

City of North Saint Paul
June 21, 2022
Approved Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

“Special Guest/ Mayor for the day” Ernie Jutz called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance

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: Interim City Manager Brian Frandle, Deputy Clerk Jennie Kloos, City Planner Brandy Howe, 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 amended.

V. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

VI. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Wong requested Consent Agenda Item G be removed and addressed under City Business Action Items & Recommendations.

Council Member Thorsen requested Consent Agenda Item K be removed and addressed as under City Business Action Items & Recommendations

On motion by Council Member Thorsen, seconded by Council Member Cole, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to approve the consent agenda, Resolution No. 2022-062 consisting of:

- A. June 7, 2022 workshop minutes
- B. June 7, 2022 regular meeting minutes

- C. June 7, 2022 HRA meeting minutes
- D. General Claims \$1,346,439.98
- E. HRA Claims \$11,831.89
- F. Approve Tobacco Licenses
- G. Police Sergeants, LELS Local 298 Approval of Labor Contract **Moved to City Business Action Items & Recommendations**
- H. Special Event Permit for Wreaths Across America Event
- I. Building Permit Report – May 2022
- J. Resolution Approving Acceptance of Donations Received May 2022 ***Resolution No. 2022-063***
- K. Funding for Refurbishing the Snowman Mold **Moved to City Business Action Items & Recommendations**

VII. MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC

John Schmahl suggested City Council provide more details on residents' water bills.

R.T. Luczak stated his appreciation for the partnership with the City and the timeline continues to be April or May. He also thanked Ron Ritchie for the continued maintenance of the old building and expressed his desire to be on any future task force.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings.

IX. CITY BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Police Sergeants, LELS Local 298 Approval of Labor Contract (previously Consent Agenda Item G)

Council Member Wong requested this item be pulled from the Consent Agenda to further discuss the financial impact it would have on the City. City Attorney Mattick provided information regarding the shift differential wage and offered a memo from Finance Director Winek that would provide more details.

Motion by Council Member Wong to table this item until the next City Council meeting died for a lack of a second.

On motion by Council Member Thorsen, seconded by Council Member Petersen, with Mayor Furlong and Council Members, Thorsen, Petersen, and Cole voting aye and Council Member Wong voting nay (4-1), motion carried to accept the Police Sergeants, LELS Local 298 Approval of Labor Contract.

- B. Funding for Refurbishing the Snowman Mold (previously Consent Agenda Item K)

Council Member Thorsen requested this item be pulled from the Consent Agenda to further discuss the use of City money. Council Member Wong stated the Arts and Culture Commission is asking the City Council to front the money first and then market it to businesses as an

advertisement that will create revenue. Mayor Furlong stated money may come back in various contributions from businesses.

On motion by Council Member Wong, seconded by Council Member Cole, with Mayor Furlong and Council Members Cole, Petersen and Wong voting aye and Council Member Thorsen voting nay (4-1), motion carried to Consider Funding \$16,350 for Refurbishing the Snowman Mold and Sponsorship.

X. REPORTS OF CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENTS

Interim City Manager Frandle noted the summer assessment shows gas prices have increased 77-230% and wanted the City to be aware of a possible energy adjustment clause.

Mr. Frandle also noted NAERC has put out warnings regarding a power shortage. Mayor Furlong questioned if it would be a complete shutdown. Mr. Frandle stated yes, it would require a complete shutdown and start with the downtown area. Council Member Cole questioned if there is a system in place to control the energy usage (mainly by air conditioners) for in-home residents. Mr. Frandle stated there was a system in the past but it was found to be cost prohibitive so it was discontinued.

XI. REPORTS OF COUNCIL, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Council Member Cole reported the EDA met on June 14, 2022 and reviewed the downtown redevelopment plan and discussed the green and parking space at 2579 7th Street. He also noted tomorrow night at 6 p.m. the Parks and Recreation Board will hold a community meeting.

Council Member Wong updated new meeting dates.

Council Member Petersen stated the driveway will be poured on Thursday at the student-built house and should be finished by mid-July.

Council Member Thorsen reported the Master Redevelopment Plan will meet on June 27, 2022.

XII. GENERAL BUSINESS

Council Member Cole had nothing to report

Council Member Wong thanked Lisa Ritchie for her work with the Arts and Culture Commission.

Council Member Petersen had nothing to report

Council Member Thorsen stated City Council may have overlooked an authorization requirement at the last HRA meeting. Mr. Mattick stated there is a provision that requires the Planning Commission to weigh in and meet regarding this. Mr. Mattick stated the City Council can waive the authorization requiring a 4/5 vote or can send it back to the Planning Commission. Mr. Frandle did call for the Planning Commission to hold a meeting June 28th at 6:30 p.m.

Council Member Wong had nothing to report.

Mayor Furlong stated Veterans Park has over 1,300 pavers and is holding an event called Wreaths Across America educating people on veterans year-round. He also noted a thank you email he received from a resident.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Council Member Petersen, seconded by Council Member Wong, with all present voting aye (5-0), Mayor Furlong adjourned the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

/s/ Terrence J. Furlong, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Brian Frandle, Interim City Manager / Clerk