

City of North Saint Paul
October 18, 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 ABSENT
Council Member Wong
Mayor Furlong

Staff: City Manager Brian Frandle, Assistant to City Manager Jennie Kloos, City Engineer Morgan Dawley, Finance Director Daniel Winek, City Planner Brandy Howe, City Attorney Leah Koch

IV. ADOPT AGENDA

On motion by Council Member Petersen, seconded by Council Member Thorsen, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to approve the agenda as presented.

V. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

VI. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

On motion by Council Member Wong, seconded by Council Member Thorsen, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to approve the consent agenda as amended, Resolution No. 2022-093 consisting of:

- A. October 4, 2022 workshop minutes
- B. October 4, 2022 regular meeting minutes
- C. General Claims \$1,594,914.84
- D. HRA Claims \$38,527.26
- E. Building Permit Report – September 2022

- F. Resolution Approving Acceptance of Donations Received September 2022
Resolution No. 2022-094
- G. Public Works Maintenance Overlay Approval **Moved to City Business**
- H. Memorandum of Understanding LELS Local #211 (Patrol) and #298 (Sergeants) –
Shift Differential ***Moved to City Business***

VII. MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC

John Schmahl expressed his concern regarding the leaves and storm sewer.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Special Assessment Hearing for Unpaid Bills and Authorizing the City of North St. Paul to Certify to the County Auditor's Office all Unpaid Fees

Finance Director Daniel Winek stated this is a public hearing for any residents to express their concern regarding any of these unpaid fees. After the public hearing, residents have an additional 30 days to pay any remaining fees without interest. It will then be certified to the property tax rolls to Ramsey County Auditor.

Mayor Furlong opened the public hearing at 6:39 p.m.

Mayor Furlong closed the public hearing at 6:40 p.m.

On motion by Council Member Thorsen, seconded by Council Member Petersen, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to adopt the Resolution No. 2022-096, approving Assessment to Properties for Unpaid Water, Waste Water, Environmental Utility, Street Lights, Solid Waste and Recycling for North St. Paul Properties.

On motion by Council Member Petersen, seconded by Council Member Thorsen, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to adopt the Resolution No. 2022-097, approving Assessment to Properties for Unpaid Water, Waste Water, Environmental Utility and Recycling for Maplewood Properties.

- B. To Accept Input on a Proposed Two-Lot Subdivision of 2170 Eldridge Avenue North

City Planner Brandy Howe provided a brief overview of property details. The plan is to replace the substandard home that is currently being demolished and dividing this property into 2 smaller properties. This property meets the subdivision and zoning requirements and was discussed at two separate Planning Commission meetings. City Engineer Morgan Dawley has reviewed it and suggested drainage and utility easements be depicted on the map. The Planning Commission agreed this was within guidelines of the Capital Improvement Plan and Planning Commission recommends approval of the subdivision.

Mayor Furlong opened the public hearing at 6:44 p.m.

Resident John inquired about the original purchase price and what the City purchased it for. Mayor Furlong stated it was more than just the land cost. Council Member Thorsen commented

he had voiced concerns regarding the original price versus the current price at the previous HRA meeting.

Mayor Furlong closed the public hearing at 6:48 p.m.

On motion by Council Member Wong, seconded by Council Member Thorsen, with Mayor Furlong and Council Member Wong voting aye and Council Member Petersen and Council Member Thorsen voting no (2-2), motion failed to adopt the Resolution No. 2022-xxx, approving a Minor Subdivision Plat of 2170 E. Eldridge Avenue subject to the conditions in the draft Resolution.

City Attorney Koch advised that a motion can be made to reconsider and allow for more discussion. Mayor Furlong stated the house is currently being built. City Attorney Koch recommended a motion to reconsider.

On motion by Council Member Wong, seconded by Council Member Petersen, with all Present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to reconsider to allow for additional discussion.

Mayor Furlong expressed his confusion as to why a Council Member failed to approve this motion when one property is already being built and one will be built next year. Council Member Thorsen stated he was against this from the beginning and does not want the lots to be split. Council Member Wong believed the plan was to subdivide that lot into two smaller lots in order to have student-built housing for 2 years. Ms. Howe stated it fit within the CIP and met the goal of affordable housing. Mayor Furlong suggested the City Council table this item. City Attorney Koch recommended tabling it until the November 1st meeting or the following meeting.

On motion by Council Member Petersen, seconded by Council Member Wong, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to table this item until the next City Council Meeting.

IX. CITY BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Authorization to Apply for a DEED Contamination Cleanup Grant

Ms. Howe, Mr. LaValle, the developer, and Jennifer Forsth presented details on this grant. Mr. LaValle has requested a partnership with the City on grant applications that would go to DEED to assist with site clean-up. The site was previously occupied and an investigation found asbestos abatement, petroleum impacted soil and groundwater that will need to be cleaned up and/or removed. Mr. LaValle prepared grant applications and is asking the City of North St. Paul to act as the official applicant. If resolutions are passed tonight, the City would act as the applicant and enter into an agreement with Mr. LaValle. The cost would be incurred and paid out by that agreement and the developer would assist in preparing progress reports and administering the grants. The grant application would have resolutions of support from the City.

On motion by Council Member Wong, seconded by Council Member Petersen, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to adopt the Resolution No. 2022-098, Authorizing an Application to DEED for a Contamination Clean-Up Grant for the Lillie Redevelopment Site.

B. Authorization and Local Match Commitment for a DEED Contamination Cleanup Grant

On motion by Council Member Wong, seconded by Council Member Petersen, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to adopt the Resolution No. 2022-099, Committing Local Match and Authorizing Contract Signature for a Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Contamination Cleanup Grant for the Lillie Building Redevelopment Project.

C. Support to Apply for Metropolitan Council TBRA Cleanup Grant

On motion by Council Member Wong, seconded by Council Member Thorsen, with all present voting aye, (4-0), motion carried to adopt the Resolution No. 2022-100, Authorizing Application for the Tax Base Revitalization Account (TBRA) for the Lillie Redevelopment Project.

D. Support to Apply for a Ramsey County Environmental Response Fund Grant

On motion by Council Member Thorsen, seconded by Council Member Wong, with all present voting aye, (4-0), motion carried to adopt the Resolution No. 2022-101, Authorizing Application for the Ramsey County Environmental Response Fund Grant for the Lillie Redevelopment Project.

E. Consideration of Ordinance 809, North St. Paul City Code as it Relates to Composition of the Arts and Culture Commission

Mr. Frandle stated the Arts and Culture Commission is requesting their Commission members go from five to seven.

Council Member Wong has had a number of people interested and the increase in members would expedite projects and allow Commissioners to do their work.

On motion by Council Member Wong, seconded by Council Member Petersen, with all present voting aye, (4-0), motion carried to adopt the Ordinance No. 809, amending the North St. Paul City Code as it Relates to Composition of the Arts and Culture Commission.

F. Public Works Maintenance Overlay Approval

Council Member Wong noted this project is next to a school and inquired about plans to create a sidewalk for students to walk in and around the school. Mr. Winek stated this is simply a mill and overlay which does not provide the opportunity to add sidewalks or alternative walking areas.

On motion by Council Member Thorsen, seconded by Council Member Petersen, with all present voting aye, (4-0), motion carried to approve the Public Works Maintenance Overlay.

G. Memorandum of Understanding LELS Local #211 (Patrol) and #298 (Sergeants) – Shift Differential

Council Member Wong inquired about clarification in the Memorandum of Understand language and what kind of financial impact this change in language may have. Mr. Winek clarified the language states if you are regularly scheduled for a night shift, will you still receive the shift differential and if someone is getting overtime, they would not get the paid shift differential.

On motion by Council Member Thorsen, seconded by Council Member Petersen, with all present voting aye, (4-0), motion carried to adopt the Resolution No. 2022-095, Approving the 2022-2024 Shift Differential Memorandums of Understandings Between the City of North St. Paul and Local No. 298 and Local No. 211.

X. REPORTS OF CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENTS

Mr. Frandle reported the opioid settlement amount will be approximately \$4,100 and is specific as to what it can be used for. Downtown plantings are happening and winter preparations are beginning. Mayor Furlong commented on the markings on the new sidewalks. Mr. Frandle stated it is spray chalk and City Engineer Morgan Dawley noted it is a legal requirement to label underground piping and should wash away after a couple of rainfalls.

XI. REPORTS OF COUNCIL, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Council Member Wong stated Arts and Culture Commission wrapped up the well-attended Fall Frolic and the Business Association has partnered with project Snowy. The Planning Commission met on the October 6th to hold a public hearing on the subdivision plat, the new proposed property at 2395 Margaret Street, and more discussion on curb distance for signs in the sign ordinance.

Mayor Furlong stated the Fall Frolic was a great event.

XII. GENERAL BUSINESS

Council Member Thorsen stated he will be absent from first meeting in November.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Council Member Wong, seconded by Council Member Petersen, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m..

/s/ Terrence J. Furlong, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Brian Frandle, City Manager/ Clerk