

City of North Saint Paul
September 3, 2019
Adopted Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

Mayor Furlong requested a moment of silence in memory of North St. Paul Police Officer Richard Crittenden, who was killed in the line of duty on September 7, 2009.

II. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Present: Council Member Thorsen
Council Member Petersen
Council Member Walczak
Council Member Sonnek
Mayor Furlong

Staff: City Manager Scott Duddeck, Finance Director Jason Zimmerman, City Planner Erin Perdu, City Engineer Morgan Dawley, Deputy Clerk Mary Mills.

IV. ADOPT AGENDA

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

V. PRESENTATIONS

City Manager Scott Duddeck announced the appointment of Jason Zimmerman as the City's new Finance Director. He added Mr. Zimmerman has been the interim Finance Director for several months and was officially appointed to the permanent position that day, September 3, 2019.

Finance Director Jason Zimmerman expressed his thanks and appreciation for the opportunity to serve the City of North St. Paul. He introduced his family: his wife Sarah and children Laurel and Leo.

Mayor Furlong thanked Mr. Zimmerman for taking on the role of Finance Director and wished him the best, adding he looks forward to working together for many years to come.

Mr. Duddeck stated this date is of significance to him as he was hired by the City of North St. Paul 28 years ago today.

VI. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Council Member Walczak, seconded by Council Member Sonnek, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to approve the consent agenda, Resolution No. 2019-112 consisting of:

- A. August 13, 2019 retreat workshop minutes.
- B. August 20, 2019 workshop meeting minutes.
- C. August 20, 2019 regular meeting minutes.
- D. General accounts payable: \$745,024.36
- E. HRA accounts payable: \$21,497.45
- F. Special Event Permit for the American Legion Brat 'n Corn Feed, Saturday, September 7, 2019. Resolution No. 2019-113.
- G. Application for an extension of an on-sale liquor license by the American Legion Post #39, to be used with their special event on Saturday, September 7, 2019. Resolution No. 2019-114.
- H. Special Event Permit for the POW/MIA Candlelight Remembrance Walk on Thursday, September 12, 2019. Resolution No. 2019-115.

VII. MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC

John Schmahl expressed concern that State Statute 297H.07 related to solid waste management tax has not been discussed by the City Council at a Regular Meeting.

Mr. Schmahl stated residents received a call from Republic Services today regarding Labor Day week pick-up dates. He added he called City Hall to report this mistake. He noted there should have been a similar call from the City of North St. Paul notifying residents about pick-up dates.

Mr. Schmahl stated the widths of many City Streets have been reduced as part of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). He added his street, Chisholm Avenue, has two 90-degree curves and is a school bus route, and the width of the roadway should not be reduced. He noted he contacted City Engineer Morgan Dawley about this, who informed him that this is a Watershed District issue.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no scheduled hearings.

IX. CITY BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Delaware Avenue and 17th Avenue E Rezoning Request: R-1 to R-2

City Planner Erin Perdu reviewed a request to rezone an approximately 2-acre site from R-1 to R-2. The site would be developed into an 18-unit townhome development. Rezoning request from R1 to R2. Applicant Paul Bruggeman. A site plan, PUD, and preliminary plat were tabled by the Planning Commission at their last meeting to give City Staff time to review plan details.

Ms. Perdu stated the request to re-zone the property is consistent with the City's 2040 Comprehensive Plan which designates this area for medium density residential use.

Ms. Perdu stated there was significant opposition to the proposal from neighborhood residents during the public hearing that was held at the Planning Commission meeting. She added the Planning Commission will review the site plan and PUD at their next meeting and hopefully resolve areas of concern. She noted the Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of the rezoning request.

Council Member Sonnek stated the area would need to be rezoned from R-1 to R-2 based on the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Perdu agreed, adding after the Comprehensive Plan was adopted, the City has 9 months to bring all official controls into compliance, so the property would have been re-zoned at some point.

On Motion by Council Member Thorsen, Seconded by Council Member Sonnek, with all present voting Aye (5-0), motion carried to adopt Resolution No. 2019-116 approving the Rezoning of Property Located at 2329 17th Avenue E from R-1, Single Family Residential District to R-2, Mixed Residential District as recommended by the Planning Commission.

B. Right-Of-Way Vacation, Parkside Apartments

Ms. Perdu reviewed a request for right-of-way vacation near Parkside Apartments from applicant LHB Properties. She added the applicant owns properties to the north and south and want to vacate the alley to provide improved access to the apartments. She noted drainage and utilities easements over the entire area are a condition of approval.

Ms. Perdu stated the Planning Commission held a public hearing on this issue and recommended approval of this request.

Council Member Sonnek stated a representative of the applicant attended the Planning Commission meeting and indicated that the purpose of this request is to have better control over maintenance and snow removal in the alley.

On motion by Council Member Sonnek, seconded by Council Member Walczak, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to adopt Resolution No. 2019-117 approving the Vacation of the Alley with Block 13 of the Fourth Addition of North St Paul as recommended by the Planning Commission.

X. REPORTS OF CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENTS

Mr. Duddeck stated the conversion to the new trash hauler, Tennis Sanitation, is ongoing, and the contractor finished delivering new containers on August 31, 2019. He added residents are asked to contact the City if they have not received a new container. He noted Republic Services will be collecting carts through September 6, 2019.

Mr. Duddeck stated many residents put their Republic containers curbside filled with trash and recycling which cannot be collected. He added Tennis Sanitation will empty those carts on September 4, 2019. He requested that residents start using their new Tennis containers rather than the Republic containers.

Mr. Duddeck stated the City's streets projects are moving forward toward completion as quickly as possible. He requested that residents who have questions or comments should contact City Hall.

Mr. Duddeck stated the Anchor Block North site development continues with bids out for grading and discussions with contractors. He added an open house is scheduled for Friday September 6, 2019 from 4:00-7:00 p.m. He noted additional information can be found on the City's website.

A resident in the audience raised a concern regarding his neighbor's compost that has not been picked up. Mr. Duddeck stated this is related to waste materials deposited in Republic containers. He added Tennis Sanitation will be emptying the carts so that Republic can collect them.

XI. REPORTS OF COUNCIL, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Council Member Sonnek stated the Planning Commission will meet Thursday September 5, 2019, and Thursday, September 12, 2019. He added the September 5, 2019 meeting will include a public hearing on the old City Hall site development as well as the Bruggeman townhome development.

Council Member Petersen stated dates of upcoming Parks and Recreation events include the Halloween Trick or Treat Trail on Saturday, October 24, 2019, and Mike Lynch's Starwatch event on Saturday, October 3, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Furlong stated the POW-MIA parade is scheduled for September 12, 2019, beginning at the VFW and culminating at Veteran's Park with a guest speaker and presentation of brick pavers with dedications.

XII. GENERAL BUSINESS

Mayor Furlong expressed condolences to the family of Robert Gatti.

Mayor Duddeck stated Robert Gatti was a former City Manager of North St. Paul, who began his career with the City as the Village Treasurer in 1967. He added Mr. Gatti retired in April 1994. He noted he will be greatly missed within the community and expressed his condolences to the Gatti family.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion by Council Member Sonnek, Seconded by Council Member Walczak, with all present voting aye (5-0), Mayor Furlong adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

/s/ Terrence J. Furlong, Mayor

Attest: /s/ Scott A. Duddeck, City Manager