

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

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February 11, 2025

**Call to Order**

Mayor Gaasch called the Regular City Council meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Councilors present: Evan Sayre, Duane Pulford, Jeff Dains, and Mayor Mary Gaasch.

Councilor absent: Sharon Kelly.

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 Sayre to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Gaasch asked if there were corrections to the minutes of the January 28, 2025, City Council meeting. There being none, Councilor Dains moved and seconded by Councilor Pulford to approve the January 28, 2025, City Council meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Gaasch asked if there were any questions on the claims. There being none, Councilor Sayre moved and seconded by Councilor Dains to approve the claims totaling \$152,804.28. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion/Action Item**

**A. Municipal Cannabis Retailer Licensing Update**

Butkowski said that Metro Cities hosted a meeting with the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) staff the previous Friday that offered new information, some of it was rather unexpected. OCM staff said that cities must submit their applications during the February – March window to be processed with the other license types. They do not have another license application window scheduled in the foreseeable future.

The City would need to apply for a municipal cannabis retailers license by March 14 if the City Council wanted to keep the discussion around cannabis moving forward. If the City's application passed OCM's initial reviews, the City would have 18 months to establish a cannabis business or pass on the license. Staff is looking for direction from the Council on whether staff should work with the consulting city planner to create the materials necessary to apply for the municipal cannabis retailers license.

The Council said they wanted to preserve the right to apply for a license. Staff will work with the city planner and attorney to prepare the application and materials for council approval.

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B. Cooperative Agreement with Ramsey County Regarding Eustis Street  
Ramsey County Engineering staff sent over an agreement for review and approval. Staff and the city attorney reviewed the document and sent back comments. Staff is looking for Council feedback on other changes that potentially need to be made. The county attorney will be reviewing it shortly as well. The Council suggested removing section 5.1. Staff will continue working through the contract with county staff.

**Set Agenda for Next Meeting**

Butkowski stated that the February 25 Council meeting might include the January financial report, quotes for the council chambers air handler, a cooperative agreement with Ramsey County regarding Eustis Street, and a municipal cannabis retailer licensing application.

**Work Session**

A. Community Development Update

Butkowski stated that a sewer cleaning and televising article will be in the upcoming newsletter. Visu-Sewer plans on beginning work next week if the weather cooperates. She continued to say that Xcel Energy will complete gas line work on Fulham Street this upcoming year. Finally, the ice-skating rink and warming house will continue to be operational as long as weather permits.

B. Opportunity for the Public to Address the City Council

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

**Adjournment**

Councilor Dains moved and seconded by Councilor Pulford to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Miles Cline  
Deputy City Clerk