

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

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September 27, 2022

Call to Order

Mayor Gaasch called the Regular City Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Councilors present: Andi Moffatt, Jeff Dains, Duane Pulford, Roxanne Grove, 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 Pulford moved and seconded by Councilor Grove to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Gaasch asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the September 13, 2022 city council meeting. There being none, Councilor Grove moved and seconded by Councilor Pulford to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2022 city council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Gaasch asked if there were any questions on the claims. There being none, Councilor Pulford moved and seconded by Councilor Dains to approve the claims totaling \$21,519.06. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent

Councilor Dains moved and seconded by Councilor Pulford to approve the Consent Agenda thereby acknowledging the August financial report.

Informational Presentations/Reports

C. City Council Updates

Councilor Dains shared that he attended a Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO) meeting. The organization recently teamed up with the Twin Cities Climate Resiliency Initiative. Their goal is to expand the urban tree canopy outward from the city of Minneapolis.

Mayor Gaasch commented on the MWMO newsletter article which featured Jeff Dains. Gaasch continued to say that she attended a League of Minnesota Cities board retreat where they touched on the topics of investing in smaller cities and curbing catalytic converter theft.

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Discussion/Action Item

A. Resolution No. 092722A – Adopting 2023 Preliminary Property Tax Levy and Establishing the Budget Meeting Date

Butkowski explained the proposed budget reflects a \$47,130 loss in Local Government Aid (LGA), a \$17,468 loss in fiscal disparities revenue, and a 6.4% increase in public safety costs. Staff propose transferring \$55,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to cover the costs for 2023 and 2024 if needed. Beyond 2024, the sanitary sewer and storm sewer funds would provide that on-going support to the general fund. While the City's tax rate will decrease 1.73%, the City taxes on median value homes are expected to increase about \$93.

The Council was asked to adopt the resolution approving the preliminary property tax levy and establishing December 13 at 7:00 p.m. as the date for the public meeting regarding the proposed 2023 budget and levy.

Councilor Moffatt made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 092722A—Adopting the 2023 Preliminary Property Tax Levy and Establishing the Budget Meeting Date. This was seconded by Councilor Grove and carried unanimously.

B. Speed Limits on Residential City Streets

Butkowski aid the state legislature amended Minnesota Statutes 169.14 on 2019 to allow cities to lower residential speed limits on streets under their authority. Staff commonly hear residents' concerns over the speed of drivers on City streets as does the Council. Until the legislative change, however, there wasn't anything a city council could do to change residential speed limits. Now that city councils can change residential speed limits, Butkowski asked whether or not the council would like to do so. Enough cities have made the change to know that they are finding it to be a change appreciated by most residents.

If the council is interested in discussing changing the speed limits on residential streets (that the city controls), staff would include an article in the upcoming newsletter to inform residents. After discussion, the council asked staff to put notice of the public hearing in the upcoming newsletter and continue discussion at the end of October.

Set Agenda for Next Meeting

Butkowski stated that the October 11 council meeting might include the September financial report, the 2023 quarterly investment report, Halloween planning, and the 2023 special/debt/capital improvement/enterprise funds.

Work Session

A. Community Development Update

Butkowski shared that Lauderdale and St. Anthony are still interviewing for an AmeriCorps

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member. The fourth quarter newsletter would be printed soon, sewer televising will continue on September 28, and that the City will host a reception for John Marty and Alice Hausman before the end of the year.

B. Opportunity for the Public to Address the City Council

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

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

Closed Session

Councilor Pulford moved and seconded by Councilor Moffatt to enter into a closed session to discuss labor negotiation strategies at 7:48 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Pulford moved and seconded by Councilor Moffatt to return from the closed session at 8:43 p.m. The Council discussed the classification and compensation data prepared by DDA Human Resources, Inc. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Councilor Pulford moved and seconded by Councilor Grove to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Miles Cline
Deputy City Clerk