

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS
 Regular Meeting of the City Council
 City Hall
 2077 West Larpenteur Avenue
MINUTES
 April 14, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.

NOTE: THIS MEETING WAS HELD BY WEB CONFERENCE

- A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:01 PM
- B. ROLL CALL: ANDREWS_X__ GUSTAFSON_X__ LEEHY_X__
 MIAZGA_X__ WEHYEE_X__

STAFF PRESENT: THONGVANH_X__

Mayor Gustafson

At the request of Council Member Wehyee, Item F2 will be removed as the topic is employee performance, is classified as private data and will be moved to a closed session. Item J will be amended to ‘Closed Session,’ during which the performance review will take place. Add item K, ‘Return to Open Meeting from Closed Meeting,’ add item L, ‘Summary Report from Closed Meeting: Evaluation of Performance for City Administrator Sack Thongvanh,’ and add item M, ‘Adjournment.

Motion to approve the agenda with the changes.
 Approved 5-0.

- C. PRESENTATION
- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
 - 1. March 10, 2021 City Council Workshop Minutes
 - 2. March 24, 2021 City Council Regular Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from March 10, 2021 and March 24, 2021 by Council Member Leehy;
 Approved, 5-0.

- E. PUBLIC HEARINGS:
- F. CONSENT AGENDA:
 - 1. General Disbursements through: 4/09/21 \$190,109.98
 Payroll through: 4/15/21 \$18,079.48
 - 2. ~~City Administrator Sack Thongvanh Performance Evaluation~~
 - 3. Parks - Picnic Tables
 - 4. Electric Payment Platform –AllPaid
 - 5. Appointment of Danny Locke to the Community Engagement Commission

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

- G: POLICY ITEMS:
- H. INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Council Member Andrews

The Park & Recreation Commission met last week and continued the discussion about renovating the community building. The garden plots are full but there is a waiting list. Summer Parks programming is open for registration.

Council Member Leehy

The next Planning Commission meeting will be next Tuesday, April 27 at 7pm. I also want to acknowledge our fire department and express our appreciation for their service. We as a City will be providing the department members with a plaque to commemorate their service. I also want to express that our thoughts and feelings are with the family of Daunte Wright as we grapple with the events of the past few days.

Council Member Miazga

NYFS is organizing their annual spring gala, it's still uncertain whether it will be in person or virtual.

Council Member Wehyee

I don't have a lot to share, just that tomorrow the Environment Commission will be meeting. I also want to echo the comments regarding the tragic death of Daunte Wright and to send my thoughts and prayers to the people of Brooklyn Center.

Mayor Gustafson

The CEC will be meeting on Monday, April 19. I'll also be participating in an event with the League of Women Voters along with other mayors and addressing environmental concerns of our communities. If any fire fighters have items that they believe are individual property, please notify City Hall so we can review and set items aside.

Administrator Thongvanh

Staff will be touring a few different park buildings in Roseville tomorrow to get information and ideas for renovation or reconstruction of the Community Park building. We'll likely have enough resources to fund half of the park building, so we would need to levy for the other half, so the impact will be lower than initially thought. We are looking at a ground breaking for Amber Union on June 24, let me know if that doesn't work for you. Our City Attorney is working on a number of items for the Council including subgrant agreements and encroachment agreements. The project is very complex with a lot of funding sources as well as historic credits and low-income housing credits.

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.

Dan Johnson-Powers

I live on Tatum Street. As a point of clarification, the mayor talked about request for items that possibly exist at the fire department that don't belong to the City. There is a picture on the wall in the fire station that my dad gave to me. We have tools that members made, or things of low value that there is no paper trail for, especially items that are more than 20 years old.

Andrea Poehler City Attorney

If someone can provide evidence or an affidavit that an item is theirs or their family, we may be able to provide that item back to them. Otherwise, the city cannot provide City property to a current employee. Property can be sold to a former employee if a determination is made that the property is in excess. Generally, the council would authorize the City Administrator to sell the excess property. If the item is a personal item brought in by the employee to their work space, they can have that item back.

Dan Johnson-Powers

We have many fathers or mentors on the department that have served in the past are no longer alive. It would be impossible to write an affidavit in these cases but the items that were theirs may hold sentimental value.

Administrator Thongvanh

The attorney suggested that the City could determine value of the property and sell it back to the owner for that value.

Mayor Gustafson

As a point of clarification, the Council will not take action on any item brought up during the forum. They may address the item if it is on the agenda for a future meeting.

- J. CLOSED SESSION:
 - 1. City Administrator Sack Thongvanh Performance Evaluation
- K. RETURN TO OPEN MEETING FROM CLOSED MEETING: 8:24 PM
- L. SUMMARY REPORT FROM CLOSED MEETING:
 - 1. City Administrator Sack Thongvanh Performance Evaluation

Mayor Gustafson

The City Council conducted the annual review of City Administrator Sack Thongvanh. The City Council reports that the Council has a motion in front of it to approve a 3% increase to base salary and to amend section 17 of the employment agreement. If terminated by the employer, then the employer agrees to pay six months salary and benefits; previously the agreement provided for four months.

Administrator Thongvanh


I would like to thank the City Council for your continued support. It's very rare being a public servant that you get a pat on the back and told that you're doing a good job. I dedicated 6 years of my life to the community and dealt with many challenges in those 6 years, the Philando Castile shooting and change in police services to now the possible change in police services for the second time in my six year. We continue to have challenges in the coming years but I believe that with the support of this council and the work of the future council that the City will be fiscally responsible for years to come.

Motion by Mayor Gustafson to approve the step increase of 3% in base pay and amend Employment Agreement Provision 17: Termination Benefits to change the four-month provision to six months per Addendum #3 for City Administrator Sack Thongvanh, effective April 27, 2021;
Approved, 4-1 (Wehyee- no).

- M. ADJOURNMENT: 8:33 PM


Randall C. Gustafson, Mayor

Dated this 14th day of April, 2021


Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator