to staff. This item will return to a future Council Work Session for discussion.

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

17. [21-508](#) City Administrator's Update.

Administrator Martig noted the Closed/Special meeting on Monday, September 13 and

the Work Session on Tuesday, September 14.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

Due to time constraints, no Council reports were given.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - C. Grabau, C. Nakasian, C. Ness, C. Peterson White, Mayor Pownell, C. Reister, and C. Zuccolotto