

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS
Regular Meeting of the City Council
City Hall
2077 West Larpenteur Avenue

MINUTES

March 28, 2018 at 7:00 P.M.

- A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 P.M.
- B. ROLL CALL: LINDSTROM ___ LEEHY_X_ BROWN THUNDER_X_
MIAZGA_X_ GUSTAFSON_X_

STAFF PRESENT: THONGVANH_X_

C. PRESENTATIONS:

1. Northeast Youth & Family Services (NYFS) Annual Report

President and CEO Jerry Hromatka, with Northeast Youth & Family Services presented an update of what has been going on with NYFS. He said it was a great opportunity to present NYFS' message to the Council, and also gives those, who watch cable TV, the opportunity to get to know NYFS. Mr. Hromatka opened with a quote: "I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination." Jimmy Dean. Mr. Hromatka stated that this is what NYFS is all about, for people coming for help from NYFS. How do you deal with things going on in your life, and how do you make sense of that and adjust, so you can move forward.

NYFS works with all people of all ages, but their primary focus is with the youth, 5-21 years of age (about 4,000 youth, adult and families a year). They have a staff of forty-eight (48), which is comprised of full and part-time employees, and a budget of \$3.3 million.

Mr. Hromatka stated their main program are: Mental Health, Day Treatment and Community Services (website: www.nyfs.org). NYFS mental health is 'Psychotherapy', and their philosophy is "how we understand people". Their hopes and dreams and "how do they want it to be". NYFS works closely with schools (grants through the State); they also have clinics based in Shoreview and White Bear Lake.

The way NYFS brings in funds are contracts, fees, grants and contributions. The monies and support that we get from the fifteen municipalities are considered grant, and it is a "God sent for us." Mr. Hromatka said. What Falcon Heights support buys is: 1) Services for residents, 2) Benefits - Educational attainment, effective workforce, and citizenship, and 3) Leverage outside resources. Mental health, diversion, and Senior Chore are guaranteed for any family, any resident of Falcon Heights, regardless. Of course, we do ask that the municipalities pay a little something.

Upcoming events: 1) Leadership Lunch, May 2, 2018, Midland Hills, and 2) Mayor's Challenge Golf Tournament, June 11, 2018, Keller Golf Course.

Finally, Mr. Hromatka shared a Mother Teresa quote, "I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples." That is what NYFS is doing together with the cities. In partnership, we are creating ripples. We do not even

know where we will end. We will plant the seeds and see what happens. We are making a difference by who we touch and how we interact with other. Please do not ever think that you support of us at \$9,000 in a \$3M budget is insignificant.

Council Member Leehy asked Mr. Hromatka if he could comment on how seniors or families that want to connect their seniors to the Senior Chore Program can connect. What steps they would take. Mr. Hromatka said they could go on the NYFS website or call the main office in Shoreview at 651-486-3808, and they will be able to guide the person from there.

Mr. Hromatka also spoke about the Senior Chore Program. There are three different types of services: Routine services where they go in and do cleaning, snow shoveling, and grass cutting for the seniors. Things that are needed on a regular basis we call routine. The youths are paid for these routine services. We do have money set up for these routine services, but we also ask that the seniors pay something for these services. Then there are seasonal services – one-time spring and fall cleanups. This is really great with volunteers. We will probably have 450 volunteers this spring and about 600-700 volunteers in the fall; and will do 60-90 seniors homes getting them ready. The third, we do some special projects.

For instance, a gentlemen that we have worked with on a routine basis, now has Parkinson's disease. It finally progressed so far that he could not leave his house because he could not maneuver down the stairs. A church in White Bear Lake heard about this and they put in the labor, they put in the money, and they built the ramp and installed it, but it came through us and we organized it. So, occasionally we help on this type of project. However, NYFS does hesitate on this kind of project, because there are a lot of these type of projects out there, and then you get into areas of liability and risk and competition with small business. We are there to help, but the best way to get in touch with us is again through our Website www.nyfs.org or the phone number 651-486-3808.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. March 14, 2018 City Council Meeting Minutes

Corrections to be made are:

Pg. 4, line 4, change 'our' to 'are'.

Pg. 3, line 1, change 'Quan' 'Neal Kwong'; change SolSmart comment from 'Mayor Gustafson' to 'Mayor Lindstrom'.

Pg. 6, where there is a blank, add the words 'Community Engagement'; and last paragraph change 'Pine' to 'Planning'.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gustafson, Approved 4-0

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Mayor Pro-Tem Gustafson

Tonight we have a public hearing for the 'Right of Way Ordinance' for small wireless facilities in Falcon Heights. This is a topic, which we have discussed a couple times, and is a necessary public hearing, so we can move ahead on creating a right-of-way ordinance for small wireless facilities in the city.

City Administrator Thongvanh

In 2017, the State Legislature amended the State Statute that authorized local government units, LGU, to regulate the right-of way. The amendment permitted a wireless device to deploy small wireless facilities and wireless support structures in the right-of-way, and the league and various lobbyist groups have been working on this,

and trying to figure it out. It allows companies to come in and put these small wireless facilities in the cities right-of-way. Before they were not allowed to do that unless the city allowed it to be there and have some type of agreement. Based upon the passage of the statute it does not allow the local unit of government to deny access to the right-of-way. Therefore, they have the right to be in the right-of-way. With this ordinance, it actually regulates them and allows a process, where there was not a process before.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gustafson

After that explanation, I would now like to open up the public hearing. This public hearing was dutifully notified in the papers that serve as our official notices for that, and people have been made aware of this at various levels. We will call for a second time. I am not seeing any one here for the public comment on this hearing. Third call. I see no one here to participate in the public hearing and speak towards this measure. I will close the public hearing at this point. I will now open it up for council discussion.

Council Member Miagza

I think there is a need for local government to keep control over what we can keep control over. There were many bills at the state legislature this year, probably close to 20 that would prevent local governments from doing things local governments traditionally do. Therefore, I would encourage people to let their legislators know if they oppose those efforts. Especially, people that watch our meetings, we need to hear from you. There are many folks out there trying to push that forward. We will hopefully hear a resolution on that in the coming weeks. I was at the League of Minnesota Cities Lobbying day last week, and there were over 100 cities that have signed this resolution that says basically, let local governments do what local governments do, we are closer to the people.

Council Member Leehy

Sack, could you expound on what a resident could expect.

City Administrator Thongvanh

Typically, they would not expect a notice, since it is in a right-of-way. The city will try and make their best efforts to notify the resident, since we know it is coming and we know the location.

So, before you is Ordinance 18-01 amending Chapter 42, Article 2 pertaining to telecommunication's facility right-of-way management. Staff would recommend that the Council approval of attached ordinance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gustafson, Approved 4-0

F. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. General Disbursements through: 3/21/18 \$120,046.86
Payroll through: 3/15/18 \$19,257.26
2. Pay adjustment for our Public Works worker, Colin Callahan, for \$1.50 hr. raise.

Council Member Miazga, Approved 4-0

G: POLICY ITEMS: None

H. INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Member Miagza

- The Planning Commission met last night. We heard a lot of information on a variance for a home on Roselawn Avenue, which was recommended for approval. It will be coming back to the Council at our next meeting, presumably.
- I heard a request regarding the Hendrickson, and discussion of that will be forthcoming.
- Comp planning continues to move on. I know feedback is still coming back to Paul. We are getting many good insights on where people want to go in the future.

Council Member Leehy

- The Parks and Recreation Commission's next meeting will be on Monday, April 2, here at 6:30 pm. We still have openings on the Commission and considering our speaker tonight, we do allow youth to be on our Commission. Therefore, if there is a young person who is thinking they would like to move into a career that would have an impact on park and recreation, this would be a great opportunity for them. So share that with your family.
- We are moving forward with our 'Rec on the Go', and setting up some dates for that.
- Lastly, I want to share that we will be having a Piano in Community Park. It is called 'Piano in the Park' and our theme will be 'play your part'. So once it is in the park sometime late may, early June, it will be for anyone that wants to go and play. So if you're a student or piano teacher, or if piano is just part of your life and not in an education setting, feel free to take time to tickle the ivories and invite family and friends to the join you.

Council Member Thunder

- A reminder that the NYFS Leadership Lunch is Wednesday, May 2, 2018, from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm at the Midland Hills Country Club. You can get ahold of me or NYFS to attend the event.

Mayor Protem Gustafson

- The Community Engagement Commission's next official meeting will be at the June meeting. We are doing informal things before then. We are working on getting things organized. The 'Spring Ahead' event will be at Curtiss Field on Saturday, May 12 from 11:00 am - 2:00 pm. You can look for Community Engagement Commission members to be out there in April, going door-to-door passing out flyers for the pot-luck event here at City Hall, with the city providing bottled water and silverware.
- Members presented a letter where to go in starting up the initiatives for the task force recommendations, and presented that to the Council. We talked about that at the workshop on Saturday.

City Administrator Thongvanh

- First, I want to thank the Council members and staff for being here on a Saturday, and spending about four or five hours of their time going through with me, future planning for the city and updating the Council and the staff about what we are working on, and how we are going to move forward on a lot of these things. Some of the main things that we talked about was the Community Park building, and Community Park in general.
- Another thing we are looking into is fire inspection within Falcon Heights, including business and our multi-family units, as apartment complexes. We also discussed the work of the community gateway commission and they presented the letter to the Council of things, based on recommendation from of the task force, areas that the City can look at. Now it is the Council's job to look at those recommendations, look at some of the feedback from the commission and move forward with it. The Council is looking at our communication plans, our Websites and how we are going to showcase not only the work that has been completed, but the work that we are going to continue to work on in terms of inclusion in the community.
- We are also looking at economic development within the city, and how the City can play a part in that. Although 60-70% of the land is non-taxable, since it is owned by the University of Minnesota and the State Fair, there are still opportunities here within the city that can make an impact on the community.
- We also discussed a community survey. Therefore, Council Member Miazga and I will be working on that. Just trying to create a baseline of our services. We have heard a lot from the community about how much they like the services provided by Falcon Heights. To have a baseline and to reach above that baseline, and try to be even more welcoming, not only to those in the community, but those visiting. It is a great asset for the community to do that.
- Next, there are some administrator updates. There will be a few things coming before the Council.
 - The small wireless facility was one of them, but also coming up in the next month, month and a half, is also our Xcel franchise fee. That has been discussed before in the workshop, and that will be coming before the Council public hearing for that ordinance. Also, on April 11, the Council hold a public hearing for Administrative Citations.
- Tobacco 21 ordinance amendment will be schedule for May 9th, 2018. We have three vendors: Super America, Merwin Liquors, and BP, which we will be send a notice thirty (30) days before the Public Hearing. Therefore, we will be sending those letters out.
- I also wanted to mention that we have a temporary front desk person right now, Janet Byrne, and she is working out pretty well. We are in the process of going through our second round of hiring someone. We have a number of applicants again, so we will review and interview those qualified and eventually have a recommendation for the Council for approval to hire them.

Mayor Pro-Tem Gustafson


- Coffee with a Cop tomorrow at Falcon Town Square Apartments from 5:30 to 7.

Council Member Miazga

- There is an Earth Day celebration late April, which they are putting a lot of time and effort into.
- The Sustainability Action Fair is April 28, which is in the Falcon Heights Spring Newsletter, is available at City Hall should someone not received one in the mail.


I. COMMUNITY FORUM:

J. ADJOURNMENT: 8:10 P.M.



Randy Gustafson, Mayor Pro-Tem

Dated this 28th day of March, 2018



Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator