

LAUDERDALE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
HELD REMOTELY VIA TELECONFERENCE

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November 10, 2020

Call to Order

Mayor Gaasch called the Regular City Council meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Councilors absent: None.

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. There being none, 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 October 27, 2020 city council meeting. There being none, Councilor Grove moved and seconded by Councilor Dains to approve the minutes of the October 27, 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 Moffatt moved and seconded by Councilor Grove to approve the claims totaling \$127,133.08. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Consent

Councilor Grove moved and seconded by Councilor Moffatt to approve the Consent Agenda thereby approving Resolution No. 111020A – Designating Polling Places for 2021 Elections and Resolution No. 111020B – Levying Special Assessments.

Informational Presentations/Reports

A. City Council Updates

Councilor Dains said Doug Cook, the Outreach Coordinator for Metro Transit, could attend the December 8 Council meeting alongside the City's Metropolitan Council Representative, Peter Lindstrom. Dains thanked those who administered the election and organized the Halloween event. Councilor Moffatt echoed the sentiments of Councilor Dains in regards to the election and Halloween. Mayor Gaasch attended the Regional Council of Mayors' event on the topic of mental health.

Discussion/Action Item

A. Tobacco Ordinance Revisions and Presentation by Katie Engman of Association for Nonsmokers-MN

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In January, the Council adopted an interim ordinance to put a pause on the issuance of new tobacco licenses in order to update city code to reflect the new federal and state regulations. The Council invited Katie Engman of the Association of Nonsmokers-Minnesota to the meeting for a refresher on issues surrounding tobacco.

Butkowski addressed the draft ordinance in the packet. The revisions match new federal and state regulations. Also proposed was eliminating the provision allowing tobacco shops to sell flavored tobacco. The Council planned to discuss again at the next meeting. Before adoption, staff will send the draft ordinance to the licensed tobacco holders. The City is required to provide them a 30-day notice of a public hearing on the matter.

Mayor Gaasch called a five-minute recess before proceeding to the next discussion item.

B. Real Estate Equities Final PUD Application for a Senior Development at 1795 Eustis Street
Jennifer Haskamp of Swanson-Haskamp Consulting and Patrick Ostrom from Real Estate Equities were at the meeting to discuss the submittals for the final Planned Unit Development (PUD) application prepared by Real Estate Equities. Jennifer provided an overview of whether the final PUD application addressed the conditions and requirements adopted by the City Council by resolution in July 2019. Staff said the public hearing on the alley vacation was scheduled for November 24 with notices being mailed to affected residents.

C. Resolution No. 111020C – Allocating the City’s CARES Act Funds

Butkowski said staff was implementing the small business grant program authorized by the Council to spend a portion of the \$181,419 in CARES Act funds. Staff totaled costs attributable to October and reported them to MMB last week. That amount totaled \$9,743.40 to acquire equipment for teleconferencing city council meetings, staffing costs, and PPE. To date, staff reported \$30,196 in expenses to MMB leaving \$151,223 unspent. For November, staff will report costs for a new website and the small-business grant program with the remainder being allocated to public safety costs.

Councilor Grove made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 111020C—Approving Allocations of the City of Lauderdale’s CARES Act Funds. This was seconded by Councilor Dains and carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Set Agenda for Next Meeting

The November 10 Council meeting may include the variance request for 1847 Fulham Street, 2021 preliminary fund budgets and utility rates, tobacco ordinance study and revisions, and a public hearing for alley vacation at 1795 Eustis Street.

Work Session

A. Community Development Update

Butkowski stated that she and Mayor Gaasch met with Rosehill Townhomes about storm water

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improvements behind their homes and other city business. Butkowski mentioned that staff were looking into excavating Gasperre Pond this winter since it is dry.

B. Opportunity for the Public to Address the City Council

Mayor Gaasch opened up the floor to anyone in attendance interested in addressing the Council.

Josh Dirksen, 1815 Lake Street, stated that Real Estate Equities proposal at 1795 Eustis Street was aesthetically unpleasing and out of character in the neighborhood. He continued to say that he would like more information on both sides of the tobacco issue.

There being no additional people interested in speaking, Mayor Gaasch closed the floor.

C. 2021 Preliminary Fund Budgets

Butkowski did a verbal overview of anticipated capital improvement program (CIP) items for 2021. The CIP and proposed rates will be ready by the next council meeting.

Adjournment

Councilor Dains moved and seconded by Councilor Mofatt to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 p.m. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Miles Cline
Deputy City Clerk