

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS
Regular Meeting of the City Council
City Hall
2077 West Larpenteur Avenue

MINUTES

Wednesday, August 23, 2023
7:00 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:03 PM

B. ROLL CALL: GUSTAFSON_X_ LEEHY_X_ MEYER_X_
WASSENBERG_X_ WEHYEE_X_

STAFF PRESENT: LINEHAN_X_

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Administrator Linehan amends the agenda.

Councilmember Leehy motions to add Resolution 23-54 Proclamation Honoring the Life and Service of Jan Gibson Talbot as Presentation Item 1; approved 5-0

Councilmember Meyer motions to approve the amended agenda; approved 5-0

D. PRESENTATION

1. Proclamation Honoring the Life and Service of Jan Gibson Talbot

Mayor Gustafson reads Proclamation 23-54 Honoring the Life and Service of Jan Gibson Talbot into the record.

Councilmember Leehy motions to approve Resolution 23-54 Proclamation Honoring the Life and Service of Jan Gibson Talbot as Presentation Item 1; approved 5-0

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. August 2, 2023 City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Wassenberg motions to approve City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes; approved 5-0

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

G. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. General Disbursements through
 - a. 8/16/23: \$244,551.73
 - b. 8/21/23: \$544,121.68Payroll through 8/15/23: \$ 22,843.98
Wire Payments through 8/15/23: \$13,661.86
2. City Licenses
3. Authorization to Purchase up to (2) GL3000PMC Guidance Lasers for Plow Trucks

4. Promulgation of Ramsey County Countywide Comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan
5. 2023 Pavement Management Program Pay Estimate #2

Councilmember Wehyee motions to approve the Consent Agenda; approved 5-0

Council expressed their gratitude for the purchase of the up to (2) GL3000PMC Guidance Lasers for Plow Trucks.

H: POLICY ITEMS:

1. Ordinance 23-05: Amending Chapter 46-27 to Remove Definition of "Uniform" from Parking Fines

Administrator Linehan mentions this ordinance is to cleanup some language in the City Code. In reviewing code, staff found a code discrepancy that needs to be cleaned up. Under Chapter 46-27 - Parking; restrictions; uniform parking fine, it states a generally "uniform" parking fine. That was not the intention of the State Fair Task Force nor the City Council upon adoption.

Councilmember Meyer motions to approve Ordinance 23-05: Amending Chapter 46-27 to Remove Definition of "Uniform" from Parking Fines; approved 5-0

2. WSB Professional Services Proposal for Community Park Building and Site Improvements

Administrator Linehan notes that the City considered issuing an RFP for assistance with planning and professional oversight of the improvement of Community Park. After further review it was decided to solicit a quote directly from WSB & Associates, Inc. (WSB), because they had already performed a Parks Master Plan Study in 2014 of Community Park. If WSB is hired, they will be able to provide professional services in overseeing the construction administration of a new park building and site improvements of Community Park. The architect that WSB will bring in, HCM Architecture, is also very familiar with the area. They have worked with other neighboring cities.

Councilmember Wehyee wonders if the previous designs that were a part of the Master Plan Study previously conducted by WBS, are going to be considered into the final redesign.

Administrator Linehan answers that there were two layout options that were initially approved back in 2014. These designs have been updated over time based on feedback from the Parks and Rec Commission and staff, but a lot of leg work was already done by this organization. One element of having WSB provide oversight is that they will allow for public engagement and feedback from the community as well as the Parks and Rec Commission.

Councilmember Wehyee asks what the timeline is.

Administrator Linehan answers that the hope is to break ground in the spring of 2024.

Councilmember Wassenberg comments that he appreciates some of the park buildings that were done by the architect mentioned. They provide a good layout and would accommodate the City's needs.

Mayor Gustafson also comments that the park building the architect designed in Maplewood is a nice and well-functioning building. He adds that the public engagement component is very important and WSB does well with that.

Councilmember Leehy motions to approve Resolution 23-56 Accepting of Proposal and Authorization of City Administrator to Negotiate Contract with WSB & Associates, Inc. (WSB) For Professional Services Provided in Community Park's Building and Site Improvement Project; approved 5-0

I. INFORMATION/ ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Wassenberg has no announcements.

Councilmember Leehy has no announcements.

Councilmember Wehyee has no announcements.

Councilmember Meyer has no announcements.

Mayor Gustafson informs that the Planning Commission met earlier that week and they kicked off the Larpenteur Snelling Corridor Study with another portion of WSB. The first part of this study is fact-finding, during which they will be doing community engagement.

Administrator Linehan announces that the State Fair Task Force has implemented some changes and City Staff put together a two-page resource list for residents. Some changes include:

- No parking on the water hydrant side of the street in all of Northeast Quadrant.
- Improved signage throughout the City, including signs stating "no parking here to curb" at the 30-foot mark and signs stating fines double August 15 - September 15
- Around 30 garbage cans were placed within the City.
- Extra portable restrooms at Curtiss Field
- Updated parking map

After the State Fair, the Task Force will send out a survey to collect feedback from residents as they work on more long-term recommendations for City Council.

The 2023 Pavement Management Program has been completed. All that is left is watering of the grass seed. The contractor will return in spring of 2024 to address warranty items. Next will be the assessment hearing, which is scheduled to take place last meeting in September or first meeting in October. The vote on the assessments will take place at the next meeting in October.

Public Works has been working on sidewalk panel replacement on Hoyt and they also replaced a missing panel on Larpenteur.

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.

Peggy Countryman - 1717 Simpson St.

Peggy expresses concerns about how narrow the street is on Garden Ave. The resident was biking down the street and felt nervous about how close by the cars were. A neighbor also expressed their concern about the narrowness of Garden Ave. Peggy spoke with Administrator Linehan and he had advised biking on the sidewalk is allowed. Peggy feels that there is a lot of foot traffic on the Garden Ave. sidewalk with the elementary school there as well as many dog walkers. Peggy and the neighbor were unaware of the speed limit, which is 20 mph, and believes there should be more signage stating so, especially when school will be in session.

Mayor Gustafson explains there are 20-mph speed limit signs on the start and end of each street, when you enter a City residential street from, for example, Roselawn Ave. He adds, Council can

have further discussion at upcoming meetings about adding more speed limit signs. City Staff can also act on resident concerns. Streets that are excluded are; county, state and streets that have shared jurisdiction with other cities.

Administrator Linehan confirms that each City residential street has a 20-mph speed limit sign at the entrance and Garden Ave. has multiple signs due to its length and there being a school zone.

Terrance Boyle – 1810 Simpson St.

Terrance expresses concerns about speeding on Garden Ave. and he believes it's due to the new striping as well as no signage indicating the speed limit. He is also concerned about the narrowness of the road compared to for example, Roselawn Ave. He feels there is not enough room for all users of the road and sidewalk. There is also no enforcement to make people slow down.

Council adds that previous traffic studies show, a narrower road slows people down compared to a wider road. There was also chosen for a wider sidewalk to allow for separation of cycling and pedestrian traffic.

K. ADJOURNMENT: 8:12 PM

Councilmember Wehyee motions to adjourn the meeting; 5-0



Randall C. Gustafson, Mayor

Dated this 23rd day of August, 2023



Jack Linehan, City Administrator