

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

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Tuesday, July 8, 2008

Mayor Pro-tem Hawkinson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Council members present: Lara Mac Lean, Karen Doherty, Clay Christensen, and Denise Hawkinson serving as Mayor Pro-tem. Mayor Jeff Dains was not in attendance.

Mayor Pro-tem Hawkinson asked for any additions, deletions, or changes to the meeting agenda.

Council member Doherty moved to approve the agenda. Council member Mac Lean seconded the motion and it carried.

Council member Christensen moved approval of the June 24, 2008, City Council meeting minutes. Council member Mac Lean seconded the motion and it carried.

Council member Christensen moved approval of the claims totaling \$72,748.66. Council member Doherty provided the second and the motion carried.

Mayor Pro-tem Hawkinson asked if members of the public wished to address the Council. Ms. Jean Blat and Ms. Leslie Kratz appeared before the Council to thank them for considering an off-leash dog area in the park. Ms. Kratz provided members of the Council an article from the current edition of the St. Anthony Park Bugle.

Council member Christensen moved the consent agenda as presented approving park use by a large group, approving rental housing license, and increasing the mileage reimbursement from 0.505 cents per mile to 0.585 cents per mile from July 1 to December 31, 2008, in accordance with IRS reimbursement rates and City Policy. Council member Doherty seconded the motion and it carried.

Bownik provided an update on the hockey rink project. He stated the paving should begin later this week or early next week.

Butkowski asked if the Council had any comments or suggestions on the draft Comprehensive Plan update. The Council did not provide comments. The next step is for the Council to approve sending the plan to the Metropolitan Council for review and comment at the next meeting.

Council member Mac Lean volunteered to server as the voting delegate for the election of the suburban representative to the Grant Evaluation and Ranking System Committee (GEARS).

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Bownik presented the recommendation by the PCIC for playground improvements. He stated the PCIC recommends removing the existing swing set and monkey bars, expanding the play area to include the current sand volleyball area, installing three new items in the area where the old swing set and monkey bars were located, and installing an eight piece swing set in the volleyball area. The PCIC further recommended evaluating the existing play structure in 2011 for possible replacement in 2012. Bownik provided the Council with an estimated cost of \$34,000 for the 8-piece swing set and three additional items.

Council member Doherty asked about ADA access to the new swing structure. Bownik responded that was not in the plan.

Council member Doherty requested the plan include ADA access to the new swing structure.

Council member Christensen moved to have staff include the PCIC recommendations in the 2009 budget. Council member Mac Lean seconded the motion and it carried with all members voting yes.

Butkowski presented information on a request from the resident at 1831 Fulham Street. The resident is requesting the City extend the alley to the point at which the City vacated the alley ROW. The resident spoke to and received support for this request from the other adjacent property owners.

Council member Doherty moved to authorize staff to work with the homeowners on paving the alley using Affordable Asphalt at a cost not to exceed \$3,800. Council member Mac Lean seconded the motion and it carried with all members voting yes.

Heck presented information on a request from the homeowner at 1593 Fulham Street for reimbursement for a boulevard tree that was removed. The homeowner also wanted the city to replant a new boulevard tree.

Council member Doherty asked if the city reimbursed other property owners in the past for removing boulevard trees. Staff responded the City has not reimbursed others.

Council member Christensen moved to accept staff recommendation not to provide reimbursement and not to plant a new boulevard tree. Council member Doherty seconded the motion and it carried with all members voting yes.

Heck outlined the 2008 revised, 2009 budget item as it relates to the park improvement fund. He stated the Council discussed this issue at the last meeting and asked staff to provide additional information on the current and estimated fund balances in the park improvement fund. Heck indicated he included that information in the last Friday packet. Staff anticipates a balance of approximately \$62,000. He said there are sufficient funds for the Council to

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move forward with an off leash dog area for approximately \$10,000 leaving \$52,000 in the fund for 2009 projects.

Doherty stated she did not want to make a decision until the Council saw the financial information. After reviewing the financial implications and seeing it is possible to provide the dog area and move forward with previously planned improvements, she is more comfortable making a decision.

Council member Mac Lean moved to install fencing to create an off leash dog area in the park at a cost not to exceed \$10,000. Council member Doherty provided the second and the motion carried with all members voting yes.

Items for the July 22, 2008 agenda will include approval to send the comprehensive plan on to the Metropolitan Council for review and comment; discussion on filling the City Administrator Position; Capitol Region Watershed District presentation; and first review of the 2009 budget. Staff will add other items as needed.

Council member Christensen moved to adjourn the meeting. Council member Mac Lean seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian W. Heck
City Administrator