

**CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS**  
Regular Meeting of the City Council  
City Hall  
2077 West Larpenteur Avenue

**MINUTES**  
September 27, 2017 at 7:00 P.M.

- A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 pm
- B. ROLL CALL: LINDSTROM X HARRIS X BROWN THUNDER X  
FISCHER X GUSTAFSON X  
  
STAFF PRESENT: THONGVANH X
- C. PRESENTATION
- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
  - 1. August 6, 2017 City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes Approved
  - 2. August 23, 2017 City Council Meeting Minutes Approved
- E. PUBLIC HEARINGS:
- F. CONSENT AGENDA:
  - 1. General Disbursements through: 9/19/17 \$531,016.55  
Payroll through: 9/15/17 \$20,046.69
  - 2. Inter-Fund Loan Repayment From 2017 PMP
  - 3. Budget Amendment for Fund 427

Council Member Harris Moved, Approved 5-0
- G. POLICY ITEMS:
  - 1. Adopt 2018 Preliminary Levy

City Administrator Thongvanh presented that the city must annually set and certify a preliminary levy to Ramsey County by September 30. There are no levy limits imposed by legislators for 2018. The amount of LGA State Aid has increased by \$55,774 for 2018. Fiscal disparity distribution dollars has increased by \$14,000. The largest impact for the 2018 budget is the change in police services. Services with Ramsey County will cost the city a little more than 1 million dollars per year, a 49% increase from 2017.

The Council agreed to reduce the levy from 34% to 24% by utilizing reserve funds to prefund debt service for 2018. The impact of the overall property tax levy is from the increase in the general fund of \$334,000, equating to the changes in the police services. The 2018 impact on a median value home is an increase of \$178 per year, \$14.83 per month, \$.49 per day. The budget hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, December 13 at 7pm.

Mayor Lindstrom stated that the next meeting they will be discussing a franchise fee, which would allow for additional revenue. The franchise fee would be on the utility bill for residential, businesses, and non-profits. This would likely offset the money that would otherwise be collected only by residents through levy increases. This will be further discussed at the next Council Workshop which would likely be Wednesday, October 18.

Council Member Fischer Moved, Approved 5-0

H. INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Weekly Police Reports - Can Now Be Found At:

[http://www.falconheights.org/index.asp?SEC=75B3E8BB-785B-4048-B543-995BAE0716A5&Type=B\\_BASIC](http://www.falconheights.org/index.asp?SEC=75B3E8BB-785B-4048-B543-995BAE0716A5&Type=B_BASIC)

Council Member Fischer:

- He, and six others, were part of the League of Women Voters Candidate Forum. He encourages people to watch it via public television or online. Saturday was the deadline for candidates to produce 5 minutes of their thoughts for the public, and that should be available shortly. The local newspaper also has good information on the candidates.

Council Member Harris:

- Last night was the Planning Commission meeting, and all but one person attended. They had discussions on preparing to create the new Comprehensive Plan. They discussed the consultant, the role that they will play, and how they were selected. They are looking into the same consultant Roseville used, and the proposal is still in the process of negotiation. They talked about the public engagement piece as well. There may also be subgroups of various Commission's members to gain input.

Council Member Brown Thunder:

- Northeast Youth and Family Services is having their Taste of Northeast fundraiser on Thursday, October 5 from 5:30-8:30pm. It is \$30 per person, and tickets can be purchased online on their website. Also, their senior chore program is available, especially with fall leaves becoming more prominent.

Council Member Gustafson:

- The Parks and Recreation Commission will be meeting again in December. Freight Farm, presented by the Ramsey County Sheriff's Foundation, is happening at the County Fairgrounds, off Frost and White Bear Avenue, on Fridays and Saturdays starting on October 6. There is a low scare event the Sunday before Halloween. Admission is \$12.

Mayor Lindstrom:

- The Met Council is celebrating 50 years, and they are having an event in December. They are producing a program that highlights cities that are going above and beyond in various categories that they are passionate about. One of those categories is resiliency. Today he was able to go on the City Hall roof with staff to show off the solar panels for this program.

City Administrator Thongvanh:


- He had discussions with the Ramsey County Undersheriff today, and he should be receiving a rough draft of the contract tomorrow to begin reviewing. Once he and the

City Attorney review it, it will be forwarded to the Council. The city is still set to have Ramsey County begin policing on January 1, 2018. He anticipates that the contract will go before the Council to adopt in late October or early November. Likely in November, there will be at least two open houses with the Ramsey County Sheriff's Department to introduce them to the community. This will allow for a question and answer session as well.

- The Council Workshop will be moved from October 4 to October 18. They will discuss the budget, franchise fees, vacant home ordinance, and the EAB grant closure.
- The Fire Department will have their annual Open House and Chili Cook Off on Saturday, October 7 from 11am-2pm.
- Falcon Heights residents are invited to participate in the Neighborhood Cleanup event, hosted by the City of St. Paul, on Saturday, October 7 from 8am-1pm at the State Fairgrounds. Entry for the event is from Larpenteur Avenue. It has made possible by the City of Falcon Heights contributing to this effort.
- St. Anthony Police Department just launched their social media pages on Twitter and Instagram via @stanthonypolice.

I. COMMUNITY FORUM:

J. ADJOURNMENT: 7:25 pm



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Peter Lindstrom, Mayor

Dated this 27<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017



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Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator