Minutes
Minnetonka City Council
Monday, Jan. 28, 2019

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

Council Members Rebecca Schack, Deb Calvert, Tim Bergstedt, Bob Ellingson, Mike Happe, and Brad Wiersum were present.

4. Approval of Agenda

Happe moved, Calvert seconded a motion to accept the agenda with addenda to Item 10C and remove Item 14D. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

5. Approval of Minutes: None

6. Special Matters:

A. Recognition of Park Board Members Madeline Seveland and Peggy Kvam

Wiersum read the recognition.

Peggy Kvam said it was a pleasure to serve on the Park Board. She explained that she was moving to Eden Prairie and was unable to renew her term.

Madeline Seveland said she enjoyed learning about the city through the Park Board and said she would stay involved.

7. Reports from City Manager & Council Members

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

Calvert shared she had met with several interested candidates for the appointment to the council and was looking forward to reading all of the applications. She had also attended a neighborhood session for a proposed development on Orchard Road.

Wiersum summarized the performance evaluation for City Manager Geralyn Barone, which was performed in closed session on Jan. 14, 2019. The council evaluated Barone’s performance based on the city’s shared values and management competencies. The council determined Barone consistently meets or exceeds expectations on all six components of shared values. The council also determined
Barone consistently meets or exceeds expectations on all six management competencies. The council approved leadership goals for 2019 in the areas of management competencies and personal growth for the city manager.

Wiersum also reported that he had also participated in a panel for newly elected officials at a League of Minnesota Cities conference.

8. Citizens Wishing to Discuss Matters not on the Agenda

Vickie Schleuning, Lake Minnetonka Conservation District Executive Director, appeared on behalf of the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District, which represents 14 member cities and residents. She discussed lake safety, funding, and creating a master plan to address vegetation and aquatic invasive species.

Sue Shuff, Lake Minnetonka Conservation District Representative, discussed the harvesting program for aquatic invasive species.

Ellen Silva, 10209 Windsor Lake Lane, Hopkins, and Peter Sammond, 11816 Bren Road, Hopkins, represented Minnesota Citizens for Clean Elections. They talked about their dedication to educating citizens about ways to maintain and enhance the democratic power of ordinary citizens. The biggest concern was the cost of elections at all levels of government. Ms. Silva and Mr. Sammond requested the council study the issue and draft a resolution requesting action by the Minnesota Legislature.

9. Bids and Purchases:

A. Bids for the 2019 Mill and Overlay Project

Barone gave the staff report.

Bergstedt noted both projects were in his ward and after speaking with the city engineer, he felt very comfortable with the project.

Bergstedt moved. Calvert seconded a motion to award the contract. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

10. Consent Agenda – Items Requiring a Majority Vote:

A. Solar garden subscription agreement

Ellingson moved. Schack seconded a motion to approve the agreement. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

B. 2019 Pay Equity Implementation Report

Ellingson moved. Schack seconded a motion to approve and authorize the submittal of the 2019 Pay Equity Implementation Report. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.
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B. Preliminary plat of INVERNESS ESTATES, a two-lot subdivision at 13321 Inverness Road

Ellingson shared that a resident had expressed a concern over the front yard setback; however, the subdivision did comply with the ordinance.

Ellingson moved, Schack seconded a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-011 approving the preliminary plat. All voted “yes.” Motion carried.

Consent Agenda – Items requiring Five Votes: None

Introduction of Ordinances: None

Public Hearings:

A. Waterstone Place Apartments vacation of easements

City Planner Loren Gordon gave the staff report.

Wiersum opened the public hearing at 7:20 p.m.

Jeff Gears, bdh+young Project Architect, thanked the council for reviewing the proposal.

Wiersum closed the public hearing at 7:21 p.m.

Happe moved, Calvert seconded a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2019-012, vacating the easements. All voted “yes.” Motion carried

Other Business:

A. Metro Transit Service Update

Community Development Director Julie Wischnack gave the staff report.

Steve Mahowald, Metro Transit, discussed Metro Transit’s intent to request a public hearing with the Metropolitan Council in order to eliminate Route 614. He talked about rider’s other options including Dial-A-Ride.

Calvert addressed the condition of the bus stops and asked what Metropolitan Council was doing to encourage people to ride. Mr. Mahowald answered that the top concern was reliability and amenities were a battle, but they were working on it.

Schack asked for the cost difference between transit link and the bus. Mr. Mahowald replied it was $2.50 more for the transit link.

Wiersum asked if people use the transit link or if service drops. Mr. Mahowald explained that historically there were other options.
Wischnack added the Transit Cooperative Agreement ran through next summer and the council would continue to hear more on this as it prepared for the light rail.

Wiersum thanked Mr. Mahowald for the report and for the work Metro Transit did in Minnetonka.

B. Resolution for the 2019 Ridgedale Drive Project

City Engineer Will Manchester gave the staff report.

Calvert asked if there would be any issues due to the project coinciding with other apartment construction projects. Gordon answered that it was a very important issue and staff would be working to get the projects in sync.

Bergstedt expressed a concern over the cost and time of maintaining the landscaping. Barone explained that staff had anticipated this need in the budget forecast going forwards.

Happe thought the plan was well thought out and thanked staff.

Schack thought the project would link everything together and was excited for the grand reveal.

Wiersum shared the council's enthusiasm and hoped to keep the landscaping simple. He asked about the drivability of the roundabouts. Manchester answered that the roundabouts were spaced out nicely and definitely able to accommodate a positive driving experience.

Ellen Silva, 10209 Windsor Lake Lane, Hopkins, said landscapes that incorporated flowers had a big impact on pollinator diversity and numbers.

Schack moved, Calvert seconded a motion to adopt Resolution 2019-013, accepting plans and specifications and authorizing the advertisement for bids for the Ridgedale Drive area, Project No. 19401. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

C. Resolution for the Plymouth Road Trail Project

Manchester gave the staff report.

Schack moved, Calvert seconded a motion to adopt resolution 2019-014, accepting plans and specifications and authorizing the advertisement for bids for the Plymouth Road Trail project from Amy Lane to Minnetonka Boulevard. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

D. Preliminary plat of WILLISTON HEIGHTS ADDITION, a four-lot subdivision at 4716 and 4724 Williston Rd. The proposed preliminary plat does not meet the tree ordinance for subdivision
This item was removed from the agenda.

E. Public Safety Facility

Gordon gave the staff report.

Assistant City Manager Perry Vetter introduced John McNamara with Wold Architects and Engineers. Mr. McNamara talked about the existing site, site plan, tree inventory, tree preservation, steep slope and wetlands, finish plan, storm water management, and exterior massing.

Calvert asked whether, when a project encroaches on a woodland preservation area, if the woodland preservation area footprint would be reduced when considered for future projects. Gordon answered that staff does update the woodland preservation maps to reflect reductions due to projects. Staff keep natural resource data as current as possible and that as an area changes, which can be due to a number of factors, it would be looked at in that moment of time. Wischnack added there is significant restoration with the project and that the hope was that the restoration would be added as woodland preservation area in the future. Calvert noted she was very grateful that beautiful, high priority oak trees were being saved and she was excited about the sustainable features.

Happe shared that even though the project had a price tag of twenty-five million dollars, he had not heard one negative response which showed the support in the community for the police and fire fighters.

Bergstedt agreed with Calvert and Happe and offered kudos to everyone involved.

Schack thought it was great and was glad that the city was holding itself to a high standard.

Ellingson complimented the architect and staff.

Wiersum said public safety was paramount. The facility would do a number of things, but it would also communicate to residents, police, and firefighters that the city values what they do. He appreciated the great work.

Bergstedt moved, Happe seconded a motion to adopt the Ordinance 2019-02 amending existing master development for the Minnetonka Civic Center at 14500 and 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard and Resolution 2019-015 approving a conditional use permit and site and building plan review for a new fire station and remodeled police station at 14500 and 14600 Minnetonka Boulevard. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

Barone provided next steps and her thanks to staff and the architects for tackling this complicated project.

15. Appointments and Reappointments:
A. Appointments and reappointments to Minnetonka Boards and Commissions

Wiersum read the appointments and reappointments.

Wiersum moved, Schack seconded a motion to approve the recommended appointments and reappointments. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

16. Adjournment

Calvert moved, Schack seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Koosman
Acting City Clerk