

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

MINUTES
December 13, 2017 at 7:00 P.M.

- A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 pm

- B. ROLL CALL: LINDSTROM HARRIS BROWN THUNDER
FISCHER GUSTAFSON

STAFF PRESENT: THONGVANH

- C. PRESENTATION

- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
 - 1. October 18, 2017 City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes Approved
 - 2. November 1, 2017 City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes Approved
 - 3. November 15, 2017 City Council Meeting Minutes Approved
 - 4. December 6, 2017 City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes Approved

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- 1. 2017 Truth in Taxation and Budget Presentation

City Administrator Thongvanh presented that there are multiple components to the tax statements: the city, county, school district, special taxing authorities, and changes in the market value. Taxable market value is what is used to calculate each property's taxes. The median value home in Falcon Heights is \$252,600 in 2017 and increased to \$266,600 for 2018. In regards to the 2018 property tax allocation, the county accounts for 41.8%, the school district for 31.9% (not including the referendum), the city for 23.1%, and the special district for 3.2%. In comparison to other cities in Ramsey County, Falcon Heights ranks lower than 7 other cities out of 12. In previous years, transferring funds from the reserves to the general fund was done to reduce the levy. The levy has increased by \$711,051, with \$329,150 of that for 2018. That is primarily due to the increase in police services. In 2017 there was a transfer of \$150,000 from the reserves to the general fund to lower the debt levy for 2018 for the fire truck and the pavement management project. In 2018, the increase on a median value home was \$177. 2018 expenditures are primarily coming from the general fund. LGA receipts from State of Minnesota increased by \$55,774, and fiscal disparities increased \$14,374. Overall the general fund expenditures and revenues are 18.9% higher than 2017.

Amy Woodward- Garden Ave. resident:

Is the contract price with Ramsey County for one year? What is the amount that can be expected going forward? Will these large levy increases continue to be seen in the future?

City Administrator Thongvanh:

It is a four year contract with Ramsey County. It is a complex answer of whether or not the levy will stay at an average level or continue in this pattern. Money from the reserves was used to decrease debt levy, but in order to be fiscally responsible that will not be able to continue. The cost of Ramsey County will also depend on the services provided. Right now, the total amount paid is based on the

numbers that were provided by Saint Anthony in terms of call for service and investigations. If everything stays the same, there still will be an increase based on inflation, personnel costs, equipment cost, and capital expenses.

Council Member Gustafson moves to adopt the levy and to adopt the budget, Approved 5-0

F. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. General Disbursements through: 12/07/17 \$176,761.00
Payroll through: 11/30/17 \$36,767.60
2. Approval of City License(s)
3. Appointment of Prosecuting Attorney
4. Appointment of City Attorney
5. Appointment of City Engineer
6. Appointment of City Auditor
7. Designation of Official Newspaper
8. Approve Payment #7 to Valley Paving, Inc. for the 2017 Pavement Management Project
9. Approve the Change Order #6 for the 2017 Pavement Management Project
10. City Administrator's Contract Modification
11. Appointment of William M. Raven to the Falcon Heights Fire Department
12. 2018 Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)
13. Transfer of Funds
 - a. Fund 601(Sanitary Sewer) to 401 (General Capital)
 - b. Fund 601(Sanitary Sewer) to 403 (Parks/Public Works Capital)
14. Charitable/Lawful Gambling License for Falcon Heights Elementary PTA
15. 2017 Year End Budget Amendments
Council Member Fischer Moves, Approved 4-0, Council Member Harris Abstains

G: POLICY ITEMS:

1. Donation of LED Light Bulbs from James Wassenberg
An Environment Commissioner has donated LED light bulbs as part of a sustainability initiative from the Environment Commission. The first offering will be to apartments, then they will be made available at City Hall for a two week period of time. Following that, they will be made available at citywide events while supplies last. The LED bulbs last roughly 25 times longer, and require less overall labor in addition to the energy savings. The distribution plan includes the LED light bulbs and faucet aerators.
Council Member Harris Moves, Approved 5-0

2. Media Room Equipment Replacement and Upgrade
The city currently has equipment that has been discontinued and is not compatible with future technology. CTV has provided an equipment assessment and quote for replacement. In addition to the replaced equipment, there will be hearing assistance devices. The proposed budget ranges from \$60,000-80,000.
Council Member Gustafson Moves, Approved 4-0

H. INFORMATION/ ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Weekly Police Reports - Can Now Be Found At:
<http://www.falconheights.org/index.asp?SEC=75B3E8BB-785B-4048-B543-995BAE0716A5&Type=B> BASIC

Council Member Fischer:

He has enjoyed working as a Council Member.

Council Member Harris:

It has been her pleasure to serve as a Council Member for 12 years.

Council Member Brown Thunder:

- NYFS will have a service to youth awards dinner coming up with six to seven nominees from the community. The awards will happen on Thursday, February 9th from 5:30-7pm. The dinner and ceremony will be \$30.
- It has been an honor serving alongside Tony and Pam.

Council Member Gustafson:

- Parks and Rec Commission met December 4. They are looking forward to some new Commissioner applicants. They are planning on having the new historical signage at Curtiss Field in the spring. The piano in the park design work is coming along for Community Park. They're hoping to work with the Community Engagement Commission on some upcoming events.
- He echoes the sentiments of enjoying working with Pam and Tony.

Mayor Lindstrom:

He thanks Tony and Pam for their time of service as Council Members.

City Administrator Thongvanh:

- He has enjoyed his time getting to work with Council Member Harris and Fischer.
- Letters have been sent out to residents of the Grove about snow removal and parking restrictions. There will be strict enforcement to tow during snow emergencies.
- He thanks everyone for attending the Ramsey County Sheriff's Open Houses. Additionally, he thanks St. Anthony PD for their 22 years of service to the city and their assistance with the transition.
- City Council and staff have been invited to tour the Bell Museum. Staff will be touring on December 15, and City Hall will be closed from 12:30-2:30pm. There will be potential quorum of the Council on their tour Wednesday, December 20 at 5:30pm.

I. COMMUNITY FORUM:

J. ADJOURNMENT: 7:55 pm



Peter Lindstrom, Mayor

Dated this 13th day of December, 2017



Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator