

MINUTES

1. CONVENE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Zerby called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.

A. Roll Call

Present. Mayor Zerby; Councilmembers Johnson, Labadie, Siakel, and Sundberg; City Attorney Keane; City Administrator Lerud; City Clerk Thone; Finance Director Rigdon; Planning Director Darling; Director of Public Works Brown; and, City Engineer Budde

Absent: None

B. Review Agenda

Johnson moved, Labadie seconded, approving the agenda as presented. Motion passed 5/0.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Zerby reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda.

Johnson moved, Labadie seconded, Approving the Motions Contained on the Consent Agenda and Adopting the Resolutions Therein.

A. City Council Work Session Minutes of February 24, 2020

B. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes from February 24, 2020

C. Approval of the Verified Claims List

Motion passed 5/0.

3. MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

Jay Johnson, 7496 Saratoga Street, Chanhassen, stated that he was here representing American Promise West Metro. He distributed invitations to the Council to their meetings where their goal is to get big money out of politics. He explained that their first meeting will be on March 31, 2020 and noted that residents and elected officials are welcome to attend.

Steven Farnas, 5445 Timber Lane, stated that he would like to talk to the Council about a few of the permits that he has for a raft and a few buoys. He stated that they have had them for the past sixteen years and were recently renewed by the water patrol. He stated that the permit is good for three years and is was renewed in May of 2019. He noted that early last summer he was

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visited by a water patrol representative who told him he had to remove the raft and buoys because they were a hazard navigation. He showed the representative his permit and who expressed surprise by the fact that he had a permit. He stated that this representative came back later with the new head of the water patrol and they repeated that the raft and buoys had to be removed even though were within the dock use area. He stated that he showed them the permits and the envelope that the permits were sent in and in the end, he was issued a ticket. He explained that the ticket was not prosecuted but he received a letter that basically stated that he would have to reapply this spring just one year after the last permit was issued. He stated that he feels this situation warrants placement on the LMCD agenda for further discussion. He noted that the LMCD does not enforce DNR regulations on the lake. He asked that the Council direct Debra Zorn to place this on the agenda for the LMCD.

Councilmember Siakel stated that she lives on the lake and has also had buoys and swim rafts that they have used and gotten permits through the water patrol as well. She asked if they had come out to inspect and if there was a record of the inspections.

Mr. Farnas stated that they came out about three years ago because of a complaint from a neighbor and everything passed inspection at that time and noted that someone had to sign off on his permit last year. He stated that they suggested that he may want to be a "good neighbor" and move the things that are in his docking area, which he did not do. He stated that he knows that they have inspected it at least three times. He stated that the water patrol is there to enforce the rules set forth by the LMCD, not to tell the LMCD what to do. He reiterated that he would like the Council to direct Debra Zorn to put this discussion on the LMCD agenda.

4. PUBLIC HEARING - NONE

5. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Laura Hotvet, Director of Excelsior – Lake Minnetonka Chamber

Laura Hotvet stated she is here with Jen Weiss who is the marketing and membership director at the Lake Minnetonka Chamber to give an update to the City. Ms. Weiss gave a brief overview of the community guide that is put together by the Chamber that includes the Chamber members and things to do in the area. She gave examples of where they have distributed the community guides and noted the locations where they are available. She gave an overview of the upcoming Luck of the Lake event which will take place on Saturday.

Ms. Hotvet gave a brief presentation on the Excelsior-Lake Minnetonka Chamber and what they do. She stated that their mission is to create a positive and thriving environment for the Lake Minnetonka area through actively promoting a prosperous business climate, collaborating with community organizations, and engaging with residents and visitors. She explained that they are the leading advocate for businesses and Chamber members both locally and regionally. She reviewed the values and noted that they currently have two-hundred forty-seven members. She gave examples of some of their community engagement activities. She noted that the City of Shorewood has been a huge supporter especially of the Lake Minnetonka 4th of July event. She stated that they are working on creating an arm of their organization to meet the needs of the visitors to the area.

Councilmember Sundberg asked if the events were a big success for the downtown businesses.

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Ms. Hotvet stated that she feels it is the Chamber's job to get people to the front doors of the businesses and it is the businesses job to pull them inside. She stated that, in general, she feels these events draw people to the area.

Councilmember Johnson asked Ms. Weiss what the dog derby did in terms of driving business to the area for that weekend. Ms. Weiss stated that almost every business reported that it was their best day for the winter season and in some cases, the year.

Mayor Zerby stated that there are sponsorships for different events and noted that the City is in the platinum category for donating and asked how many other entities are in the platinum category. Ms. Weiss stated that there are five platinum level sponsors for 2019. Mayor Zerby stated that usually sponsorship levels come with different benefits and asked what the City received for being a platinum member. Ms. Weiss explained that it got the City six specific social media posts, a banner that is 9 x 3.5 on the website and handouts.

Mayor Zerby asked if the banners were only for platinum members because he noticed that the City of Excelsior has a banner and they are not a platinum member. Ms. Weiss stated that they have a banner because of the memo of understanding (MOU) they have with the City of Excelsior.

Mayor Zerby stated that the City does not have a MOU which places us at a disadvantage since the events take place in Excelsior. He stated that he would like to see the platinum membership provide more of a benefit to the City and suggested naming some of the mini-events for the City, such as the Shorewood Ice Cream Social, the Shorewood 2K, or somehow involving the Shorewood Community and Event Center. He stated that the City contributes a significant amount of money and would like there to be more benefit to the City for our participation level.

Ms. Weiss stated that she would like to know what some of the goals are for the City for things like the Shorewood and Community Event Center because then they could help find ways to elevate them. Ms. Hotvet stated that they are planning to have a conversation with Park and Recreation Director Grout on ways to work together on some of the events such as Music in the Park and Movie in the Park.

Councilmember Labadie stated that she, Park and Recreation Director Grout and Ms. Hotvet had a brainstorming session last week. She noted that they had discussed partnering with the Chamber to utilize some of the City parks or land for new events or using existing events but bring in a Chamber presence. Councilmember Labadie noted that during the discussion, Ms. Hotvet pointed out that the Luck of the Lake tent party is truly for all ages and is not just a beer tent, which is a common misconception.

6. PARKS - NONE

7. PLANNING - NONE

8. ENGINEERING/PUBLIC WORKS

A. Authorization to Prepare Feasibility Report and Preliminary Design for the Mary Lake Outlet Project, City Project 19-09

City Engineer Budde stated that over the last 20 years the City has been required to pump water out of land locked Mary Lake to help reduce the risk of property damage to area residents. He

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gave a brief overview of the history of pumping and explained that the City has been consulting with Barr Engineering about concepts and ways to address this issue. He stated that their recommendation was to directionally drill an eight-inch diameter pipe that would allow the pipe to discharge from the north end of Mary Lake to Studer Pond in Excelsior. He noted that they are proposing to do a topographical study, evaluate the soil conditions, and identify any easement needs. He stated that the plan is to conduct the survey in early spring and hold a public hearing at the end of April. Councilmember Siakel noted that the Council discussed this in great detail during a previous work session.

Siakel moved, Sundberg seconded, Adopting RESOLUTION NO. 20-023, “A Resolution to Prepare Feasibility Report and Preliminary Design for the Mary Lake Outlet Project, City Project 19-09.” Motion passed 5/0.

B. Authorization to Prepare Feasibility Report and Preliminary Design for the Beverly Drive Wetland Project, City Project 20-03

City Engineer Budde explained that this project is very similar to the Mary Lake project but noted that this basin has existing tile in it that has deteriorated over time. He stated that the City has performed maintenance on the tiles that are located in the right-of-way and has assumed some ownership responsibility for the tile. He stated that the tile is crushed and is causing high waters in the basin south of Beverly Drive and is threatening some structures and property and causing issues west of Cajed Lane including the cemetery. He stated that the recommendation is to replace the eight-inch tile and provide an outlet for the basin west of Cajed Lane.

Mayor Zerby noted that this issue was also discussed thoroughly at a previous work session.

Sundberg moved, Siakel seconded, Adopting RESOLUTION NO. 20-024, “A Resolution to Prepare Feasibility Report and Preliminary Design for the Beverly Drive Wetland project, City Project 20-03” Motion passed 5/0.

9. GENERAL/NEW BUSINESS - NONE

10. STAFF AND COUNCIL REPORTS

A. Administrator and Staff

1. Shorewood Community and Event Center Year End Report

Park and Recreation Director Grout gave a brief overview of the rentals, revenues and expenditures for 2019 compared to 2018. She stated that summer rentals have been low but she is hoping to garner interest for things like weddings, family reunions and graduations. She reviewed some of the facility improvements that took place in 2019 and noted that they had been well received.

Councilmember Sundberg asked about the marketing budget.

City Administrator Lerud stated that they planned to spend about \$5,000 this year and noted that a lot of it will be spent on electronic advertising. He stated that in preparation for 2021, staff will have more fully thought through how they would like to advertise in the future. Councilmember Labadie stated that the report showed that pamphlets were sent out to area sports organizations

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and asked if any sports organizations have utilized the facility. Park and Recreation Director Grout stated that lacrosse has rented it a few times. Councilmember Labadie suggested re-marketing it back to the sports organizations now that the fields are open.

Mayor Zerby suggested connecting with the Chamber to touch base with some of the people who come out to the Farmers Market about some possible use for the commercial kitchen. Park and Recreation Director Grout stated that she has already had conversations with the Chamber about collaborating on some ideas for Apple Days.

Mayor Zerby stated that he feels the website is looking a little dated and could use some updating.

Other

Public Works Director Brown stated that they have been very busy filling pot holes. He expressed appreciation from the whole Public Works Department to the Council for the recent purchase of a bucket truck and explained how it will make a huge difference in their operations.

Mayor Zerby noted that Excelsior has started their street sweeping and hydrant flushing. He stated that normally the City does that later in the season and asked if it may be a good idea to get started sooner. Public Works Director Brown explained the reasons that the City usually waits a bit later in the season to begin, including the fact that the weather may change and require dropping sand on the streets so sweeping the streets may be premature. He stated that the street sweepers are also a heavy vehicle and they don't want to damage the streets.

Finance Director Rigdon noted that the annual audit is being conducted this week.

City Administrator Lerud asked the Council if there was anything they would like him to do regarding Mr. Farnas' request from earlier in the meeting. Mayor Zerby stated that he had spoken with Debra Zorn and her feeling was that there has been a bit of a change in the sheriff's office and the leadership. City Administrator Lerud asked if the LMCD had a "matters from the floor" section of their meetings. He stated that he will check and will encourage Mr. Farnas to attend that meeting and get this issue in front of the LMCD.

B. Mayor and City Council

Mayor Zerby stated that the Mayor's Forum will be held March 12, 2020 at the Shorewood Community and Event Center and include mayors from the five cities surrounding Shorewood.

11. ADJOURN

Labadie moved, Johnson seconded, Adjourning the City Council Regular Meeting of March 9, 2020, at 8:04 P.M. Motion passed 5/0.

ATTEST:

Scott Zerby, Mayor

Sandie Thone, City Clerk