

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

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December 9, 2008

Mayor Dains called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Councilors present: Lara Mac Lean, Denise Hawkinson, Karen Doherty, Clay Christensen, and Mayor Jeff Dains.

Staff present: Heather Butkowski, City Administrator; Jim Bownik, Assistant to the City Administrator.

Mayor Dains asked for additions, deletions, or changes to the meeting agenda. Mayor Dains added annual employee recognition to the agenda.

**Councilor Hawkinson moved to approve the agenda with the addition. Councilor Mac Lean seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**Councilor Christensen moved approval of the November 25, 2008, City Council minutes. Councilor Mac Lean seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**Councilor Hawkinson moved approval of the claims totaling \$74,205.94. Councilor Mac Lean seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

Mayor Dains asked if members of the public wished to address the Council. No one was present to address the Council.

Mayor Dains asked if councilors wished to remove items from the consent agenda. Councilor Doherty removed the item concerning 2009 depositories and investment institutions.

**Councilor Hawkinson moved the consent agenda approving 2009 rental housing licenses, 2009 investment policy, 2009 city council meeting schedule, emergency radio grant application to Metropolitan Emergency Services Board (MESB), resident reimbursement arrangement with the cities of Falcon Heights and Roseville, PCIC minutes from November 17, and pay request #3 in the amount of \$2,780.46 to Dunaway Construction for hockey rink improvements. Councilor Christensen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

Bownik presented information on the proposed changes to Lauderdale ordinance Title 9, Chapter 7 and Title 10, Chapter 8. The ordinances currently regulate the construction and location of fences. Bownik explained the changes would expand application of the

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ordinances to retaining walls. The change was a need identified by the Council at a previous meeting.

Mayor Dains opened the public hearing at 7:38 p.m. As no one was present to address the Council, the public hearing was closed at 7:39 p.m.

Mayor Dains noted the setback for garages running parallel to the alley is three feet, so this set back of two feet seemed reasonable. He asked Bownik if residents could still apply for variances in case of hardship. Bownik responded they could.

**Councilor Christensen moved Resolution 120908C – A resolution authorizing publication of summary ordinance No. 08-02 by title and summary. Councilor Doherty seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

At the previous meeting, Butkowski provided summary budget information and the Council held a public hearing. No changes were proposed at the time and the final budget as presented in the Council packet did not reflect any changes.

In light of proposed cuts to local government aid (LGA), Butkowski asked the Council if they would consider a special meeting before the end of the year if the aid was cut. Mayor Dains wanted to keep the option open.

**Councilor Christensen moved Resolution 120908B – A resolution approving the 2009 budget and levying 2008 taxes payable in 2009 in the amount of \$558,381. This includes an estimated fiscal disparities amount of \$101,843 but no debt levy for the 2000, 2002, or 2003 general obligation bonds. Councilor Doherty seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

Mn/DOT previously requested the Council choose a color for the signal posts on the new TH280 Bridge; the Council chose architectural brown. Subsequently, other Mn/DOT officials informed city staff that the new styles of posts made from galvanized steel and anodized aluminum are best left unpainted. They asked the Council to reconsider the previous request for painted posts. The brown posts would now cost the City \$5,000.

Additionally, Mn/DOT requests the Council consider the traffic control agreement for the new traffic control signals for the TH280 Bridge. The City is required to contribute \$6,480 to the Emergency Vehicle Pre-emption (EVP) system.

**Councilor Doherty moved Resolution 120908D – A resolution approving Mn/DOT agreement No. 93699R to remove the existing temporary traffic control signals and install new traffic control signals with street lights, emergency vehicle preemption,**

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**interconnect, and signage on Trunk Highway 280 and County State Aid Highway 30 (Larpenteur Avenue). Councilor Mac Lean seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**Councilor Christensen moved to request Mn/DOT not paint the TH280 Bridge signal posts architectural brown; instead they request they be left unpainted galvanized steel and anodized aluminum. Councilor Doherty seconded the motion and it passed with Councilors Hawkinson, Mac Lean, Doherty, and Christensen voting yes, and Mayor Dains voting no.**

The Council continued the discussion from the previous meeting regarding ways to celebrate Lauderdale's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Mayor Dains describes how the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary was celebrated including speeches from state and federal representatives at Day in the Park. Councilors continued to feel that Day in the Park was the most appropriate event to celebrate the anniversary. The Council suggested staff contact state representatives Greiling and Marty, Governor Pawlenty, and congressional representatives McCollum and Klobuchar. Additionally, the PCIC will be asked for their feedback and ideas.

Mayor Dains asked whether a budget should be set for the event. Councilors Mac Lean and Christensen felt the event should stay within the current budget set for Day in the Park. Along with that, Councilor Doherty suggested moving ahead with the low-cost items listed on the council memo. These included highlighting the anniversary on the city's community television channel, website, newsletter, and stationary in addition to discussing article opportunities with the *Roseville Review* and *Park Bugle*. Mayor Dains also suggested having CTV do a program on Lauderdale's yearlong celebration.

Moving to the next agenda item, Butkowski explained that staff member Colleen Callahan worked in recreation programming for a number of years and suggested opportunities to partner with neighboring communities to bring more recreation programming here. Her memo explained some of the options available and she asked the Council whether they would like her to pursue these opportunities.

After some discussion, the Council would like staff to bring back more information about specific programs and their costs for further consideration. They like the idea of working with the City of Roseville as Lauderdale is part of the Roseville School District and Lauderdale kids have relationships with other kids in the Roseville area.

Councilor Doherty removed the agenda item naming the 2009 depository and investment institutions due to a work-related conflict of interest. There was no further discussion on the item.

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**Councilor Christensen moved Resolution 120908A – A resolution designating Lauderdale’s official depository and investment institutions for 2009. Councilor Hawkinson seconded the motion and it passed with Councilors Hawkinson, Mac Lean, Christensen, and Mayor Dains voting yes, and Councilor Doherty abstaining.**

Mayor Dain added employee recognition to the agenda. He noted that the City Council traditionally offers a bonus holiday each year to staff members in recognition of their work throughout the year. He proposed the same for this year if the Council agreed.

**Councilor Mac Lean moved to provide each employee a recognition day be used between December 10 and January 31, 2009. Councilor Doherty seconded the motion and it carried.**

Butkowski read the agenda items for the next meeting which include: 2009 committee appointments, 2009 official newspaper, 2009 gas station, tree, mechanical, cigarette, and 3.2 liquor licenses, travel policies, 2009 employee wage adjustment, 2009 fee schedule, and request by V. Matheny regarding the former lift station near 1974 Walnut Street.

The Council moved into the work session.

Mayor Dains asked that a discussion on lot sizes and lot splits be added to the agenda. He said he felt the decision at the previous meeting allowing the Rysgaards to build on a 37 foot lot was precedent setting and wanted to revisit the rationale used to make the decision. He noted that previous comprehensive plan steering committee felt the goal should be to create bigger lots, but in this case a smaller lot was created.

Bownik addressed the Council. He said the current zoning ordinance allows residents to fairly simply divide their lots once consolidated. In the Rysgaard case, however, the existing house encroached on the proposed new lot which necessitated a replat. He questioned whether the ease in which residents can consolidate and divide lots ultimately ran counter to the goal of larger lots within Lauderdale.

**Councilor Hawkinson moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Mac Lean seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Butkowski  
City Administrator