

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

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October 24, 2023

Call to Order

Mayor Gaasch called the Regular City Council meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Roll Call

Councilors present: Evan Sayre, Sharon Kelly, Duane Pulford, Jeff Dains, 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 Dains to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Gaasch asked if there were corrections to the minutes of the October 10, 2023 city council meeting. There being none, Councilor Kelly moved and seconded by Councilor Pulford to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2023 city council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Gaasch asked if there were any questions on the claims. There being none, Councilor Sayre moved and seconded by Councilor Pulford to approve the claims totaling \$20,639.70. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent

Councilor Kelly moved and seconded by Councilor Sayre to approve the Consent Agenda thereby acknowledging the September financial report and the third quarter investment report.

Informational Presentations/Reports

A. City Council Updates

Assistant to the City Administrator Bownik shared a Halloween update. On Halloween night, candy and beverages will be available from 5-6 p.m. at City Hall. The City's event will compliment other festivities hosted by residents. Volunteers are welcome to decorate and set-up at City Hall during the morning and afternoon of October 31.

Mayor Gaasch stated that voting for the school board election will take place at Lauderdale City Hall on November 7 from 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Early voting is available at select Ramsey County sites.

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Councilor Sayre shared that he and Councilor Kelly recently attended a tour of the Corval campus.

Councilor Pulford stated that he has been attending the online League of Minnesota Cities forums.

Councilor Dains shared that the Ramsey County League of Local Governments is doing another climate action plan.

Public Hearings

A. Public Hearing on the Approval of a Housing Program for a Multifamily Housing Development and the Issuance of Revenue Obligations known as the AGRA Project to be Constructed in the City of Minneapolis – Resolution No. 102423A

Julie Eddington of Kennedy and Graven gave a presentation to the Council regarding the City's participation in securing housing revenue bonds for Franklin LP to build an affordable housing complex in Minneapolis. Eddington also prepared a resolution for Council consideration.

Prior to adopting the resolution, the City Council held a public hearing.

Mayor Gaasch opened the floor at 7:24 p.m. to those in attendance interested in addressing the Council on this issue. There being nobody interested in speaking, Mayor Gaasch closed the floor at 7:25 p.m.

Councilor Pulford made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 102423A — A Resolution Authorizing the Issuance, Sale, and Delivery of Multifamily Housing Revenue Obligation for the Benefit of Franklin LP; Approving a Housing Program; and Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of Documents Related Thereto. The motion was seconded by Councilor Dains and carried unanimously.

B. Conditional Use Permit Application for 2520 Larpenteur Avenue West

The applicant, SilverSky Auto LLC, requested a conditional use permit for auto sales, service, and repair at 2520 Larpenteur Avenue. Staff said that the proposed use complies with required provisions including ownership and off-street parking.

The applicants, Hunter Sonnek and Levi Drude-Huff, attended to explain their plans and answer questions from the Council.

Mayor Gaasch opened the floor at 7:37 p.m. to those in attendance interested in addressing the Council on this issue. There being nobody interested in speaking, Mayor Gaasch closed the floor at 7:38 p.m.

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Councilor Kelly made a motion to approve a conditional use permit to SilverSky Auto & Brait Commercial for auto sales, service, and repair at 2520 Larpenteur Avenue West with the condition that Brait Commercial obtains certificate of occupancy permits from the City's building official. This was seconded by Councilor Pulford and carried unanimously.

C. Tree Abatement at 1836 Carl Street – Resolution No. 102423B

A dead / diseased tree fell on the garage at 1836 Carl Street. Typically, staff are able to work with the owners of dead and diseased trees to have them removed through a petition and waiver agreement. In this case, someone other than the owner manages the property and they have not taken responsibility for correcting the situation.

Prior to voting, the City Council must hold a hearing on the matter should the party responsible for the property wish to address the City Council.

Mayor Gaasch opened the floor at 7:47 p.m. to those in attendance interested in addressing the Council on this issue. There being nobody interested in speaking, Mayor Gaasch closed the floor at 7:48 p.m.

Councilor Pulford made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 102423B—A Resolution Abating a Diseased or Hazardous Tree at 1836 Carl Street. This was seconded by Councilor Kelly and carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Item

A. Long-Term Planning Session with Victoria Holthaus of AEM Financial Solutions

Earlier this year, the Council authorized AEM Financial Solutions (AEM) to prepare a long-term financial plan for the City. The emphasis of the plan was to analyze the financial opportunity costs of Ramsey County's Eustis Street turn back proposal. Additionally, AEM looked at inflationary pressure on future budgets and the financing of the capital improvement plan.

The draft long-term plan included the revised costs received from Ramsey County for Eustis Street. The cost-share for not taking road ownership increased from \$600,000 to \$1,143,480 primarily due to better estimates of the retaining walls and right-of-way acquisition costs. The city engineer provided costs for the long-term maintenance costs (one road life cycle of 50-55 years) should the City take ownership of Eustis Street south of Larpenteur.

Vicki Holthaus of AEM Financial Solutions presented her analysis on the issue and answered questions from the Council. The draft long-term plan showed financing of future capital improvements on a ten-year bond replacement schedule. The Council asked Holthaus to prepare revised modeling on a twenty-year bond repayment plan that more closely matches the life cycle of the current city streets. Holthaus will be at a future meeting to share the results.

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B. Adopting and Certifying Liens for Delinquent Utilities and Unpaid Services – Resolution No. 102423C

Each year the City must submit a resolution to Ramsey County certifying special assessments. This year, the City had one multi-year special assessment that was negotiated via a petition and waiver agreement. The resolution is a formality as the petition and waiver agreements eliminate the need for a public hearing and the owners have forgone the right to appeal.

Councilor Kelly made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 102423C—A Resolution Levying Special Assessments. This was seconded by Councilor Sayre and carried unanimously.

Set Agenda for Next Meeting

Butkowski stated that the November 14 council meeting might include a smoking of cannabis and tobacco in public parks draft ordinance and conditional use permit approval resolution for 2520 Larpenteur Avenue West.

Work Session

A. Community Development Update

Butkowski shared that Ramsey County’s open house and presentation regarding Eustis Street would take place on October 25 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at City Hall. She also said that street sweeping was scheduled for next week; a controlled burn was scheduled for Seminary Pond later this year; and that the hockey rink was painted white this past weekend.

B. Opportunity for the Public to Address the City Council

Mayor Gaasch opened the floor to those in attendance interested in addressing the Council. There being nobody interested in speaking, Mayor Gaasch closed the floor.

Adjournment

Councilor Sayre moved and seconded by Councilor Dains to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Miles Cline
Deputy City Clerk