



City of Northfield

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

Meeting Minutes - Final City Council

Tuesday, April 6, 2021

6:00 PM

[Goto Meeting](#)

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

Mayor Pownell noted additional information included in Supplemental Agenda Background Memorandum No. 1.

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Ness, to approve the agenda. 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

PRESENTATIONS

1. [21-195](#) Update on the Historic Depot and Transit Hub

City Engineer Bennett introduced the item and introduced Alice Thomas from Save the Northfield Depot Group. Thomas provided an update on the restoration efforts at the Historic Depot Building. Bennett provided an update on the status of the Transit Hub bonding project noting the City received \$1,750,000 in the 2021 Bonding Bill for the Transit Hub, Pavilion, Railroad Quiet Zone Improvements and trail connections. Thomas and Bennett answered questions from the Council.

CONSENT AGENDA

City Administrator Martig introduced the consent agenda.

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Ness, to approve the consent agenda. 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

2. [21-196](#) Consider Approval of March 16, 2021 City Council Meeting Minutes.
3. [21-197](#) Consider Approval of March 24, 2021 City Council Strategic Plan Session Minutes.

4. [21-198](#) Consider Approval of March 30, 2021 City Council Strategic Plan Session Minutes.
5. [21-199](#) Consider Approving Disbursements totaling \$1,718,790.92
Enactment No: M2021-039
6. [Res. 2021-028](#) Consider Accepting Bids and Awarding Contract - 2021 Reclamation and Overlay Project.
7. [Res. 2021-029](#) Consider Resolution Proclaiming April 24, 2021 as Arbor Day in Northfield.
8. [21-200](#) Consider Community Event In-Kind Grant Support.
Enactment No: M2021-040
9. [21-201](#) Approve Refuse License Renewals.
Enactment No: M2021-041
10. [21-202](#) Approve Vehicle for Hire License Renewals.
Enactment No: M2021-042

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

Midori Krieger, 515 Nevada Court, addressed the Council regarding the need for access to medical care.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND RELATED ACTION

11. [21-203](#) Public Hearing for Liquor License for Braveheart LLC, DBA Froggy Bottoms - 307 Water Street South.

Mayor Pownell declared the public hearing open at 6:27 p.m.

City Clerk Peterson presented background information on the new liquor license application for Braveheart LLC, doing business as Froggy Bottoms at 307 Water Street South. Police Chief Elliott presented information on the background investigation report on the new license application.

Lisa Zarza, owner of Braveheart LLC, presented information on the reasons why she violated the Governor's Executive Order for Alibi Drinkery in Lakeville and why the City should approve the new liquor license.

Clerk Peterson noted one comment was received via email from Scott Johnson and Chief Elliott read it into the record.

Chief Elliott and City Attorney Chris Hood answered questions from the Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Ness, to close the Public Hearing at 7:07 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

12. [21-204](#)

Consideration of New Liquor License Braveheart LLC dba Froggy Bottoms at 307 Water Street South.

Mayor Pownell introduced the item. City Attorney Hood, Chief Elliott and Zarza answered questions from the Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Nakasian, seconded by Council Member Zuccolotto, to the approve the issuance of an On-Sale and Sunday Liquor License for Braveheart LLC dba Froggy Bottoms subject to the following conditions: 1)Liquor license will be issued upon receipt of all required documents, payment of all delinquent taxes, assessments, utility bills or other financial claims of the City and approval of State Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division; and 2)Outdoor Dining Permit is approved from Braveheart LLC dba Froggy Bottoms subject to the following conditions: final review and approval of layout and barriers proposed to be used by the Chief of Police; compliance with all terms and conditions noted in City Code Section 6-70 - Temporary expansion of licensed premises/outdoor sales and service; and Froggy Bottoms hours of operation: Monday-Thursday 4-10 p.m. and Friday - Sunday 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.: with tables, chairs and barriers removed from the Riverwalk each night after 10 p.m.; and 3) the business remains in compliance with Governor's orders being upheld at all times. The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - C. Nakasian, Mayor Pownell, and C. Zuccolotto

No: 4 - C. Grabau, C. Ness, C. Peterson White, and C. Reister

A motion was made by Council Member Peterson White, seconded by Council Member Ness, to deny the liquor license application of Lisa Zarza to the City of Northfield for Braveheart LLC to sell on-sale and Sunday liquor at the premises at Froggy Bottoms, located at 307 Water Street South, Northfield, Minnesota, and adopt the investigation report and findings on the same of the Chief of Police along with the exhibits attached thereto. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No: 3 - C. Nakasian, Mayor Pownell, and C. Zuccolotto

Recess

Council recessed at 7:54 p.m. Council meeting resumed at 8:00 p.m.

REGULAR AGENDA

13. [Res. 2021-030](#)

Consider the Preliminary Plat for Hillcrest Village Addition.

City Planner Schmidt presented on the preliminary plat for Hillcrest Village Addition. Community Action Center Director Scott Wopata gave an overview to the history and need, Community Action Council's process, social justice, environmental justice, budget and timeline. Schmidt, Project Designer Brian Nowak and City Engineer Bennett

answered questions from the Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Grabau, seconded by Council Member Ness, to approve Resolution No. 2021-030 Approving a Preliminary Plat for the Hillcrest Village Addition. 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

14. [21-205](#)

Consider a Motion to Authorize the Purchase of Body and Squad Cameras and Implementation.

Police Chief Elliott introduced the item. Elliott and Administrator Martig answered questions from the Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to approve the purchase of a body worn camera system and squad camera system from Axon Enterprise Inc. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No: 1 - C. Zuccolotto

Enactment No: M2021-043

15. [21-206](#)

Discussion of Potential Charter Amendment Related to Hospital Board Membership.

City Administrator Martig introduced the item. Steve Underdahl, President and CEO of Northfield Hospital, added input on the amendment. Martig, Underdahl and City Attorney Hood answered questions from the Council.

ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

16. [21-207](#)

City Administrator's Update.

Administrator Martig gave an update on City operations and developments noting the Council Work Session next week will be continuing the strategic planning process.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

C. Reister - NAFRS hiring 4-6 new Fire Fighters.

C. Ness - LMCIT Safety and Loss Control Workshops.

C. Nakasian - Senate bill introduced today for funding Rail Corridor Study.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Council Member Ness, seconded by Council Member Peterson White, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 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