

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

AGENDA
September 12, 2018 at 7:00 P.M.

- A. CALL TO ORDER:
- B. ROLL CALL: LINDSTROM X LEEHY X N/A
 MIAZGA X GUSTAFSON X
- STAFF PRESENT: THONGVANH X
- C. PRESENTATIONS:
- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
1. August 22, 2018 City Council Meeting Minutes
- Approved
- E. PUBLIC HEARINGS:
- F. CONSENT AGENDA:
1. General Disbursements through: 9/07/18 \$367,465.33
 Payroll through: 8/31/18 \$39,850.30
2. Approve Appointment of Julie Stegman to the Community Engagement
 Commission
3. Ramsey County Sheriff's -Purchase Squad Car from 2018 Approval of
 Contract
4. Small Wireless Facilities Application Fee
5. Approve Final Grant Report for Good Neighbor Fund for "Piano in the Park"
6. Approve Appointment of Justin Markon to the position of Community
 Development Coordinator

Justin Markon - New Community Development Coordinator

Thank you, Mayor Lindstrom and Council Members for the opportunity to be here tonight. I am pleased to apply for the position and accept the offer of the Community Development Coordinator at the City of Falcon Heights. I grew up in Duluth and went to St. John's University for my Bachelor's Degree in Political Science. When I was at St. John's, I had the opportunities to intern at the City of Avon and City of Delano. In both of those cities, I had tremendous opportunities to work with citizen, council members, and doing various of great things to help the cities. My role at the City of Delano, I did a variety of different tasks and became a liaison to the Planning Commission, and Park and Rec Commission. This past winter, we started a Spirit of Community Commission, which is name after our cities motto "spirit of community". It is based on human rights issues of human rights diversity inclusive. I am excited to bring my background from those cities to Falcon Heights.

Mayor Lindstrom

Thank you, Justin, for the introduction. I am a St. John's Alumni and received a message from Justin's supervisor. He expressed that Justin was one of the best employees that they ever had at the Eugene McCarthy Center. Welcome aboard!

Council Member Leehy

Welcome, Justin Markon to Falcon Heights. Looking forward to working with you as we are in the season of the Comp Plan and other city activities.

Council Member Miazga

Your background in Public Administration, planning, and inclusion is a great asset. Falcon Heights is lucky to have you.

Council Member Gustafson

Welcome, Justin and looking forward to working with you.

Council Member Gustafson Moved, Approved 4-0

G: POLICY ITEMS:

1. Sidewalk Trip Hazard Repair

City Administrator Thongvanh

City staff continues to evaluate areas of safety hazards throughout the community such as trails, sidewalks, and trees. Anything that looks hazardous to the public, how to address them and see if we can mitigate it right away. It will be a bit labor intensive than our staff can handle. Adding on, we do not have the right equipment to take care of the grinding of the sidewalk panels. Crews have also determined the financial ability of the city to identify the most cost-effective option. We had used this company in the past before it was renamed to Safe Step. In front of you is a quote from Safe Step and they broke it into three separate quotes to do it on three different sections based on the price.

In comparison, the price is different from last time. However, if we could handle it, then we are going to make sure that we address all the issues. We will be shaving the panels to make it ADA compliance. In spring 2019 to early summer, our Public Works crew should be going out there to replace the panels and fix any existing cracks.

Also, Public Works will be doing some sidewalk repairs that need to be addressed right away. We need to take immediate actions on repairing the sidewalks because we had an incident last year where a senior individual tripped and fall on our sidewalk. Issues like this need to be addressed right away. The document you have in front of you is a quote from Safe Step for \$17,150, and staff recommends a motion to approve the quote from Safe Step. We have about 80 to 84 sidewalk panels, which includes Cleveland Ave from Roselawn to Larpenteur, Larpenteur from Cleveland to Hamline, Hamline from Larpenteur to Roselawn, and Roselawn from Hamline to Snelling.

Council Member Leehy

It is critical that we maintain the ADA compliance and limit injuries. I will gladly motion this policy item.

H. INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Member Miazga

- Planning Commission meets on Tuesday, September 25, at 7 p.m. at City Hall. This meeting is designed to be very informal and get public inputs for the Comprehensive Plan. Each Planning Commissioner member will take a section of the plan and be available for one-on-one or small group discussions for feedbacks, questions, or concerns regarding their section of the plan.
- I am also working with Hawa Samatar about holding an event at 1550 Larpenneur Avenue in October. We are also thinking about doing an event at 1666 Coffman, but we are not sure yet.
- I spoke to an attorney at the League of Minnesota Cities about the Statute. I mentioned it in our last City Council meeting about the ability for the City to tackle an issue such as a single hauler. I learned that that City would have to provide notice through a public hearing or other public notices as long as it starts in 2018. We would have the freedom to carry it forward into 2019, and would not have to be passed in 2018 to have an entire local economy over the issue.

Last week, I spent some time talking to a couple of residents in the community about grants and trying to design an ad-hoc local group to help me find grants. I write proposals for part of my living. I did find some residents who were interested in this opportunity. What I like to see ideally is a group that can regularly check websites for grants, look at abstracts and to do the literature review. I hope to bring this to City Staff and Council for approval to move forward. Adding on, I did get us registered with a site called Government Grants because Falcon Heights did not have a presence on the website. Those two are very appealing because government grants bring the City money especially single haulers where there are many environmental benefits. Also, cities that I have recently looked at are paying anywhere to 10 to 15 dollars a month. It would save residents money in the long term. Second, the levy will be increasing, and these would be opportunities we have to help offset that for the residents in the long run.

Council Member Gustafson

- Community Engagement Commission will meet next on Monday, October 15 at 7 p.m. Also, Human Rights Day will be on Monday, December 10. Please save that date to attend. It will be an essential event to follow up, and our topic is in Discrimination in Housing.

Mayor Lindstrom

- Environment Commission met on Monday night. Justin Markon and City Administrator Thongvanh were present at the meeting. I was impressed by our commissioners. We are diving deep into the plan and looking at it through a sustainability lens. Each commissioner brought in very detailed concrete recommendations on different items of the Comprehensive Plan to make it more sustainable. Commissioners were able to create more goals for 2020, 2030 and 2040 and where we want it to be for greenhouse, gas emission reductions, and variety of strategies

to get us to where we want to be. Everyone will be seeing a lot more of that in the weeks and months ahead.

- I participated in the Regional Council of Mayors where mayors from different cities get together monthly. There are about 20 or 30 mayors who meet in downtown Minneapolis and talk about economic development, housing, environment, and, transportation. It is a group of mayors from the metro area that is meeting over a two-day period with mayors from different regions. The goal here is to talk about things that unite us. We hear a lot about the urban-rural divide and our theory is that there is a lot more that unites us than divides us. Whether it is education, transportation, access to broadband, and health care. When the mayors come together, we build relationships. We focus on uniting than dividing. There was a conversation meeting in Bemidji, Duluth where six mayors from the metro area and five to ten mayors from the Bemidji, Duluth region met. I will be participating in a conversation in Rochester in a few weeks. The first part of October and then I am helping to organize one of these conversations in my hometown of Wilmer in a few months.

City Administrator Thongvanh

- Curtiss Field half basketball court was approved by Council Member and has been discussed in the past few months. The stakes are in the ground and I encourage residents and Councilors to look at it and provide feedback. We post it on Facebook, Twitter, weekly E-newsletters, and mailed newsletter. We also sent postcards out to residents who live about 1,000 feet from Curtiss Field. Staff analyzed the location and found a spot where we can put it without interfering with the pond, residents, or the pavilion. We did not want to tear out the concrete that was put in a couple years ago. .
- I received an updated from the TIES building. They are currently in the process of a purchase agreement with a developer. They will also have to come to the City Hall and meet with the Planning Commission to discuss their plans and aspirations for the site.
- The Community Survey was sent out a few weeks ago, and staff has been entering them in Survey Monkey. Staff is not completely done entering the survey, but as of right now we have about 340.
- I attended the Critical Role of City Leaders in the 21st Century Municipal Policing in New Brighton. There were some managers, elected officials, staffs, and police departments that attended the event. The training covered how to handle critical incidents. There was a presentation by the City Administrator and Police Chief from New Hope. They spoke about the shooting incident at City Hall in New Hope. The City of Plymouth also presented three different events, and it was very educational. I have been invited by the City of Savage to discuss our critical incident in November. The City is doing a critical incident scenario with their city, and they are using Falcon Heights as a tool to help them walk through that process.
- October 3rd City Council Workshop has been cancelled.
- Many great things are happening at the City Hall. Amanda just started a few months ago, Justin will be taking over Paul's position, and Tim Sandvik the Deputy Clerk will be leaving Falcon Heights. Tim accepted a position at the City of Vadnais Heights; which is a bigger city and will he will be the Assistant City Administrator.

- Council Member Leehy and Council Member Gustafson and I have been working an event at the TIES building. The event will be held on October 5th 6 pm to 9 pm. We will send out invitations soon, so mark your calendar. Also, we have been working on additional items that we can implement or in terms of feedbacks. We were looking at Survey on the Spot (S.O.S) that was suggested by council Member Leehy. We do not have the full details yet, but it will be a survey to get free food or items during an event. The survey will have about 4-5 questions. We are doing this to get more feedback as much as possible after the Community Survey. The survey can be taken from residents and guests who are passing our city.
- Planning Commission will be meeting Oct 3 for a public hearing regarding variance with the fence. Justin Markon will be attending the event and is aware of it.

I. COMMUNITY FORUM:

J. ADJOURNMENT: 7:30 P.M.



Peter Lindstrom, Mayor

Dated this 12th day of September, 2018



Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator