

**CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS**  
Regular Meeting of the City Council  
City Hall  
2077 West Larpenteur Avenue  
**AGENDA**  
May 25, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.

- A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.
- B. ROLL CALL: ANDREWS \_\_\_ GUSTAFSON\_X\_\_\_ LEEHY\_\_\_  
MEYER\_X\_\_\_ WEHYEE\_X\_\_\_

STAFF PRESENT: LINEHAN\_X\_\_\_

- C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- D. PRESENTATION
- E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:  
1. May 11, 2022 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion by Council Member Meyer for approval of minutes; approved, 3-0.

- F. PUBLIC HEARINGS:
- G. CONSENT AGENDA:
1. General Disbursements through: 5/18/22 \$170,310.69  
Payroll through: 5/15/22 \$20,642.01  
Wire Payments through: 5/15/22 \$14,170.65
  2. City Hall Summer Hours
  3. Appointment of Adrian Neis as Fire Marshal
  4. Resignation of John Larkin from the Planning Commission
  5. Appointment of Emma Kostecki to the Environment Commission

Council Member Wehyee thanked and welcomed Adrian as the new Fire Marshal. In addition, Council Member Wehyee thanked John for his service on the Planning Commission and welcomed Emma to the Environment Commission.

Adrian Neis, the new Fire Marshal, introduced himself. Neis has worked in the fire service industry for over 20 years and recently retired as a firefighter from the City of Roseville last October. Neis will be working with the City of Falcon Heights part-time because Adrian works for the City of St. Paul full time as a fire safety supervisor, where he oversees a large portion of their fire inspections. Neis is looking forward to working in the City of Falcon Heights and making the City a safer place for residents. Linehan commented saying thank you to Neis for working with the City of Falcon Heights and that last year, with the disbandment of the fire department, our fire inspections process did take a halt partially due to COVID but also as we figured out a new interim solution. Neis has stepped up and filled the role for us as a fire inspector, and now since his

appointment as the Fire Marshal will formally give him additional authority. We have already been working on some fire inspections and updating our processes. So far, it has been great. The City has received several complaints from our rental properties about landlord practices. Neis is very responsive to complaints, goes right in, and works with the landlords to see things from a holistic perspective. He knows the code ICC from the front and back and can notice things such as different repairs that are needed and safety measures that are required. Linehan mentioned it is a little different from past practice, but it has been a great process so far. He stated that many of our rental properties will notice a change and have to meet the Code, which will be enforced. Linehan thought it is a good practice because safety is in mind.

Mayor Gustafson mentioned that the City brought all rental properties under inspection review before the pandemic, which creates a more robust protection system for residents who rent. The Mayor also thanked Neis.

Mayor Gustafson commented that summer hours will begin next Tuesday and that Monday, May 30th, the City will be closed for Memorial Day. Starting Tuesday, May 31st, the City's hours will be 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and on Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Council Member Meyer asked if the City had found someone for the summer programming position. Linehan replied to Council Member Meyer, saying that there are two very strong candidates, and if all goes according to plan, we will hire both of them.

Mayor Gustafson stated that if residents are interested in summer programming, they can give City Hall a call, stop by, or sign up through the website. Linehan said that the City has been getting a pretty good response, particularly for soccer. Still, blast ball and summer discovery playground offers many different opportunities for various age groups. One of the things the City is looking at now that we have the coordinators is opening up additional time slots or adding different age groups. Also, looking ahead towards 2023 programming and maybe retool programming and use the fact that we have two experienced people.

Linehan mentioned that he had discussions with the CTC about potentially offering rotational classes and services down there as well. So, for example, the summer discovery playground has it there because there are a lot of families down there. Council Member Wehyee commented, stating that is exactly what we need because that segment of the community has been so disengaged for so long and thinks it is very important to integrate them into the broader programming of the City.

Motion by Council Member Meyer to approve the consent agenda; approved, 3-0.

H: POLICY ITEMS:

I. INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Council Member Wehyee states that the Planning Commission met Tuesday, May 24th. Unfortunately, he was not in attendance, but his understanding was that the Commission

discussed the ordinance on the vacant property registration. Linehan, commented, saying that the Planning Commission did meet Tuesday, May 24th, and discuss the vacant property registration. This is the third time the Commission has reviewed the ordinance. Everyone was pretty okay with the ordinance. The Commission did change one word other than it was pretty straightforward. The next step is for the ordinance to go to a public hearing at the Planning Commission level, which will be next month. Following a vote then, the ordinance will go to the City Council. The ordinance should be before the City Council by this Summer.

Mayor Gustafson said that the Community Engagement Commission and the Parks Commission held a joint meeting earlier this month that discussed the event Spring Ahead which is coming up on Saturday, June 4th, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Curtis Field. There will be City staff attending so residents can meet them. Residents will also be able to sign up for summer programming. In addition, there will be free ice cream with lawn games and opportunities for residents to give feedback on various things happening in the City. The Mayor also mentioned that the Sheriff's Office still has catalytic converter marking kits for residents.

Linehan shared that:

#### **Storm Clean Up and Street Sweeping**

After crews finished street sweeping last week, the hail hit and are waiting for a dry-out period and then will resume sweeping.

#### **No Mow May Ends May 31st**

Ordinances go into play starting June 1st. So, realistically, we will give residents the weekend to mow their lawns before enforcement measures resume on June 6th. So far, minimal complaints, but we've been getting requests for signs.

#### **Community Park Trail**

The past week, public works staff have been laying new ag lime on the trail.

#### **Amber Union Update**

The project is still on schedule and expected to turnover over the end of September. Finishes (Cabinets, Flooring, and Paint) are Underway in the Main (East) building. Roofing / Framing and Structural work are underway in the Annex (West) building. Site Utilities to wrap up in June, and Parking Lot work to start in July. Signage Update – we will only be doing one monument sign now (the large one at the main entry) SDDI will be sending in a permit for that.

#### **Fire Turnout Gear and Boots Donation**

Council Member Weyhee helped put us in touch with a nonprofit group that can utilize the remaining fire protection gear—nearing the final items of fire department surplus.

#### **City Truck Decals**

With the new F250 needing decals, we benefited from bulk purchasing and decided we would do the entire fleet with the new logo this Summer.

#### **NextDoor Agency Account**

The City launched our agency account, which allows us to communicate with neighborhoods directly (i.e., a poll in Northeast Quadrant if it only relates to them).

**Back to the 50s**

June 17th-19th. The Sheriff's Office is designating additional deputies. I've requested extra attention to West Snelling's no parking enforcement. Public Works will also work to get even more temporary no parking signs out so that it is very clear not to park there.

**June 1st Workshop**

2023 Capital Program and ARPA Funding Discussion.

**June 11th – 9 a.m. -3 p.m. – Council Retreat**

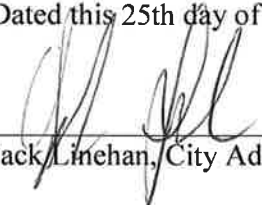
J. COMMUNITY FORUM:

*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.*

K. ADJOURNMENT: 7:31 p.m.

  
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Randall C. Gustafson, Mayor

Dated this 25th day of May, 2022

  
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Jack Linehan, City Administrator