

City of North Saint Paul
April 19, 2022
Approved Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Thorsen
Council Member Petersen
Council Member Cole
Council Member Wong
Mayor Furlong

Staff: City Manager John Stark (via Zoom), City Engineer Morgan Dawley, Finance Director Daniel Winek, City Attorney Soren Mattick, Communications Consultant Kari Erpenbach

IV. ADOPT AGENDA

On motion by Council Member Petersen, seconded by Council Member Thorsen, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to approve the agenda as submitted.

V. PRESENTATIONS

A. Century College Presentation of 916 Student Built Home Interior Design

Tom Spehn, instructor with Northeast Metro Intermediate School, updated City Council and stated it is going well despite the current struggle with shipping materials. He noted the date of the initial open house was mid-June but has to be pushed out until mid-July.

Mayor Furlong wondered if anyone inquired about purchasing the house. Mr. Spehn stated one person has shown interest and mentioned the exposure with the community has been great. Council Member Petersen commented on student's dedication.

Council Member Thorsen inquired about the anticipated listing date. Mr. Spehn stated it may list early and the list price will be approximately \$380,000.

Erick Lehet, assistant principal for District 916 Tech Center, stated he has not heard many concerns from neighbors or residents. Mayor Furlong noted he has also heard many compliments about the work.

Catherine Harrington, interior design instructor at Century College, introduced the class of four students who provided a slide show detailing much of the interior design decisions and how they worked within a budget to make it look richer.

Mayor Furlong expressed his appreciation for the design and input of this unique house.

B. Proclamation for Arbor Day

Mayor Furlong read the proclamation declaring Friday April 29, 2022 as Arbor Day in North St. Paul.

VI. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Furlong noted that Item L had been removed from the Consent Agenda.

On motion by Council Member Wong, seconded by Council Member Cole, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to approve the consent agenda, Resolution No. 2022-040 consisting of:

- A. April 5, 2022 workshop meeting minutes
- B. April 5, 2022 regular meeting minutes
- C. General Claims \$1,092,880.71
- D. HRA Claims \$21,388.70
- E. Building Permit Report – March 2022
- F. Resolution Approving Acceptance of Donations Received March 2022 – **Resolution No. 2022-041**
- G. Revising the Staff Complement and Expenditures in the 2022 Budget related to the Human Resources Manager/Assistant to the City Manager
- H. RMS User Agreement between North St. Paul Police Department and Ramsey County Attorney's Office
- I. Squad Video Camera Technology Conversion
- J. Bucket Truck Purchase
- K. Open Position as Alternate to the Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (MMPA) Board for North St. Paul
- L. Purchase of Street Light Poles **Removed from the Agenda**
- M. Special Event – Main Drag – Vintage & Collectibles Sidewalk Sale
- N. Special Event – Fallen Angel Tattoo Grand Opening
- O. Special Event – Mac's Diner Grand Opening

VII. MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC

R.T. Luczak, reiterated he is still interested if the City wants to sell the community center. His current concern is running out of heat and mentioned that repair for it is 9 months out.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no scheduled public hearings.

IX. CITY BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Set sale for \$9,995,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2022A

Finance Director Daniel Winek explained inflation and rising interest rates are why this is a priority.

City Engineer Morgan Dawley stated bids have been coming in favorable to the city. Dawley noted rising costs have caused the City to utilize AARP money allowing flexibility on money allocation. Dawley stated more information will be available when the sale goes out on May 17, 2022.

On motion by Council Member Thorsen, seconded by Council Member Wong, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to adopt Resolution No. 2022-039 Providing for the Competitive Negotiated Sale of \$9,995,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2022A.

B. Concurrence of Bids and Joint Powers Agreement with Maplewood for Ariel Street and Utility Improvements Project (City Project CP 22-03)

Dawley presented this item and stated the ownership is split 50/50 but the City of Maplewood would be the lead agency. Dawley reviewed the two options and noted meetings with residents and public works staff have gone well and the bids are in the packet.

Mayor Furlong questioned if the sidewalk reconstruction is part of the strategic plan. Dawley noted it is part of the comprehensive plan and is identified for potential improvements.

Mayor Furlong wondered if any neighbors voiced concerns. Dawley stated there is not a significant amount of opposition.

Council Member Thorsen questioned the weight capacity of the sidewalk and if costs change depending on the side of the street the sidewalk is on. Dawley stated the sidewalk can handle the weight of heavy trucks and the concern about the location of the sidewalk has been expressed to the City of Maplewood but they indicated it was a North St. Paul requested amenity.

Council Member Thorsen also wondered if the road would be narrowed because of the potential sidewalk reconstruction. Dawley stated the design proposal of the sidewalk is to take approximately four or five feet of the shoulder.

On motion by Council Member Cole, seconded by Council Member Wong, with Mayor Furlong and Council Members Cole, Petersen, and Wong voting aye and Council Member Thorsen voting nay (4-1), motion carried to approve Alternate 2 (Ariel Street sidewalk) on the 2022 Gervais Area Pavement Rehabilitation Project including Ariel Street Improvements, City of Maplewood Project 21-07, City of North St. Paul Project 22-03.

On motion by Council Member Thorsen, seconded by Council Member Petersen, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to Execute the Joint Powers Agreement for the Aforementioned Project Subject to Minor Non-Substantive Edits by the City Attorney.

X. REPORTS OF CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENTS

There were no reports of City Manager and Departments.

XI. REPORTS OF COUNCIL, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Council Member Cole noted the EDA met on April 2, 2022 and reviewed parking and green space on open lots.

Council Member Wong noted the Planning Commission is wrapping up the sign ordinance and discussed updating the Wayfinding Plan. Council Member Wong also mentioned three applicants will be interviewed for the Arts and Culture Commission.

Council Member Petersen expressed her thanks to Morgan Dawley for the speech at the business association event.

Council Member Thorsen questioned the guidelines on using the City's logo.

Council Member Wong stated she will get back to the Council on the policy regarding the City's logo.

Council Member Petersen mentioned the Silver Lake cleanup on Friday April 23, 2022, the Citywide clean-up on April 30, 2022, and the Citywide Garage Sales on May 5-7, 2022.

Council Member Thorsen wondered if code enforcement has been out to monitor trash along the frontage road. City Manager John Stark stated he did bring it to code enforcement but has not heard back. Stark indicated he will follow up again.

Mayor Furlong stated Fallen Angels grand opening is May 21, 2022, 3-10 p.m., there will not be fireworks, and Mac's Diner's grand opening will be Friday July 8 and 15, 2022, with a live band from 6-9 p.m.

XII. GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no General Business.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion by Council Member Petersen, seconded by Council Member Wong, with all present voting aye (5-0), Mayor Furlong adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

/s/ Terrence J. Furlong, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ John Stark, City Manager/ Clerk