

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

MINUTES
Wednesday, August 9, 2023
7:00 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 PM

B. ROLL CALL: GUSTAFSON_X_ LEEHY_X_ MEYER_X_

WASSENBERG_X_ WEHYEE_X_

STAFF PRESENT: LINEHAN_X_

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Wehyee motions to approve the agenda; approved 5-0

D. PRESENTATION

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. July 26, 2023 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Leehy motions to approve the meeting minutes; approved 5-0

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

G. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. General Disbursements through 8/02/23: \$234,016.96
Payroll through 7/31/23: \$ 25,375.60
Wire Payments through 7/31/23: \$14,909.84
2. City Licenses
3. Rehder Forestry Consulting Contract
4. Be Active! Be Green! Bench Initiative Contract

Councilmember Wassenberg motions to approve the consent agenda; approved 5-0

Council requested more information regarding consent agenda item 4. Be Active! Be Green! Bench Initiative Contract.

Administrator Linehan explains city staff submitted a grant application to Active Living Ramsey Communities to apply for park benches as part of their Be Active! Be Green! Bench Initiative. The City not only was awarded the grant, but will also be receiving more benches than initially applied for. A total of 7 benches will be placed strategically within Community Park and 1 new bench will be placed by the basketball court at Curtiss Field. In exchange, the City must supply ADA concrete pads under the park benches and provide maintenance for the next twenty years.

Councilmember Wassenberg adds that the grant award comes at a great time. The Parks and Recreation Commission just completed their park audit, during which items in need of maintenance or improvement were noted. In particular, benches needed maintenance.

Council expressed their gratitude for City Staff and Ramsey County.

H: POLICY ITEMS:

1. Appointment of Colin Callahan as Public Works Director

Administrator Linehan states that after long-term public works director Tim Pittman retired in April of this year, Colin stepped up as the interim public works director. This seemed like a smart strategy. During the summer, Colin did a tremendous job of growing his skillset leading the department through a rare period of transition after decades of stability. With Colin as the director, the Public Works department will be in great hands. Therefore, staff recommends promoting Colin as the permanent Public Works Director.

Councilmembers Leehy and Meyer motion to approve Resolution 23-53 Appointment of Colin Callahan to the position of Public Works Director; approved 5-0

I. INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Meyer informed he had a great time at his Night to Unite block party and appreciates Administrator Linehan stopping by. He was excited to see how many block parties there were happening.

Councilmember Wehyee has no updates.

Councilmember Leehy visited a few block parties and extends her gratitude to all the residents who participated.

Councilmember Wassenberg informed that the Parks and Recreation Commission met a couple of nights ago, during which they discussed park audit findings, the recent striping of the basketball court at Curtiss Field as well as reviewed some wording to restrict the use of cannabis in park spaces.

Mayor Gustafson visited a few Night to Unite block parties and thanks all residents who participated. He adds that the Planning Commission will be meeting on the 22nd of August. They will be reviewing the upcoming Larpenteur-Snelling Corridor study.

Administrator Linehan provides an update from the latest State Fair Task Force Meeting. On the third Thursday in September, they plan on having a Townhall meeting during which residents can provide feedback regarding changes implemented by the Task Force this year. During their last meeting, the Executive Director of the Como District 10 was invited to collaborate. They also discussed the difference between ticketing and towing. Staff is putting together a 2-page State Fair resource guide for residents and they will also be mailing out the State Fair parking passes. The City purchased temporary signs that will be placed around the neighborhoods 30 feet from stop signs. If found effective, permanent signs will be ordered and placed.

The 2023 PMP is moving forward as scheduled and will be completed before the start of the State Fair.

Administrator Linehan adds that not only was the court at Curtis Field striped, the court at the Grove was striped at the same time and this court now doubles as a pickleball court. Residents do have to bring their own net.

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: 7:24 PM

Councilmember Wehyee motions to adjourn the meeting; approved 5-0



Randall C. Gustafson, Mayor

Dated this 9th day of August, 2023



Jack Linehan, City Administrator