

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

MINUTES
March 13, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.

- A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:03 PM
- B. ROLL CALL: GUSTAFSON_X_ LEEHY_X_ MEYER ___

WASSENBERG _X_ MIELKE _X_

STAFF PRESENT: LINEHAN_X_ LYNCH_X_

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Gustafson notes there is a request to move Consent Agenda item 5. to Policy Item 5.

Councilmember Leehy motions the approve the amended agenda;
approved 4-0

D. PRESENTATION

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 1. February 8, 2024 City Council Special Joint Workshop with St. Anthony Village City Council Meeting Minutes
- 2. February 14, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
- 3. February 14, 2024 City Council Special Workshop Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Leehy motions to approve the meeting minutes;
approved 4-0

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

G. CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. General Disbursements through 03/08/24: \$453,698.48
Payroll through 02/29/24: \$24,499.65
Wire Payments through 02/29/24: \$15,492.03
- 2. Approval of City License(s)
- 3. MN DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant Application
- 4. Appointment of Rebecca Leighton to the Community Engagement Commission
- 5. ~~Support of Buhl Investors' Application for 2024 Ramsey County Housing Development Solicitation~~

Councilmember Wassenberg motions to approve the consent agenda;
approved 4-0

Councilmember Mielke wonders about the timeline for the DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant.

Administrator Linehan answers the application deadline is April 1st and the award nominations are expected in June or July.

Mayor Gustafson thanks Rebecca Leighton for joining the Community Engagement Commission.

H. POLICY ITEMS:

1. EVSE City Code Updates

Community Development Coordinator Lynch explains the City Code update would include updated language on Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE). Falcon Heights has been a leader in environmental initiatives, and for that reason, Lynch joined the EV Smart Cities Program, which is presented by the Great Plains Institute. In order to achieve Bronze status, City Code must be updated to include language for electric vehicles (EVs) and EVSEs. Currently, EVSEs and EVs are not addressed at all in City Code. These updates are not substantial changes, rather they provide clarification and support for the electrification movement. The updates include the following:

- Added definitions
- Allowing EVSEs as accessory use in all zoning districts
- EVSE may count toward satisfying minimum parking requirements
- Must include signage designating space for only EC Charging, unless no other spaces are available
- 10-20 parking stalls – at least one EVSE must comply with ADA requirements
- >20 parking stalls – at least two EVSEs must comply with ADA requirements

Councilmember Wassenberg, as a user of EV and EVSE, is appreciative of the updates.

Councilmember Leehy thanks Lynch for the time and research.

Lynch explains the Environment Commission discussed these updates at their January meeting, and the Planning Commission discussed and made a few changes to the updates at their January workshop. A public hearing has been held on the updates at the February 27, 2024 Planning Commission meeting. No one was present to speak at the public hearing, and the Planning Commission voted 5-0 to recommend approval of the updates to City Council.

Councilmember Mielke motions to approve Ordinance and Summary
Ordinance No. 24-01 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 113 of the Falcon Heights
City Code Allowing Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment as an Accessory Use;
approved 4-0

2. Hollywood Court Permit Parking Petition

Lynch explains since the development of Amber Union, there have been increased concerns from Hollywood Court residents regarding street parking, increased activity and increased noise, despite having adequate parking at Amber Union. A resident had expressed interest in converting Hollywood Court to permit parking. Lynch continues per City Policy, this requires a petition signed by 75% of owners, a public hearing with the planning commission, and a recommendation to City Council as they make the final

determination. One consideration is the cost to residents of \$15 annually per vehicle for the first two vehicles and \$25 for subsequent vehicles. There is temporary parking available for \$3 for two weeks. City Policy requires restrictions for permit parking should be consistent throughout the city. Generally, the hours of permit parking are daytime hours 8 AM – 4 PM, 2-hour parking unless by permit, and 15-minute parking only unless by permit. The petition was signed by 78% of the property owners. A public hearing was held on February 27 by the Planning Commission and it received a 4-1 vote to recommend approval of the petition to City Council. With most issues happening at night, they decided to recommend permit parking for overnight vehicles from 10 PM – 7 AM. This would require an amendment of City Policy, to include these hours.

Council asks clarifying questions regarding the times of other permitted parking areas.

Councilmember Mielke wonders about the petition fee.

Administrator Linehan explains the \$200 fee is in the City's fee ordinance and has been in existence since the adoption of the parking policy. This is due to a significant amount of staff time involved, similar to a variance application. The fee schedule is determined by City Council.

Mayor Gustafson notes City Council looks at the fee schedule in the fall of each year. He allows the public to make comments.

- Irene Gengler – 1611 Hollywood Ct.
Irene wonders how to apply for a permit and what the costs are.

Administrator Linehan answers they can be applied for at City Hall and there is also an online application available on the City's website. There are temporary permits available for up to 2 weeks at \$3.

Mayor Gustafson explains that if you have guests staying overnight and they are parking in the street, they will need a permit.

- Nicole Porter – 1590 Hollywood Ct.
Nicole is grateful to City Council for considering the petition and hopes this helps with the increased activity and noise the Hollywood Ct. residents have been experiencing overnight. She was not opposed to paying the petition fee.

Councilmember Leehy wonders if the parking permit information is available on the City's website.

City Staff replies yes, the website lists all the permitted parking areas, the application, as well as a specific State Fair Parking map, as parking rules change during the State Fair.

Councilmember Mielke motions to approve Resolution 24-20 Designating
Hollywood Court a Residential Permit Parking Area;
approved 4-0

3. Community Park Bond Reimbursement Resolution

Administrator Linehan explains the reimbursement resolution is standard practice and is recommended by the City's bond consultant (Ehlers) and bond counsel (Taft). This

allows flexibility to reimburse any funds used to pay for project costs with bond funds. It is not a commitment to a bond, which is most likely not needed until later in summer.

Council notes it makes sense to approve fiscally.

Councilmembers Leehy and Wassenberg motion to approve Resolution
24-21, Establishing Procedures Relating to Compliance with Reimbursement
Bond Regulations Under the Internal Revenue Code;
approved 4-0

4. 2021 PMP Surety Bond Claim- Tolling Agreement

Administrator Linehan notes the contractor selected for the 2021 Pavement Management Project. as a result of competitive bidding, abruptly ended their work due to financial issues leaving uncompleted work. A different company was hired to finish the work for 2021 PMP. However, the work was not up to standards for the City and residents, and a third party provided an estimate for restoration work that will cost around \$160,000. The City's attorney, Campbell Knutson, has been working with the surety bond counsel to seek reimbursement on the bond to reimburse the city for expenses related to the work. With some statute of limitation deadlines looming, the surety bond counsel has requested from the City Attorney a tolling agreement while they continue to finalize settlements. The City Attorney recommends approval, as it will allow us the right to file suit if needed.

Councilmember Wassenberg wonders how much more time this agreement allows for.

Administrator Linehan states this buys more time, as both parties are working closer to a resolution.

Councilmember Wassenberg motions to authorize the City Administrator to
execute the necessary documents for the tolling agreement;
approved 4-0

5. Support of Buhl Investors' Application for 2024 Ramsey County Housing Development Solicitation

Administrator Linehan explains Buhl Investor is applying for the 2024 Ramsey County Housing Development Solicitation. The Solicitation is offered once per year and consolidates and coordinators multiple housing resources into one application process. Buhl Investors is seeking funding under this solicitation for Amber Flats. As part of the application, a resolution or letter of support is needed from the local municipality. He reminds Council of another Ramsey County Housing grant Buhl had applied and received Council support for and Buhl received the grant.

Council discusses if the support letter occurs any obligations to Falcon Heights, if the application is similar in type as the previous one and if the goals of the application are set by Ramsey County.

Administrator Linehan notes the application is similar in type, the letter of support helps the application as it ensures the project is viable if the grant gets awarded to Buhl. The application goals are set by Ramsey County.

Councilmember Mielke motions to Resolution 24-22 Supporting Buhl Investors' Application for the 2024 Ramsey County Housing Development Solicitation; approved 3-1

I. INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Wassenberg informs Council the Parks and Rec Commission and the Community Engagement Commission will have a joint meeting on Monday, March 18.

Councilmember Leehy commends those for participating in engagement opportunities as Falcon Heights explores the potential police partnership with St. Anthony Village.

Councilmember Mielke attended the Environment Commission meeting on March 11. Along with Partners in Energy, they finalized items in preparation for the workshop on March 18 at the U of M St. Paul Campus.

Mayor Gustafson thanks everyone as well for participating in engagement opportunities regarding the potential police partnership with St. Anthony Village. He looks forward to Spring Together.

Administrator Linehan explains the next two police partnership open houses are on March 26 at 5:30 PM at St. Anthony Village and on March 27 at 6:00 PM at Falcon Heights. There will also be two town halls with one on April 17 at Falcon Heights and the other on April 18 at St. Anthony Village. Both start at 6:30 PM. They will share the preliminary results of the survey, which closes on April 12. There are various options for people to complete the survey.

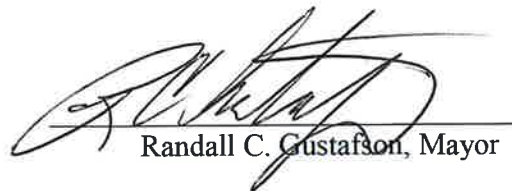
Public Works will start street sweeping and perform some necessary repairs.

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.

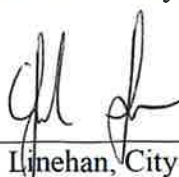
K. ADJOURNMENT: 8:03 PM

Councilmember Leehy motions to adjourn; approved 4-0



Randall C. Gustafson, Mayor

Dated this 10th day of April, 2024



Jack Linehan, City Administrator