CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS

City Council Workshop City Hall 2077 West Larpenteur Avenue

MINUTES

July 7, 2021 6:30 P.M.

- A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:38PM
- B. ROLL CALL: ANDREWS _X _ GUSTAFSON _ X _ LEEHY _ X _ MIAZGA _ _ WEHYEE _ X _

STAFF PRESENT: THONGVANH_X_ THAMMAVONGSA_X_

- C. PRESENTATIONS:
- D. POLICY ITEMS:1. Police Services

Administrator Thongvanh

Discussion with the Ramsey County Sheriff Office regarding patrolling in the City of Falcon Heights. The City also reached out to the City of St. Anthony, City of Roseville, and City of St. Paul.

Undersheriff Jeff Ramacher, Ramsey County Sheriff's Office

Law enforcement is dealing with a lot of high level of stresses. Some of the stresses involved being in a bad environment and having to deal with mental health issues. Some have decided to take early retirements and others have taken time off from work. The Ramsey County Sheriff's Office is very excited to work with the State Fair this year. It will give them an opportunity for new officers to get more training, gain experiences, and have better communication skills.

Council Member Wehyee

I would like Sheriff Fletcher to come out and see the City Council and staff in-person and answer some questions. There needs to be better communication between the public, city staff, and the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's live patrol on Facebook is controversial because just like the show "Cops", it portrays and reinforces stereotypes.

Undersheriff Jeff Ramacher, Ramsey County Sheriff's Office

I am proposing having one person assigned to the Contract Cities (Arden Hills, Shoreview, White Bear Township, Vadnais Heights, Little Canada, and Falcon Heights) responsible for all communication with the City's staff, residents, and the media. The person will provide timely and accurate information.

Administrator Thongvanh

I want to make sure the information is provided in a timely manner and that this will enhance communication between the Sheriff and the City. The City Council has voiced their concerns regarding the unresponsiveness of the Sheriff the last two years without an annual report. It was also conveyed to Undersheriff Ramacher that parking enforcement needs to improvement, especially during Back to the 50's and the Hot Rod Nationals.

Undersheriff Jeff Ramacher, Ramsey County Sheriff's Office

Stated that it was a fail this year and they have been busy with providing police service to the State Fair. Although that is not an excuse.

2. Pavement Management (PMP)

Jesse Freihammer, City Engineer

There are three alleys in the city that are in tough shape. I wanted directions and how do we approach residents with options plan. The red lines on the map denote poor conditions because the drainage behind two or three of the properties in the alley. Letters will be sent to property owners that abut the red line areas and provide them an opportunity to petition for improvements.

Administrator Thongvanh

We will need an additional meeting to determine the right course of action when we receive feedback and petitions from property owners that abut an alley.

3. 2023 Pavement Management Project - Garden Ave Discussion

Jesse Freihammer, City Engineer

Street improvements for Garden Ave was discussed in 2013 and again in 2015. The project was delayed because of other priorities and that fact that additional feedback would be needed for layout options. Jesse provided various options to consider.

Administrator Thongvanh

The City Council will need to determine what the best option for the City is after additional feedback from the community.

Council Member Andrews

Communication is the key and having positive feedback from the residents.

4. Sister City

Council Member Yakasah Wehyee again introduced the idea of a Sister City and discussed the various benefits to the City of Falcon Heights. After further discussion, it was determined to not be feasible at this time because of other priorities such as police services, street projects and a new Community Park Building.

- E. INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS:
- F. ADJOURNMENT: 9:45PM

Randall C. Gustafson, Mayor

Dated this 19th day of July, 2021

Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator