

City of North Saint Paul
April 2, 2024
Approved Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Monge 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 Nordby
Council Member Schweer
Council Member Cole
Council Member Wong
Mayor Monge

Staff: City Manager Brian Frandle, Assistant to the City Manager Jennie Kloos, Finance Director Daniel Winek, Community Development Director Brandy Howe, Communications Kari Erpenbach, Police Chief Phil Baebenroth, Interim Police Chief Ray Rozales, Public Works Director Ron Ritchie, Fire Chief Jason Mallinger.

IV. ADOPT AGENDA

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

V. PRESENTATIONS

A. Proclamation for Arbor Day

B. Recognition – Chief of Police Phil Baebenroth

City Manager Brian Frandle recognized and thanked Police Chief Baebenroth for his many contributions and dedication he provided the staff and residents of North St. Paul. Chief Baebenroth will be starting a new position with Ramsey County and his last day with the City of North St. Paul will be April 5th.

VI. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Nordby requested that Consent Agenda Items H and I be removed and addressed under City Business.

On motion by Council Member Cole, seconded by Council Member Schweer, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to approve the consent agenda as amended, Resolution No. 2024-040 consisting of:

- A. February 20, 2024 HRA closed meeting minutes
- B. March 19, 2024 workshop minutes
- C. March 19, 2024 regular meeting minutes
- D. March 19, 2024 HRA meeting minutes
- E. General Claims \$1,301,306.63
- F. HRA Claims \$1,407.96
- G. Special Event Permit – Wilderness Inquiry – **Resolution No. 2024-041**
- H. Special Event Permit – Rotary Club **Moved to City Business**
- I. Resolution Accepting Donation from Rotary Club **Moved to City Business**
- J. Resolution Accepting Donation from ISD-622 - **Resolution No. 2024-042**
- K. Contract Torque Utilities for 2024 Underground Directional Bore
- L. Highway 120 and Highway 35 Letter of Support
- M. Surplus Sewer Cleaning Truck

VII. CITY BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Special Event Permit – Rotary Club (formerly Consent Agenda Item H)
- B. Resolution Accepting Donation from Rotary Club (formerly Consent Agenda Item I)

Council Member Nordby pulled these items and noted his abstention from the vote due to a conflict of interest.

Council Member Cole requested clarification regarding the event fee and the difference between a public event and this event. He suggested further conversation and a potential language change.

City Manager Frandle supported a future discussion to allow for more exceptions in the language such as the Rotary Club. Council Member Schweer suggested a reevaluation of the fee charges. Mr. Frandle noted the language has to be changed to allow for the Rotary Club to not be charged for an event.

On motion by Council Member Cole, seconded by Council Member Schweer, with all present voting aye and Council Member Nordby abstention, (4-0-1), motion carried to adopt Resolution No. 2024-044 Approving a Special Event Permit for the Rotary Club of North St. Paul/Maplewood/Oakdale and Resolution No. 2024-043 Approving Acceptance of a Donation.

VIII. REPORTS OF CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENTS

Mr. Frandle reported the Fire Department is working on certificates of compliance and sent investigators to training. He noted Public Works mentioned that the student-built house has finished sheet rocking and taping. He noted water meters are in the process of repairs and the Emerald Ash Bore removal project has seen ten requests. He added a public meeting will be held on April 17th to discuss the lead pipes in homes and potential replacement. Mayor Monge noted this has been put on by the federal government. Mr. Frandle stated the Electric Department continues to work on underground wiring around the City. He added that Ray Rozales has accepted the position of Police Chief.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Council Member Cole stated the EDA met on March 21st and decided the group would like to remain an EDA, posted on the City website for additional members, noted the new president and vice president, and introduced the idea of a consultant or company to promote and bring potential businesses to the City. He stated the EDA also considered moving to quarterly meetings and the next EDA meeting will be April 23rd at 4:00 p.m.

Council Member Wong stated the Arts and Culture Commission has had Snowy's purchased and will set dates for reveal and opportunities for residents to view before being placed at their final location. She added that vendor applications have gone out for the Autumn Art Festival. She stated the new student commissioner will be introduced at the next meeting. Council Member Wong stated they discussed the endangerment of Blanding's turtles and what the City can do to help decrease them getting run over on the streets.

Council Member Nordby noted the Planning Commission will meet on Thursday, April 4th to continue discussing fence regulations.

Council Member Schweer stated the next Parks and Rec meeting will be April 24, 2024.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS

Council Member Nordby noted Saturday, May 11th will be spring clean-up from 8:30-11:00 a.m. and yard clean up starts on April 15, 2024.

Council Member Wong requested a follow up meeting on the City Manager review and expand on the Management Action Plan. She also thanked Public Works for the recent snow removal.

Mayor Monge noted the next City Council meeting is April 16, 2024.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion by Council Member Cole, seconded by Council Member Wong, with all present voting aye (5-0), Mayor Monge adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

/s/ John Monge, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Brian Frandle, City Manager/ Clerk