

LAUDERDALE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Lauderdale City Hall
1891 Walnut Street
Lauderdale, MN 55113

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December 13, 2016

Roll Call

Mayor Dains called the Regular City Council meeting to order at 7:54 p.m.

Councilors present: Mary Gaasch, Roxanne Grove, Denise Hawkinson, Lara Mac Lean, and Mayor Jeffrey Dains.

Staff present: Heather Butkowski, City Administrator; Jim Bownik, Assistant to the City Administrator; and Miles Cline, Deputy City Clerk.

Special Order of Business/Recognitions/Proclamations

A. Recognize Council Member Denise Hawkinson – Resolution 121316B

Councilor Gaasch moved to commend Councilor Hawkinson for her service to the City of Lauderdale. Consent granted unanimously.

B. Recognize Council Member Lara Mac Lean – Resolution 121316C

Councilor Gaasch moved to commend Councilor Mac Lean for her service to the City of Lauderdale. Consent granted unanimously.

C. Recognize Mayor Jeffrey Dains – Resolution 121316D

Councilor Gaasch moved to commend Mayor Jeffrey Dains for his service to the City of Lauderdale. Consent granted unanimously.

Approvals

Mayor Dains asked if there were any changes to the meeting agenda. Councilor Hawkinson added the Dog Park light and the Mayor added staff appreciation days. Councilor Grove moved and Councilor Mac Lean seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Hawkinson moved to approve the minutes of November 22, 2016. Councilor Grove seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Councilor Mac Lean moved and seconded by Councilor Grove to approve the claims totaling \$84,733.88. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent

Councilor Hawkinson moved and seconded by Councilor Mac Lean to approve the Consent Agenda thereby approving the October Financial Report, the Third Quarter Investment Report, Accounts Payable Authorization for Year-End, Adoption of 2017 Fee Schedule - Resolution 121316A, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Step Increase, and Rink/Warming House Attendants.

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Public Hearings

A. Truth in Taxation Hearing Regarding the 2017 Budget and Levy

Butkowski provided a summary of the key elements affecting the 2017 budget and levy as well as identifying for the audience how the tax dollars will be spent in 2017.

Mayor Dains opened the public hearing at 8:15 p.m. As no one addressed the Council, Mayor Dains closed the public hearing at 8:16 p.m.

Councilor Hawkinson moved and seconded by Councilor Grove to adopt Resolution 121316E - A Resolution Adopting the 2017 Final Property Tax Levy. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Hawkinson moved and seconded by Councilor Gaasch to adopt Resolution 121316F - A Resolution Adopting the 2017 Final Budget and Establishing Fund Appropriations. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Ordinance No. 16-03 Amending Title 9, Chapter 1 Regarding the Building Code

Butkowski explained that the Building Code ordinance needed to be amended to reflect the recently adopted building code and codification changes made by the state legislature. The new ordinance doesn't change how the city enforces the building code.

Mayor Dains opened the public hearing on the topic at 8:18 p.m. As no one addressed the Council, Mayor Dains closed the public hearing at 8:19 p.m.

Councilor Gaasch moved and seconded by Councilor Mac Lean to adopt Ordinance No. 16-03, An Ordinance Amending Title 9, Chapter 1 of the Code of Ordinances Regarding the Building Code. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Ordinance No. 16-04 Adopting an Interim Ordinance Regarding the Regulation of Signs and Billboards and Resolution 121316G Authorizing Publication by Title and Summary

Mayor Dains opened the public hearing at 8:21 p.m.

Dan Murphy, 1938 Carl Street, approached the Council to ask if the sign ordinance applied to the Dog Park as well. The Council asked the City Attorney who stated that he would get back to staff regarding the manner.

Mayor Dains closed the public hearing at 8:23 p.m.

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Councilor Gaasch moved and seconded by Councilor Mac Lean to adopt Ordinance No. 16-04, An Interim Ordinance Regarding the Regulation of Signs and Billboards within the City of Lauderdale Adopted Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 462.355, Subd. 4. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Gaasch moved and seconded by Councilor Hawkinson to adopt Resolution 121316G Authorizing Publication of Ordinance No. 16-04 by Title and Summary. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items

A. Donation from the Chinese Christian Church – Resolution 121316H

The City received a donation from the Twin Cities Chinese Christian Church and has the option of adopting the resolution and thus accepting the donation, or declining the donation and returning it to the owner.

Councilor Hawkinson moved and seconded by Councilor Grove to adopt Resolution 121316H Accepting the Donation from the Twin Cities Chinese Christian Church. Motion carried unanimously.

B. 2017 City Council Meeting Schedule

The City Council has traditionally held meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. The Council has the option of maintaining that schedule or proposing a new schedule altogether.

Council Grove moved and seconded by Councilor Gaasch to adopt the City Council meeting schedule for 2017 as presented including a special meeting to be held on January 3. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Online Publication of City Documents in 2017

One of staff's goals for 2017 was to publish agendas, minutes, council packets, and historical information on the City's website via Laserfiche. Staff is working with Roseville IT to accomplish this goal with the information being published this way starting in January.

D. Appointment to St. Paul Regional Water Services Board of Commissioners

It is the City of Lauderdale's turn to appoint a representative to the St. Paul Regional Water Service Board of Commissioners. This seat may be filled by a council member, resident, or whomever the Council deems fit for the position. Mayor Dains said he would be willing to be appointed to the seat.

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After discussion among council members, Councilor Gaasch moved and seconded by Councilor Mac Lean to appoint Mayor Dains as the representative for this seat with Councilor Gaasch as the alternate. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Auditor Engagement Letter

Abdo, Eick, and Meyers submitted a three-year engagement letter for Council consideration. The Council has the option of continuing with annual agreements, or approving the three-year engagement laid forth by the firm.

Councilor Hawkinson moved and seconded by Councilor Gaasch to approve a one-year engagement with Abdo, Eick, and Meyers. Motion carried unanimously.

Additional Items

A. Light at the Dog Park

Councilor Hawkinson noted that the new light at the Dog Park was bright, much brighter than a typical street light. She wondered about options for correcting that.

Mayor Dains opened the floor to those interested in speaking about the light at the Dog Park. Dan Murphy, 1938 Carl Street, approached the Council. He stated that he wanted to work something out regarding the strength/direction of the light so that it is not bothersome to neighbors. He also believes the light diminishes crime in the area.

Mark Hawkinson, 1855 Fulham Street, approached the Council. He stated that he supports the Dog Park, but the light is the brightest thing he can see at night. He would like to find a better solution for light in the area.

Staff will discuss options with Xcel Energy for improving the lighting in the area.

B. Appreciation Days for Employees

Mayor Dains voiced his appreciation for the Lauderdale City Staff for their hard work through the challenging times of 2016. In recognition of this, he proposed that the staff be granted two personal days that must be used by the end of February.

Council Mac Lean moved and seconded by Councilor Grove to grant two personal days to Lauderdale staff members to be used by the end of February. Motion carried unanimously.

Set Agenda for Next Meeting

Administrator Butkowski stated the next meeting will include the November Financial Report, the Year-End Investment Report, the 2017 Investment Policy, Designating Official Depository and Investment Institutions, Tobacco and Alcohol Licenses, and Committee Appointments and Assignments.

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Work Session

A. Opportunity for the Public to Address the City Council.

Mayor Dains opened the floor for any member of the public to speak about any item not on the agenda. There being no interested parties, Mayor Dains closed the floor.

B. Engineer's Report on Eustis Street Options

The engineering report put the recommendations of the most recent community discussion of Eustis Street through an engineering lense to provide guidance on how the ideas would work in the existing right-of-way as well as with storm water requirements. Ramsey County engineers told city staff they would like to discuss the level of improvement required for the Council to accept a turnback. Butkowski mentioned that the Council can control the parking situation and asked if the Council wanted to move ahead with one-sided parking. That would provide some indication of whether the parking lane on one side with a walking lane on the other met the goal of making the street more walkable.

After some discussion, the Council decided that they would like to try a temporary one-sided parking rule valid until April 30, 2017, at which point they will revisit the topic. Councilor Grove moved and seconded by Councilor Mac Lean to approve the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Community Development Update

Administrator Butkowski informed the Council that the Chinese Christian Church lowered their price to \$1.575 million dollars and had quite a bit of interest. She also noted that the League of Minnesota Cities mailed dividend checks, Lauderdale's totaled \$5,300. Finally, the City received its I/I Grant reimbursement totaling \$29,000.

Adjournment

There being no further items on the agenda, Councilor Hawkinson moved and seconded by Councilor Mac Lean to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Heather Butkowski
City Administrator