

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS
Regular Meeting of the City Council
City Hall
2077 West Larpenteur Avenue
MINUTES
March 24, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.

NOTE: THIS MEETING WAS HELD BY WEB CONFERENCE

- A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:02 PM
- B. ROLL CALL: ANDREWS_X_ GUSTAFSON_X_ LEEHY_X_

MIAZGA_X_ WEHYEE_X_

STAFF PRESENT: THONGVANH_X_

- C. PRESENTATION
 - 1. Award Sale of General Obligation Improvement Bonds, Series 2021A

Todd Hagen, Ehlers & Associates

We received a bid today on the bonds for the projects. It's a relatively small bond amount, it's a short term of only 5 years and to get a better rate we went nonrated even though the City has a triple A rating. The bid had three participants. The bond will close on April 8 so the City will receive the funds then. The resolution in front of you will need approval and that will lock us into the rate.

Motion to adopt Resolution 21-16 for the sale of the bonds and authorizing the City Administrator to execute all necessary documents by Council Member Andrews;
Approved, 5-0.

- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
 - 1. March 17, 2021 City Council Workshop Minutes

Motion to approve the March 17, 2021 minutes by Council Member Leehy;
Approved, 5-0.

- E. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- F. CONSENT AGENDA:
 - 1. General Disbursements through: 3/17/21 \$241,680.88
Payroll through: 3/15/21 \$17,959.72
 - 2. Charitable/Lawful Gambling License for Falcon Heights Elementary PTA

Council Member Leehy

I did not see an attachment, is there a particular type of format for the charitable gambling?

Administrator Thongvanh

It's a raffle.

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Council Member Leehy;
Approved, 5-0.

G: POLICY ITEMS:

1. Amber Union Agreement for Tax Base Revitalization Account Grant - Metropolitan Council

Administrator Thongvanh

We have met with the Met Council to get clarity on our fiscal responsibilities for the grant. Any administrative work involved in serving as the fiscal agent will be billed to Buhl Investors. We are currently working on an encroachment agreement as well as a timeline and a preconstruction meeting.

Mayor Gustafson

This project will remain as affordable housing during the duration of the grant period which is for 15 years.

Motion to accept the award for the Tax Base Revitalization Grant from the Metropolitan Council by
Council Member Wehyee;
Approved, 5-0.

2. Police Services Update

Administrator Thongvanh

I met with Mayor Carter and Police Chief Axtell and they received our letter requesting services. They are now preparing a proposal for police services.

We sent a letter to Ramsey County informing them that we do not intend to renew our contract and that we are considering alternative agencies. If we don't come to an agreement with St. Paul, it does still give us the option of working with Ramsey County for police services. The letter needed to be sent by March 31 and if we come to an agreement with another agency, our contract with Ramsey County would end December 31, 2021.

Council Member Wehyee

Last year the Council passed the Sanctuary policy. I'm wondering if they are aware that this is one of our expectations for them.

Administrator Thongvanh

This is something we can communicate to St. Paul in our future conversations. I would be surprised if this wasn't already a priority for Mayor Carter.

Mayor Gustafson

A lot of our policy language was based on the St. Paul language and their police department.

Motion to give Administrator Thongvanh authority to provide notice to Ramsey County that we won't be continuing the current agreement by Council Member Andrews;
Approved, 5-0.

H. INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Council Member Miazga

Northeast Youth and Family Services (NYFS) has been in COVID-19 mode for the last year in terms of what they offer for seniors and assistance with chores. The outside chores have been resumed, but inside chores are suspended until it's safe to do so. Any senior in the service area that would benefit should let NYFS know. They will be doing a spring cleanup in April.

Council Member Leehy

The Planning Commission is considering an ordinance on vacant homes and will be bringing it back for public input in the future.

Council Member Andrews

I appreciate the Mayor's statement on violence against Asians and Asian Americans to affirm our stance on antiracism.

Mayor Gustafson

We are in discussion regarding a survey on 20mph speed limit in Falcon Heights. I would encourage people to continue to contact City Hall and their council members to share concerns and questions.

Administrator Thongvanh

I'm working with staff on implementing priorities from the Council Retreat. We're continuing to work on projects including an agreement with the University regarding the storm sewer and our responsibilities and contribution. We'll continue to work with Amber Union. There's a lot of complexity with the five funding sources.

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.

J. ADJOURNMENT: 7:42PM



Randall C. Gustafson, Mayor

Dated this 24th day of March, 2021



Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator