

CITY OF FALCON HEIGHTS
City Council Workshop
City Hall
2077 West Larpenteur Avenue

AGENDA

January 15, 2020
6:30 P.M.

A. CALL TO ORDER:

B. ROLL CALL: ANDREWS X GUSTAFSON X LEEHY AB
MIAZGA X WEHYEE X

STAFF PRESENT: THONGVANH X LOR X
Nandkumar X Markon X

C. PRESENTATIONS:

D. POLICY ITEMS:

1. Advertisement for Newsletter

- The business ads will be placed at the last two pages of the newsletter
- City Council does not want the newsletter to look like a coupon booklet
- City Council would like to focus on local businesses first then expand it to other businesses
- The goal is to adopt the Advertisement Policy in March or April. City Staff will reach out to local businesses in the summer and ads will be printed in the Fall Newsletter

2. Ordinance Amendments

A. Chapter 46 – Traffic and Vehicles

- Possible increase in citation amount
- Clarification on parking restrictions for vehicles
- Change the language on the snow removal policy
 - City Council requested staff to do more research on parking because there has been an increase of calls on where to park during a snow emergency. It will help the residents who live in apartments and have no driveway

B. Chapter 14 – Businesses

- The City Council needs to approve General Contractor License; however, this affects a project's timeframe because the council only meets twice a month. If the City Administrator approves the license, it will help contractors and homeowners to start the project quicker. The City Council was in favor of the idea and will hold a public hearing in February.

3. Native Landscaping and Forestry

The Environment Commission explored changes to the city code that would allow native landscaping. The Environment Commission created a survey on the website to allowed public comments. To date, the cities received over 60 positive responses. The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on January 28, regarding the proposed code changes, which will provide clarity on what sort of plantings are allowed, where they can be planted, and how they should be maintained.

City staff will provide updates from the public hearing at the February City Council Workshop, and it will be in the February 12 City Council regular meeting

E. INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS

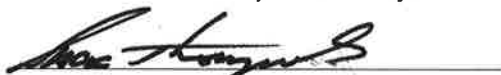
- The new logo drafts will be at the February workshop meeting
- Falcon Heights has been chosen to be included in the Governor's Bonding Proposal for the 2020 Capital Budget Requests that was sent to the Legislators on Wednesday, January 15.
- Amber Union did not receive the Met Council grant but did received the DEED and Ramsey County grants.
- Breakfast with City Council is on Saturday, March 21, from 10AM-12PM at City Hall
- The Council Retreat will be in March, and Nalisha or Amanda will email City Council the possible dates and time.

F. ADJOURNMENT: 8:44 P.M.



Randy Gustafson, Mayor

Dated this 15th day of January, 2020



Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator

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

AGENDA
January 22, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.

- A. CALL TO ORDER:
- B. ROLL CALL: ANDREWS_X_ GUSTAFSON_X_ LEEHY_X_
MIAZGA_X_ WEHYEE_X_

STAFF PRESENT: THONGVANH_X_

- C. PRESENTATION

- D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
1. January 8, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes

Approved 5-0

- E. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- F. CONSENT AGENDA:
1. General Disbursements through: 1/13/20 \$69,168.37
Payroll through: 1/15/20 \$18,889.67
 2. Approval of City License(s)
 3. Appointment of Jeff Yager to the Park Commission
 4. Authorizing the Submission of the Pay Equity Compliance Report to the State of Minnesota

Jeff Yager (1801 Asbury St)

I recently moved to Falcon Heights and have two young children. Our family has been an avid user of the parks in Falcon Heights. I believe strongly in parks being a strong asset to the community. I saw that the Park and Recreation Commission was in need of commissioners and decided to apply. It is a great opportunity to get involved in a city that we are considering as a forever home.

Mayor Gustafson Moved, Approved 5-0

- G: POLICY ITEMS:

H. INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Council Member Andrews

- I attended my first Environment Commission meeting and there is a lot to learn. We are currently looking at a native landscaping ordinance. We have been receiving positive responses from residents, and you can take the survey on city website.

Council Member Miazga

- NYFS has a meeting tomorrow, and we are going to review the strategic planning ideas to help make sure the organization continues to be viable. The possible ideas are mental health levy within various districts such as Mounds View and Roosevelt and lobbying the legislature to see if they would be interested in coming up with some funds.
- Governor Walz included our bonding bill for the Community Park for \$1 million in the Bonding Proposal for the 2020 Capital Budget Report. The next step is to get approval from the legislators. Please continue reaching out to your legislators.

Council Member Leehy

- Introductory Vegetable Gardening Class event is on March 18, from 6:30pm-8:30pm. All are welcome to the event, whether you have a plant, community garden, and a garden in your yard or in your neighbor's. It is a great opportunity for people to learn from one another.
- The new city website is live and it looks amazing. It is accessible, easy to read, and user-friendly. I want to thank City Administrator Thongvanh and the staff for their hard work.

Council Member Wehyee

- The meeting with Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative (CTC) and University of Minnesota was on Tuesday, January 14, and discussed the plans of replacing the existing housings with mixed service retails. It is a huge impact not just to the University of Minnesota but also to the City of St. Paul and Falcon Heights, students and their family, and the number of affordable units. Commonwealth Terrace Cooperative will do a presentation at city hall and shed more light in the next few weeks.
- I was approached by the president of Somalia American Women Action Center who hopes to partner with the city to provide some programs for Somali women. I will connect with City Administrator Thongvanh and staff on how we can partner with them.
- Community Engagement Commission is meeting on Monday, January 27, at 7pm. We will discuss the goals that we outlined in the Strategic Planning report. The Human Rights Day "Food Security and Child Hunger" is on Monday, February 3, at 6:30pm.

Mayor Gustafson

- The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, January 28, on the proposed Native Landscaping ordinance. Residents can look at the proposed ordinance on the city website and can provide input.
- The city staff did a wonderful job setting up the new website. I spent some time looking at it, and it was easy to use.

City Administrator Thongvanh

- Regarding the bonding Councilmember Miazga mentioned, it is very exciting and much of the credit goes to him for helping with the application and getting the word out. The City of Falcon Heights has been chosen to be included in the Governor's Bonding Proposal for the 2020 Capital Budget Report. The Minnesota Management and Budget received a bonding request for \$1,325,643,000. The Governor's recommended \$408,616,000 of which included \$1 million requested by the City of Falcon Heights to construct a new building at Community Park. The Community Park is a center point of St. Paul, Minneapolis, Roseville, and St. Anthony. We also hold our summer programs and events there. I encourage residents and visitors to continue to reach out to their state representatives.
- I want to thank the staff for their hard work in getting the website running. It is nice to have a website that is ADA compliant, user-friendly, and works well on mobile devices.
- The warming house will be closing due to the warm weather. This also makes it difficult to flood the rink.
- We are in the process to close out of our financials for this year and looking at our budgets for next year.
- I am hearing many good things happening in the Fire Department with different kinds of training with Roseville. The transition is going well for both of the cities.
- The food scraps collection site at the city hall parking lot is now open and it is 24/7. Ramsey County funded the project and will collect it once a week. The city has received many positive comments on the collection site.
- Breakfast with City Council is on Saturday, March 21, from 10am – 12pm.

I. COMMUNITY FORUM:

Please limit comments to 3 minutes per person. Items brought before the Council will be referred for consideration. Council may ask questions for clarification, but no council action or discussion will be held on these items.

J. ADJOURNMENT: 7:24 P.M.


Randy Gustafson, Mayor

Dated this 22nd day of January, 2020


Sack Thongvanh, City Administrator