

LAUDERDALE CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
HELD REMOTELY VIA TELECONFERENCE

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August 18, 2020

**Call to Order**

Mayor Gaasch called the Regular City Council meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Councilors present: Andi Moffatt, Jeff Dains, Roxanne Grove, and Mayor Mary Gaasch.  
Councilor absent: Kelly Dolphin.

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

**Approvals**

Mayor Gaasch asked if there were any additions to the meeting agenda. Councilor Dains stated that he would like to add a potential police meeting to the Community Development Update. There being nothing else Councilor Dains moved and seconded by Councilor Grove to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mayor Gaasch asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the July 28, 2020 city council meeting. There being none, Councilor Moffatt moved and seconded by Councilor Dains to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2020 city council meeting. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mayor Gaasch asked if there were any questions on the claims. There being none, Councilor Grove moved and seconded by Councilor Dains to approve the claims totaling \$120,333.78. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

**Consent**

Councilor Dains moved and seconded by Councilor Grove to approve the Consent Agenda thereby acknowledging the July Financial Report and adopting the 2021-2025 Ramsey County GIS Users Joint Powers Agreement (JPA).

**Informational Presentations/Reports**

A. CTV Update and Proposed Changes to Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) by Dana Healy  
Dana Healy, CTV Executive Director, joined the meeting remotely to provide an update and review the proposed changes to the JPA. The recommended changes would allow cities not continuous to existing member cities to join in order to improve the financial health of the organization.

A. City Council Updates

Councilor Dains shared that the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO) had a discussion regarding climate change and green initiatives at their past meeting. The plan was for the MWMO to create an outline of their plans and share them at a city council meeting in the near future.

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Mayor Gaasch added that conversations taking place within the Ramsey County League of Local Governments (RCLLG) and the Regional Council of Mayors are focused on the reopening of schools. Gaasch stated that the Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce sent notice of a program called Young Entrepreneurs Academy that staff will forward to community members.

**Discussion/Action Item**

**A. Draft Fence Ordinance Revisions**

Over the past year, the Council has been revising the fence ordinance to alleviate issues that come from dealing with requests by residents to deviate from the current standards. This has been especially important for considering whether to allow front yard fences and whether to revise standards for corner lots. Among many topics, the Council discussed sight line issues for cars to safely pass through alleyways and roadways, and the level of fence opaqueness in order to determine requirements for people to clearly see over or through a given fence.

After continued discussion, the Council was in consensus on developing a sight line triangle provision. Staff were to place stakes on corner lots noting different distances for consideration. They agreed to bring the topic back for a discussion at the next meeting with the goal of having a public hearing at the first meeting in September and adoption by the end of September.

**B. Request for a Fence in the Right-of-Way at 2445 Summer Street – Resolution No. 081820A**  
Due to one of the council member's absence from the meeting, the Council tabled the discussion until the next meeting.

**Set Agenda for Next Meeting**

Administrator Butkowski stated that the August 25 council meeting may include the storm water project agreements, the 2021 budget and levy, the Cable Commission JPA, and Halloween ideas.

**Work Session**

**A. Coronavirus Impacts Update**

Butkowski asked the Council if they needed any additional technology to help them conduct meetings from home using CARES Act funding.

Councilor Dains asked the Council to reconsider opening the dog park. The Council discussed their role in ensuring public health and whether opening the dog park fit into that plan.

Council member Dains made a motion to open the dog park to six people or less, as long as social distancing was maintained, proper signage was posted; and the Council would close the dog park if violations were reported. Councilor Moffatt seconded the motion to continue the discussion. After further discussion, the motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mayor Gaasch added that City staff will make further decisions regarding the parks and will relay any problems back to the Council.

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**B. Community Development Update**

Butkowski stated that staff had a pre-construction meeting about Skyview Park earlier in the day. Last week, staff discovered a boxelder tree had grown around a survey monument. The plan was to move the playground a few feet to the north as the monument cannot be removed. While disappointing, it does not stop the project from moving ahead. Goodmanson Construction will start excavation and concrete work on August 30 with playground equipment installation scheduled for the third week of September.

City staff also met earlier in the day with the city engineer to finalize the list of items to complete the Eustis Street / Roselawn Avenue project. The main items that need to be completed were raising the manhole covers on Roselawn Avenue and some concrete repair work.

Street sweepers will be out in Lauderdale on August 19 to clean up debris left from the weekend storms and to clean the storm drains.

The Council asked Butkowski for an update on connecting residents with policing questions with the St. Anthony Police Chief. She said she reached out to any resident that had contacted staff, Council, or made comment on social media. The Council will discuss options for a presentation by the Chief in the fall.

**C. Opportunity for the Public to Address the City Council**

Mayor Gaasch opened up the floor to anyone in attendance interested in addressing the Council. There being no people interested in speaking, Mayor Gaasch closed the floor.

**Adjournment**

Councilor Dains moved and seconded by Councilor Grove to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Miles Cline  
Deputy City Clerk