1. **Call to Order**

   Mayor Brad Wiersum called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

   All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Roll Call**

   Councilmembers Bob Ellingson, Patty Acomb, Deb Calvert, and Mayor Wiersum were present. Tim Bergstedt and Tony Wagner were excused.

4. **Approval of Agenda**

   Wiersum indicated the council would go into closed session as item 16 on the agenda. The council was also going to conduct a special meeting to interview candidates for the city’s boards and commissions. So as to not keep the candidates waiting, he proposed the council recess the regular meeting after item 15A on the agenda, and then go into the special meeting. When the special meeting was adjourned, the council would reconvene the regular meeting starting with item 16, the closed session.

   Calvert moved, Acomb seconded a motion to accept the agenda as proposed by Wiersum with an addendum to item 14A. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

5. **Approval of Minutes: Jan. 8, 2018 regular council meetings**

   Acomb moved, Ellingson seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the Jan. 8, 2018 regular council meeting, as presented. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

6. **Special Matters: None**

7. **Reports from City Manager & Council Members**

   City Manager Geralyn Barone reported on upcoming city events and council meetings.

   Acomb reported that recently she and Wagner attended the ribbon cutting at the Cherrywood assisted living facility by Ridgedale. She said the facility was beautiful and amazing services are offered to the residents. She said she was only able to speak with three residents but all three lived in Minnetonka prior to moving to Cherrywood. She said this was an indication that the hope to diversity housing types in the city was working.

   Wiersum said he attended the League of Minnesota Cities’ Board meeting the previous week. The board was updated on the League’s legislative priorities.
8. Citizens Wishing to Discuss Matters not on the Agenda

Kim Oelhafen, 2038 19th Street, Minneapolis, said she was appearing on behalf of the Tonka CARES Community Coalition and the Hopkins One Voice Community Coalition. Both coalitions support the council raising the tobacco sales age to 21. She said smoking’s negative effects are well documented so the question was what could be done to stop people from smoking. The most effective method was preventing kids from ever starting to smoke. She said many 16 year olds and 17 year olds have access to 18 year olds as peers, colleagues and classmates. Most do not have access to 21 year olds however.

Elyse Levine Less said she was appearing on behalf of her father, Jerry Levine. She read a statement from her father, a Minnetonka resident. Levine smoked since the age of 15 along with many of his friends. He noted cigarettes were romanticized in the media. He first tried to stop smoking when he was diagnosed with lung cancer. He later suffered from throat cancer. What ultimately got him to give up cigarettes was when his four year old grandson informed him he couldn’t play with him anymore because Levine smoked. Levine Less noted the reason her father was unable to appear in person was because his doctor suspected the throat cancer might have returned and had ordered tests.

Caleb Schultz, 4401 Wilson Street, said he was a physician who worked at the Hennepin County Medical Center. He recently moved to Minnetonka from Edina where he served on the community health commission and led the charge to have Edina become the first city to raise the tobacco sales age to 21. He said the Tobacco 21 effort was the next step in eliminating tobacco use. An article that appeared in Minnesota Medicine estimated that if the sales age was increased to 21 statewide, it would prevent 30,000 young people from starting to smoke within 15 years. He said the health costs related to smoking caused an enormous burden on individuals, families and taxpayers. Some argue raising the sales age would hurt businesses but he said sales to people under 21 accounted for two to four percent of all tobacco sales. He said 95 percent of the initiation to smoking would be eliminated along with the two percent of sales. Along with Edina, the cities of St. Louis Park, Bloomington and Plymouth have raised the tobacco sales age to 21 becoming part of the 285 cities in five states who adopted the same sales age.

Acomb said in a perfect world issues like this one would be addressed on a statewide basis. But in areas like the Clean Indoor Air Act, it took local government to lead the effort before a statewide law was passed. She said because so many nearby cities had raised the age of sales in their communities, it was time for Minnetonka to look at the issue.

Wiersum thanked those who appeared and said the work they were doing was important. From a public health perspective he wanted Minnetonka to be at the forefront along with the other western suburbs. He said the best way to proceed was for the group to work with city staff.

9. Bids and Purchases:

A. Bids for Secondary Williston Road Lift Station Forcemain
Barone gave the staff report.

Acomb moved, Calvert seconded a motion to award the contract to Widmer Construction, LLC in the amount of $1,196,799. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

10. Consent Agenda – Items Requiring a Majority Vote:

A. Agreement with Xcel Energy for the burial of power lines along Woodhill Road

Acomb moved, Ellingson seconded a motion to authorize the mayor and city manager to execute an agreement with Xcel Energy in the estimated amount of $798,447.95 to provide burial of overhead utility lines as part of the 2018 Street Rehabilitation Project on Woodhill Road. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

B. Resolution establishing the interest rate for the SAC/REC deferral program

Acomb moved, Ellingson seconded a motion to adopt resolution 2018-004 establishing the interest rates for 2018 deferrals. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

C. Resolution calling special election for April 10, 2018

Wiersum pulled the item from the consent agenda. He went over the proposed schedule for the special election.

Assistant City Manager Perry Vetter presented the communications plan.

Wiersum noted he had been the Ward 3 councilmember and the vacancy was created when he was elected mayor. The council discussed options to fill the vacancy at its Jan. 8 meeting. They decided to call for a special election in order to allow voters to decide who will represent them on the council.

City Clerk David Maeda said the League of Women Voters will hold a candidate forum on March 20.

Acomb said the last special election in the city was when she was first elected. She asked if the mailing to households was also done in that election. Vetter said he did not know but staff felt the mailing was a good reminder for voters. Acomb agreed it was a good idea.

Ellingson moved, Acomb seconded a motion to adopt resolution 2018-005 calling special election for April 10, 2018. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

11. Consent Agenda – Items requiring Five Votes: None

12. Introduction of Ordinances: None

13. Public Hearings: None

14. Other Business:
A. Resolutions for Ridgehaven Lane/Ridgedale Drive (Cartway Lane) and Plymouth Road improvements

City Engineer Will Manchester gave the staff report.

Acomb noted that Manchester had indicated there would be a significant cost savings by doing some things upfront. She asked the extent of the cost savings. Manchester said he didn’t have the exact amount but things like doing the water main or storm sewer replacement meant not having to redo the road again later on. He indicated the costs would be at least double if things like that were not done.

Wiersum asked if the regular schedule of improvements was followed, how far in the future the other work be done. Manchester said there was nothing scheduled or budgeted for in the next five years. The water main would depend on the development in the area. He said the storm sewer had been televised and could likely last longer than five years.

Lucy Taylor, 2117 Indian Road West, said she had attended many of the meetings and had questions. Would the road be closed? How would this project interact with the upcoming construction of Ridgedale Drive? How would the timing work? Manchester said the road would remain open during construction. This project was scheduled for 2018 with a completion date in October. There may be some cleanup work in the spring of 2019. The Ridgedale Drive portion would begin in 2019. Barone said the project had been purposely scheduled to be completed before the holiday season.

Keith Waxelman, 16013 Ringer Road, said a Wayzata road project with extended construction delays caused hardships on several small businesses that led to some of the businesses closing. He noted there were several small businesses in this area and he asked if any consideration was given to how the project would impact those businesses. Manchester said staff had met with all the businesses and would continue to meet with them. The goal was to make sure access was available at all times. Community Development Director Julie Wischnack said the Open to Business assistance program used in other projects would be available for this project as well.

Wiersum said this was an important project. A number of plans had been looked at. Discussions were held with property owners and business owners. The current plan solves more problems than any of the other plans and was a longer term fix. Traffic was managed in a much more positive way. He said it was an expensive project but would make Minnetonka a much more livable community because of the improved vehicle access as well as the improved walkability.

Acomb moved, Calvert seconded a motion to adopt resolution 2018-006 accepting plans and specifications and authorizing the advertisement for bids for the Ridgehaven Lane/Ridgedale Drive Project No. 16501; resolution 2018-007 authorizing a No Parking zone on Ridgehaven Lane and Ridgedale Drive; resolution 2018-008 authorizing execution of a Cooperative Construction
Agreement; resolution 2018-009 authorizing execution of an agreement for the Delegated Contract Process. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

15. Appointments and Reappointments:

   A. Appointment of Councilmember Tim Bergstedt to the I-494 Joint Powers Organization

      Wiersum moved, Ellingson seconded a motion to approve the appointment of Tim Bergstedt to the I-494 Joint Powers Organization. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

16. Closed session to consider purchase of real property at 13009 Burwell Drive

      Wiersum moved, Calvert seconded a motion to recess the meeting at 7:26 p.m. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

      The council interviewed board and commission candidates.

      The council went into closed session at 8:32 p.m. to discuss potential purchase of real property at 13009 Burwell Drive. Present were Ellingson, Acomb, Calvert, and Wiersum. Ellingson was excused at 8:35 p.m.

      Staff present at the closed session were: Barone, Vetter, Manchester, Wischnack, City Attorney Corrine Heine, Finance Director Merrill King and Maeda.

      Wiersum adjourned the closed session at 9:14 p.m.

17. Adjournment

      Wiersum moved, Calvert seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 p.m. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Maeda
City Clerk