

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

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February 13, 2024

Call to Order

Mayor Gaasch called the Regular City Council meeting to order at 7:02 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. Councilor Sayre mentioned that item “C” of the Consent Agenda should state February instead of January. There being nothing else, Councilor Sayre moved and seconded by Councilor Pulford to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Gaasch asked if there were corrections to the minutes of the January 23 or January 25, 2024 City Council meetings. There being none, Councilor Pulford moved and seconded by Councilor Kelly to approve the January 23 and January 25, 2024 City Council meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Gaasch asked if there were any questions on the claims. There being none, Councilor Kelly moved and seconded by Councilor Pulford to approve the claims totaling \$126,229.52. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent

Councilor Sayre moved and seconded by Councilor Pulford to approve the Consent Agenda thereby approving Resolution No. 021324A – Approving the 2024 Tobacco Licenses, Resolution No. 021324B – Approving the 3.2 Off-Sale Malt Liquor License for 2024, and changing the February 27 City Council meeting to February 26 due to statewide precinct caucuses.

Special Order of Business/Recognitions/Proclamations

A. Jim Bownik’s 25-Year Work Anniversary

Jim began working for the City on February 10, 1999 as the deputy city clerk. By 2001, he held the title of administrative analyst; and subsequently assistant to the city administrator by 2003. He is a dedicated employee that wears many hats. Staff prepared a framed certificate, which Mayor Gaasch presented to Jim during the meeting.

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Informational Presentations/Reports

A. Discussion with Northeast Youth and Family Services Director Angela Lewis-Dmello
Lewis-Dmello provided the Council updates on what the organization has been working on in general and on behalf of Lauderdale residents. She fielded questions as well.

The Council took a brief recess at 7:38 p.m. and returned at 7:43 p.m.

B. City Council Updates

Mayor Gaasch said she attended the Advanced Elected Leaders Institute hosted by the League of Minnesota Cities. Councilor Kelly shared that she attended a St. Paul Winter Carnival event.

Discussion/Action Item

A. Purchase of Plow and Dump Box for 2024 Ford F-350

City staff called three vendors that supply dump truck boxes and plows. The vendor we used in the past is no longer in the business of providing these items so we received quotes from two others: ABM Equipment and Crysteel Truck Equipment. Crysteel's quote was cheaper for the box and plow so we finalized equipment details with them. Crysteel holds the state contract which explains why they were cheaper than the competitor. The dump box with hoist and additional lights is \$19,230. The plow is \$10,153. Once the new truck is up and running, staff will discuss selling the current dump truck.

Councilor Kelly made a motion to approve purchase of dump box and plow from Crysteel Truck Equipment as presented. This was seconded by Councilor Dains and carried unanimously.

B. Metropolitan Council 2024 Private Property Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) Grant Agreement No. SG-20605

Butkowski explained that the City of Lauderdale was awarded a \$25,000 Private Property Inflow and Infiltration Grant from the Metropolitan Council for 2024. The grant provides Lauderdale residents with grants up to \$5,000 to help with repairs that will remove and prevent clear water from entering the wastewater treatment system.

The purpose of preventing the clear water from private sewer pipes from entering the sanitary sewer system is that it does not need to be treated as wastewater. The clean water takes up space in the wastewater system, especially during rain events that require the discharge of sewage into rivers and lakes when the system is overwhelmed. In order to proceed with participating in the grant program, the Council must approve the grant agreement with the Met Council.

Councilor Sayre made a motion to approve the Metropolitan Council 2024 Private Property Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) Grant Agreement No. SG-20605. This was seconded by Councilor Pulford and carried unanimously.

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Set Agenda for Next Meeting

Butkowski stated that the February 26 council meeting might include the January financial report and a discussion with Russ Henry, owner of Giving Tree Gardens.

Work Session

A. Community Development Update

Butkowski shared that St. Anthony and Falcon Heights may negotiate a new police contract. Mayor Gaasch stated that she is looking for ideas on how to further involve Lauderdale residents living in multifamily housing into community events.

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 Pulford to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Miles Cline
Deputy City Clerk