

City of North Saint Paul
October 1, 2024
Approved Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Monge called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

II. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Nordby
Council Member Schweer absent
Council Member Cole
Council Member Wong
Mayor Monge

Staff: City Manager Brian Frandle, Assistant to the City Manager Jennie Kloos, Finance
Director Daniel Winek, Public Works Director Ron Ritchie, Public Works
Supervisor Randy Miller and City Engineer Morgan Dawley

IV. ADOPT AGENDA

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

V. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Council Member Cole, seconded by Council Member Nordby, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to approve the consent agenda, Resolution No. 2024-101 consisting of:

- A. September 17, 2024 workshop meeting minutes
- B. September 17, 2024 HRA meeting minutes
- C. September 17, 2024 regular meeting minutes
- D. September 17, 2024 closed meeting minutes
- E. General Claims \$1,435,663.43
- F. HRA Claims \$3,125.43
- G. Purchase of Energy Kits and LED Holiday Lighting
- H. Special Event Permit for Hang Time Board Shop's "Ride to Remember" Event
Resolution No. 2024-102
- I. Public Works Surplus Items for Auction

VI. MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC

John Schmahl expressed his continued frustration with the cancellation of Zoom meetings.

VII. CITY BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Hause Park Courts Reconstruction Project – Approve Change Order No. 1
- B. Hause Park Courts Reconstruction Project – Approve Pay Voucher No. 2 and Final

City Engineer Morgan Dawley presented Items A and B together and noted they are both regarding the Hause Park Courts Reconstruction Project. He explained the net change in the amount of \$640.00 requires a change order resolution and also to accept the final payment.

Council Member Nordby requested clarification that the change order would not affect the grant. Mr. Dawley confirmed it would not.

On motion by Council Member Wong, seconded by Council Member Cole, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to approve Change Order No.1 in the amount of \$640.00 for the Hause Park Reconstruction Project.

On motion by Council Member Nordby, seconded by Council Member Cole, with all present voting aye (4-0), motion carried to adopt Resolution No. 2024-103, Authorizing Final Payment for the Hause Park Court Reconstruction Project.

C. Enterprise Fund 10-Year Financial Plans

Finance Director Dan Winek presented this item and provided estimates on generated revenue and percentage of cost increase for expenditures. He explained the 10-year plan and how the percentage changes are calculated. Mr. Winek stated he would provide a more in-depth look at this at the next City Council meeting.

Mr. Winek provided the latest financial update from WSB and the bond funds. He briefly discussed the negative balance in the Fiber Optic Fund and the length of time it will take to pay it off. Mr. Winek then provided a glimpse into some of the financial statistics for the future to provide awareness and help with future financial planning.

Mr. Winek stated he has never been for or against special assessments but rather provided information on both options. He explained how special assessments work versus using levy money to repair and make updates to the Street Pavement Plan. He expressed his gratitude to the City for making streets a priority.

Council Member Cole suggested the topic of special assessments be discussed again with possible limitations and guards around the assessment. He also would like to explore other potential ways to pay for streets moving forward.

Council Member Wong encouraged City Council to find alternate ways or scenarios to help offset the levy if special assessments are eliminated.

Mayor Monge clarified the inability for residents to pay for the special assessments, means it would then be assessed to their property taxes. He also noted his apprehension using a levy to improve streets that would require each resident to pay regardless if they are affected by that improvement or not.

Mr. Winek will provide information and scenarios based on different funding sources for the street maintenance projections.

D. 2024 Statements of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance for the General Fund and Enterprise Funds

Mr. Winek presented this item. He stated the general fund budget is looking good and he does not anticipate anything in the negative. He stated there is detailed information by department in the packet.

Mr. Winek reviewed the Enterprise Funds and provided data on each fund's revenue and expenditures as of the end of August 2024.

Mayor Monge inquired about solid waste usage in the most recently built apartment complex and expressed his concern regarding any new apartment developments. He also inquired about water usage billing for a new development. Mr. Winek stated he will research both of these topics thoroughly and get back to Mayor Monge.

VIII. REPORTS OF CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENTS

Mr. Frandle stated the Public Works Department continues to work on the student-built house and have also been out hydrant flushing and removing trees and stumps. Community Development is working on the feasibility study and meeting with the Parks and Recreation Commission on October 9th and 10th for public input at Casey Lake. They will also be working with Ramsey County on a free mattress pick up program. Assistant to the City Manager Jennie Kloos has been working with Gallagher to review health and dental coverage rates for next year. The website is undergoing updates. The Fire and Police Departments will have their annual trunk or treat event. The Fire Department will also be testing hoses and noted Fire Prevention Week is next week. The Electric Department finished working on Taco Bell and continues to work on 17th Avenue and Delaware Street. Mr. Frandle explained the pros and cons of obtaining and maintaining goats. He noted the article regarding Snowy in the League of Minnesota Cities' magazine and stated Star Watch will be this Wednesday from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Council Member Cole stated the EDA will meet on October 8 at 4:00 p.m.

Council Member Nordby noted the Planning Commission will meet on October 3, 2024.

Council Member Wong stated there is not an update from the Arts and Culture Commission but they will be meeting tomorrow at 6:30 p.m. to continue discussions on their remaining plans for 2025 and their budget.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS

Council Member Nordby noted the event at the American Legion on October 24, 6:00 pm., for the public to ask questions and get to know the candidates running for City Council.

Council Member Cole noted his attendance last week at the POW/MIA Walk and expressed his gratitude for the help from the Public Works and Police Departments.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion by Council Member Cole, seconded by Council Member Wong, with all present voting aye (4-0), Mayor Monge adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

/s/ John Monge, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Brian Frandle, City Manager / Clerk