

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

MINUTES

August 23, 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
1. Superintendent Aldo Sicoli - 2017 School Bond Referendum

Superintendent Sicoli stated that the district will be seeking voter approval for a \$144 million building bond. The funds will enable the district to make much-needed repairs, upgrades, and additions. They have an attendance of 7,500 students at their schools, and that is the highest enrollment since 1983. There's a need for space. The growth has been 18.4% since 2006. They have a projected growth of 15.3% in the next 10 years. The most urgent need for improvements is at Roseville High School. It is over capacity and projected to grow more. They have received a lot of feedback from parents and committees that they want to keep it a 9-12 grade school, so that has not been an option. There are also necessary updates for student pick up and drop off locations, as well as sprinkler systems. One of their five focus areas in their strategic plan is career and college readiness. They don't feel that they have the facilities to address these needs. Among many things, they are looking at updating their science labs, media centers/technology, and athletic facilities. They end up spending more money to do repairs and upkeep rather than just redo the building itself. 1992 was the last bond referendum, and it passed. Fairview Community Center didn't receive anything from that referendum, so it is in really poor shape. The buildings also have poor air quality which affects student health and the rate of deterioration of buildings.

They had community participation to gain feedback in criteria, options, and finance committees. They also held community meetings and surveys. There are two approaches to addressing the challenges: long-term facilities maintenance and the bond referendum. The board did raise the long-term facilities maintenance levy to \$12 million for this year. In order to receive that, they have to submit a 10-year plan to the state annually. This has to be taken action on annually by vote, and they can continue to receive \$12 million per year for 10 years. This referendum would be over the course of 20 years. This impacts a medium value (\$250,000) home by \$39/month. Improvements specific to Brimhall would be physical improvements, revised traffic, media center, special education space, and new friendship connections space. Improvements specific to Falcon Heights would be physical condition, capacity addition, media center, special education pace, new friendship connections space, and field improvements.

- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
1. July 26, 2017 City Council Meeting Minutes

Approved

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

F. CONSENT AGENDA:

1. General Disbursements through: 8/15/17 \$528,197.47
Payroll through: 8/15/17 \$44,223.91
2. Approval of City License(s)
3. Budget Amendments
 - a. Street Lighting Special Revenue Fund (209)
 - b. Public Works Capital Fund (403)
4. MN Department of Natural Resources - Fire Department Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) Matching Grant
5. Approve Payment #4 to Valley Paving, Inc. for the 2017 Pavement Management Project
6. Approve Olivia Demerath to the Park & Recreation Commission

Council Member Harris Moved, Approved 5-0

G. POLICY ITEMS:

1. Solar Garden Subscription Agreement First Amendment

City Administrator Thongvanh stated that this agreement was adopted by City Council last year. Originally the company Falcon Heights was collaborating with was Geronimo, but now it has been converted to BHE renewables. They currently have 38 gardens up and running, and the remaining 60 gardens are being constructed. Ten gardens are expected to reach commercial operations in late November. Xcel is getting a little behind in certifying their projects for interconnection and commercial operations. The deadline for the city was currently set for December 31, 2017. They're requesting an extension for April 30, 2018.

Council Member Brown Thunder 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
2. Next Budget Meeting - September 6th at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers, 2077 W. Larpenteur Ave, Falcon Heights, MN

Council Member Fischer:

- The Community Engagement Commission met on Monday, and they talked about planning for Human Rights Day in December. They also talked about partnerships with various organizations. One question that came up was the budget available for promotion to attract people to events. He hopes it is something to consider when budget discussion happen. Additionally, they discussed the inclusion recommendations that were forwarded onto the Council from the Commission and what the next steps entail.

Council Member Harris:

- The Planning Commission did not meet. She commends the new Commissioner for being involved as a high school student.

Council Member Brown Thunder:

- Taste of Northeast is coming up October 5. This is one of the fundraisers for NYFS. Check out their website at nyfs.org.

Council Member Gustafson:

- Parks and Recreation Commission will hold its next meeting on Monday, September 11.
- Also, he would like to clear up some misinformation by stating that there are plans to have patrols and coverage in the area when contracting with Ramsey County Sheriff's Office. We will see patrol cars on our streets.

City Administrator Thongvanh:

- During the work day, residents can call City Hall about any issues with State Fair parking.
- He has received the final numbers for proposed police services. This includes being a part of the contract cities police group and the purchase of a squad car for Falcon Heights. That will be about \$1 million. This cost will go up once they are contributing to the capital costs yearly. It is estimated at \$1.1 million the following year. These services would begin on January 1, 2018.
- He, the Mayor, and the Task Force Co-Chairs will meet with the St. Paul Foundation about the city's grant application that was submitted for hiring a full-time employee. The grant ask was for \$40,000. They will have further discussions, and they should have an answer about the grant in early to late fall. Additionally, they will be meeting with the Bush Foundation in September to discuss similar grant opportunities. A grant has not been submitted with the Bush Foundation yet.

Mayor Lindstrom:

- The State Fair starts tomorrow. If there are issues regarding parking, residents can call the non-emergency number for St. Anthony Police. Otherwise, residents can call 911 but preface the call by saying it's a non-emergency. Also, they have been having discussions about hosting some community meetings with the Sheriff once the contract has been signed.

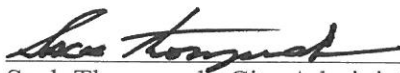
I. COMMUNITY FORUM:

J. ADJOURNMENT: 7:55 pm



Peter Lindstrom, Mayor

Dated this 23rd day of August, 2017



Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator