

LAUDERDALE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
HELD REMOTELY VIA TELECONFERENCE

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June 22, 2021

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

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

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 Moffatt to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Mayor Gaasch asked if there were any corrections to the June 8, 2021 city council meeting minutes. There being none, Councilor Moffatt moved and seconded by Councilor Dains to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2021 city council meeting. Motion carried by majority on a roll call vote.

Mayor Gaasch asked if there were any questions on the claims. There being none, Councilor Dains moved and seconded by Councilor Moffatt to approve the claims totaling \$112,645.37. Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Consent

Councilor Moffatt moved and seconded by Councilor Pulford to approve the Consent Agenda thereby acknowledging the May financial report and approving the temporary on-sale liquor license application for the July community event.

Informational Presentations/Reports

A. June 24 Community Event Highlighting Public Safety Partners

Bownik stated that the first summer event will take place on Thursday, June 24 at the Lauderdale Community Park from 6-8 p.m. The City invited our public safety community including the St. Anthony Police Department, the St. Paul Fire Department, the Ramsey County Sheriff's water patrol and K-9 teams, Ramsey County Emergency Management, the 911 Communications Center, and the CERT team from Falcon Heights. Additionally, there will be music and refreshments.

B. City Council Updates

Mayor Gaasch shared that the Ramsey County League of Local Governments Board created a task force to support mental health. They are having a panel discussion on July 9 to hear from people and their families who have been directly affected by mental health issues. Gaasch also noted that she will attend the League of Minnesota Cities annual conference this week.

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Discussion/Action Item

A. Insurance Renewal Information and Tort Liability Waiver Form

The City's insurance policies run from August to August. Annually, staff prepare the renewal information with our insurance agent. This includes updating data on physical improvements/purchases and staffing costs. The League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) hires appraisers to value structures like city halls, libraries, and community centers. Butkowski mentioned a recent medial report highlighted questions about LMCIT's liability coverage regarding police departments. As a City covered by a police contract, the liability coverage is provided and paid for by St. Anthony.

Of importance to the City are the liability limits. Annually, the City Council must determine whether or not to waive the municipal tort liability limits established by statute. The City has not waived them in the past as it opens the City to greater financial liability. Staff recommends maintaining that practice.

Councilor Pulford made a motion authorizing staff to remit the Liability Coverage—Waiver Form to LMCIT as presented, indicating the City does *not* waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by MS 466.04. This was seconded by Councilor Dains and carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Set Agenda for Next Meeting

The July 13 council meeting may include the annual SWPPP public hearing, variance applications, American Rescue Plan (ARP) guidance, an amendment to the fire code ordinance, and the NineNorth contract renewal.

Work Session

A. Community Development Update

Butkowski stated that staff is preparing for the first summer community event in the park this Thursday, while also preparing for the next event in July. Staff also is working on rental housing license renewals, finalizing details for the seal coating project, putting together the third quarter newsletter, and the RFP for hiring the new building official.

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.

Mark Peterson, 1816 Eustis Street, asked what the response times were for St. Paul Fire and whether they would be affected by the State Fair.

Josh Dirksen, 1815 Lake Street, thanked Councilor Moffatt for responding to public concerns over the SWAT team attending the public safety event.

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Adjournment

Councilor Dains moved and seconded by Councilor Moffatt to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Miles Cline
Deputy City Clerk