

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS
Regular Meeting of the City Council
City Hall
2077 West Larpenteur Avenue
AGENDA
May 13, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.

NOTE: THIS MEETING WAS HELD BY WEB CONFERENCE

A. CALL TO ORDER:

B. ROLL CALL: ANDREWS_X_ GUSTAFSON_X_ LEEHY_X_
MIAZGA_X_ WEHYEE_X_

STAFF PRESENT: THONGVANH_X_

C. PRESENTATION

1. Conduit Bonding - Senior Housing Revenue Bonds (Suite Living of Ramsey Project), Series 2020 Calling for Public Hearing

City Administrator Thongvanh

The City received request from Hampton Properties of Ramsey, LLC to finance, in part, the acquisition, construction, and equipping of a facility through issuing conduit bonds. The project will include a 32 unit high-acuity assisted living and memory care senior housing facility the City of Ramsey and known as Suite Living Senior Care of Ramsey.

The City of Falcon Heights may issue up to \$10,000,000 of its own 501(c) (3) bonds each year as bank-qualified bonds. Under the federal tax law, alternative issuers are permitted, but a "nexus" between the jurisdictional city and the issuers is preferred.

The Bonds will not constitute a charge, lien, or encumbrance, legal or equitable, upon any property of the Issuers, except the interests of the Issuers in payments to be made by the Borrower under the Loan Agreements. The Bonds are not moral obligations on the part of the State or its political subdivisions, including the Issuers, and the Bonds will not constitute a debt of the Issuers within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory limitation.

The date of the proposed public hearing has been tentatively scheduled for June 10, 2020. City Hall will be opened and social distancing will be implemented.

Typical conduit bonding provides \$20,000, but through negotiations the City will be provided \$40,000, ½ of one percent, for issuing the bonds.

Council Member Miazga

We have done a few of these and it has worked out well for the City.

Council Member Leehy

Our scope can be broad with Conduit Bonds considering that this is from the City of Ramsey.

City Administrator Thongvanh

In the last 5 years there have been 3 Conduit Bonds issued.

Council Member Andrews 1st motion

Council Member Miazga 2nd motion

Approved 5-0

2. Year End 2019 Annual Audit Report

Matt Meyer

The City has a responsibility to prepare financial reports to the public. The numbers that will be presented are a true and accurate picture for 2019. As part of the audit, the office of the State Auditor requires a legal compliance audit which has to do with testing the City on various statutes that apply to municipalities. There were no findings there.

2019 was a good year. The city outperformed the parameters that were set by the Council in 2018. \$2.7 million revenue budget and revenue came in \$283,000 better than anticipated on the plus side. Recognition from the state for police aid. Good year for development, as charges for services have been higher than anticipated and there was an increased number of building permits. The City did a great job staying within the parameters of spending. City Council authorized \$2.6 million in spending, and only \$2.4 million was spent. There were some savings with turnover of staff. Bottom line is that the fund balance increased by half of one million dollars.

The Storm Drainage fund has been a profitable for the City over the last several years. The fund balance is \$300,000, which represents two years of spending. The Sanitary Sewer fund spends about \$900,000 a year for operation. At the end of the 2019 fiscal year, it has \$2.1 million in reserves. It is good to look forward regarding capital needs and operating position of the general and enterprise funds.

City Administrator Thongvanh

The presentation from Matt was helpful. It allows us to take a look at the internal functions of the City. We are in a well position to shelter the City for a while (in regards to property taxes). Thanks to staff for doing work internally and utilizing their skillset.

Mayor Gustafson

I would like to commend the work put in by our Finance Director, Roland, and by Sack.

Council Member Wehyee

It's great to see that the City is overperforming with the budget and thank you to the staff for your work.

Council Member Leehy

Thanks to the staff for their hard work. Perseverance has been shown in the City in regards to not slacking off and moving forward with excellence.

Council Member Andrews

Thanks to Matt and the staff for their hard work. The fund balance that the City has now is important especially in times like now.

Council Member Leehy, Approved 5-0

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. April 22, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting

Approved 5-0

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

F. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. General Disbursements through: 5/07/20 \$193,670.42
Payroll through: 4/30/20 \$18,077.30
2. Appointment of Andrea LaDouceur to Community Engagement Commission
3. Appointment of Shaun Curtin to Parks Commission
4. Appointment of Susan Risher to Parks Commission
5. Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) Joint Powers Agreement and Court Services Agreement
6. Accept Grant from University of Minnesota Good Neighbor Fund for 2020 Census Activities
7. Proclamation for National Police Week 2020
8. Sanitary Sewer Cleaning Program
9. Removal and Tree Trimming Contract

Council Member Leehy

Council Member Leehy is grateful for the three residents that are stepping up and participating in the Commissions.

Consent Agenda # 5-In regards to the BCA- is this a new structure that is being put together? City Administrator Thongvanh responded by stating this is something that is done every 5 years. The fee structure is new, and when it was approved the fee structure was not in place yet. This will be added to the 2021 budget.

Council Member Wehyee

Excited for the Falcon Heights residents that are joining the Commissions.

Consent Agenda #7- What does adopting the proclamation mean for the City?

Mayor Gustafson responded by stating this is our way of adding our voice to the community to show our support.

Mayor Gustafson

Tonight (5/13) there is a national vigil tonight in Washing D.C for the police memorial for people that have passed in the line of duty.

Council Member Andrews, Approved 5-0

G: POLICY ITEMS:

1. Extend Period of Local Emergency

City Administrator Thongvanh

Mayor Randall Gustafson issued a proclamation on March 20, 2020 declaring a local emergency, and the City Council adopted a resolution extended the local emergency on March 23, 2020. The local emergency will be extended past May 30, 2020. Now we have gotten to the point where other cities have made extensions, but the end date is determined by the City Administrator and Council. This is the structure we will be following. The governor has loosened some restrictions as of tonight.

Council Member Wehyee, Approved 5-0

2. Community Garden Interim Ordinance

City Administrator Thongvanh

During the City Council workshop on May 6, 2020, members of the Council requested that Staff draft an Interim Ordinance that would prohibit vegetable gardens in the front yard. If this Interim Ordinance is adopted, it will allow Staff to research garden standards in other communities and provide information regarding official controls. The prohibition on front yard gardens would expire when official controls are adopted or one year from now, whichever comes first.

Mayor Gustafson

The need for this was in relation to native landscaping. Gardens aren't native plantings and there aren't any rules or regulations regarding how that would happen. This will be turned over to the Environment and Planning Commission to do more research. This gives us the opportunity to provide a voice.

City Administrator Thongvanh

This will also provide some rights to the individuals requesting but to various neighbors around the community too.

Council Member Leehy, Approved 5-0

H. INFORMATION/ ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Council Member Andrews

- Environment Commission met on Monday, May 11 via zoom. Discussion included Sustainability Fair likely to not happen. Other ways of communication are being explored to get information to people. The proposal is that every week it would be set up that people can connect and discuss issues around sustainability.

Council Member Leehy

- Parks and Rec Commission met on Monday, May 4 via zoom. Discussion included physical distancing. Community Garden has physical distancing guidelines set up. Signage at the parks will be designed and placed to promote safety. Commission also discussed unique opportunities that could take place in the Fall.
- Criminal Justice Coordinating Council met on April 27. Discussion included how COVID-19 has impacted the justice system. [Ramseycounty.us/COVID-19-info](https://ramseycounty.us/COVID-19-info) has several resources. Racial Equity group has been created by Ramsey County on this website as well.
- COVID-19 has decreased the number of people that are being booked into jail.
- Restoration and Unity Day should be evaluated during the current circumstances (option of a drive-thru barbeque).

Council Member Wehyee

- Philando Castile Foundation is accepting volunteers for the Peace Garden. Social distancing will take place. Information is available at Volunteersignup.org/lraew
- Community Engagement Commission will be taking place via zoom on Monday, May 18.

Council Member Miazga

- Racial Equity Committee through Ramsey County- Council Members Wehyee and Miazga have signed up to participate.
- Unity Day should be evaluated to due to COVID-19.
- Northeast Youth and Family Services Leadership Luncheon raised \$27,000.
- Bonding proposal for Community Park is subject to politics.

Mayor Gustafson

- Ramsey County League of Local Government held a zoom meeting talking about response to COVID-19 and how it effects various organizations.
- Night to Unite will happen October 6, 2020.

City Administrator Thongvanh

- Thanks to staff and the community for adjusting with services being offered remotely.
- Street maintenance is under way.
- Community can join City Council Meetings via the attendee link that is available on our website.
- Staff is working with Dino's to put together a solution for the drive-thru request.

I. COMMUNITY FORUM:

Please limit comments to 3 minutes per person. Items brought before the Council will be referred for consideration. Council may ask questions for clarification, but no council action or discussion will be held on these items. LIVE COMMENTS CAN BE SUBMITTED AT:

<https://webstreaming.ctv15.org/typeview.php?regionid=97&typeid=1>

OR AT: sack.thongvanh@falconheights.org

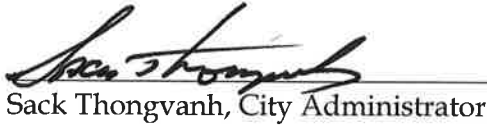
When submitting questions or comments, please include your name and address.

J. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:19 P.M.



Randall C. Gustafson, Mayor

Dated this 13th day of May, 2020



Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator