

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

MINUTES
April 10, 2024 at 7:00 P.M.

- A. CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 PM
- B. ROLL CALL: GUSTAFSON_X_ LEEHY___ MEYER _X_

WASSENBERG _X_ MIELKE_X_

STAFF PRESENT: LINEHAN_X_ LOWRY_X_

- C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Gustafson notes the agenda was amended before the Council meeting to add Policy Item H4, Support of Application for Livable Communities Pre-Development Grant for Amber Flats.

Councilmember Wassenberg motions to approve the agenda;
approved 3-0

- D. PRESENTATION

- E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 1. March 13, 2024 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
- 2. March 27, 2024, City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
- 3. April 3, 2024 City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes – Joint Meeting

Councilmember Mielke proposes a change to the April 3, 2024 minutes. Leehy was marked absent at the April 3rd Workshop meeting even though she was present. The minutes are corrected to reflect this.

Councilmember Mielke motions to approve the meeting minutes;
approved 3-0

- F. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- G. CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. General Disbursements through 04/04/24: \$146,490.95
Payroll through 03/31/24: \$25,128.03
Wire Payments through 03/31/24: \$15,812.08
- 2. Approval of City License(s)
- 3. Climate Action Grant Application
- 4.
- 5. University of Minnesota Good Neighbor Fund Grant Application
- 6. Appointment of Denise King to the Community Engagement Commission

Councilmember Meyer motions to approve the consent agenda;
approved 4-0

Mayor Gustafson thanks Denise King for joining the Community Engagement Commission.

H. POLICY ITEMS:

1. Accept Project Bids for the 2024 Sanitary Sewer Lining Project

Administrator Linehan explains Falcon Heights, in cooperation with the City of Roseville, has been working on relining the City-owned sanitary sewer system for the last couple of years. Originally \$250,000 was budgeted for this project, including the engineering costs. Linehan states Roseville opened bids last month, but they came in significantly higher than budgeted for by both cities. Therefore, staff is requesting Council authorization to increase the budget by \$25,000 from the Sanitary Sewer Fund and to accept the bid from Hydro-Klean as they feel it is important to keep the project moving.

Councilmember Meyer wonders about the Sanitary Sewer Fund. Administrator Linehan explains it is an Enterprise fund, meaning it is a stand-alone fund that makes a small profit to cover its costs.

Mayor Gustafson asks about the timeline of the project. Administrator Linehan answers that 2025 would be the last year of the project. Cast-in-place pipes (CIPP) are installed within existing sewer lines, which extends the longevity of the system and helps reduce backups and inflow, and infiltration. Public Works routinely clean and scope the system.

Councilmember Mielke wonders which neighborhoods this will be happening in. Administrator Linehan explains there is a map and notes that while relining helps reduce back-ups, it doesn't fully eliminate them.

Councilmember Wassenberg asks for clarification on the budget. Administrator Linehan states the \$25,000 increase will allow for a buffer and to cover engineering costs.

Councilmember Wassenberg motions to approve Resolution 24-27
Accepting Project Bid for the 2024 Sanitary Sewer Lining Project;
approved 4-0

2. Accept Project Bid for the 2024 Pavement Management Project

Administrator Linehan explains this item is for the mill and overlay of Falcon Heights' portion of Roselawn Ave. This is another project Falcon Heights and Roseville are collaborating on. After going through all the necessary steps, the City received numerous bids that came in below the engineer's estimate as contractors bid on Roseville's entire Pavement Management Project (PMP) for 2024. Falcon Heights is responsible for a small portion of the total bid. The total is around \$106,000. There was an alternate bid for the repair of the sidewalk, which came in at around \$16,000. Typically, sidewalk repairs are done in-house by Public Works, but our staff time and materials cost would likely exceed this bid proposal based on the scope of the replacement. Staff recommends accepting the base bid and alternate 1. Council may choose to accept or deny alternative 1.

Mayor Gustafson reiterates that the base bid and the alternate bid would be less than anticipated in the budget. He wonders if the city would pay for the sidewalk repairs and not assess it to the homeowners. Administrator Linehan answers yes to both.

Councilmember Mielke wonders about the range of assessment for the Roselawn homeowners. Administrator Linehan recalls it was between \$1,500 to \$2,500.

Administrator Linehan clarifies the City Council has to accept the full bid proposal, but is fiscally only responsible for their portion.

Councilmember Meyer motions to approve Resolution 24-28 Accepting Project Bid for the 2024 Pavement Management Project;
approved 4-0

3. 2024-2025 State Fair Task Force Appointments

Administrator Linehan notes Staff has been recruiting for the task force, but with enough interest, the task force should be appointed sooner rather than later as the State Fair is coming up quickly. It is recommended that the City Council authorize the appointment of members who have expressed interest so far, which are a mix of returning and new members. The Task Force is authorized to have up to 10 members, so if more applications arrive, the City Council can appoint additional members.

Councilmember Mielke motions to approve Resolution 24-29 Appointing 2024-2025 State Fair Policies and Procedures Review Task Force;
approved 4-0

4. Support of Application for Livable Communities Pre-Development Grant for Amber Flats

Administrator Linehan explains this request came from Buhl to support them in this application. They are trying to solicit funds for Amber Flats and have applied for multiple grants. They have received funds through Ramsey County's programs. This specific application is offered by the MET Council. Only cities and counties can apply for this grant and Falcon Heights applied and received funds previously for the Amber Union project. There is no financial requirement for the city, it would be a pass-through grant. Staff is requesting authorization to apply for the grant on behalf of Buhl.

Councilmember Meyer speaks from experience in the non-profit realm. He explains that often an intermediary will charge an administrative fee for a grant application. He wonders if a practice like that existed in government grant arrangements. Administrator Linehan notes he is not familiar with cities charging this fee and it has not been discussed either. While there is some staff time involved, Buhl Investor is writing the application and Falcon Heights assists with applying.

Councilmember Wassenberg motions to approve Resolution 24-30 Supporting Application for The Livable Communities Act Pre-Development Grant for Amber Flats; approved 4-0

I. INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Meyer notes Earth Day is coming up on April 22nd and there are several events planned by organizations in the area.

Councilmember Mielke notes Falcon Heights has a Pollinator Event on Earth Day, starting at 6:30 PM. The Environment Commission did not meet. She has been door-knocking to talk to residents about the potential police partnership with St. Anthony Village and to recruit State Fair Task Force members.

Councilmember Wassenberg has no announcements.

Mayor Gustafson adds that the City also has a free shredding and e-waste event on Earth Day from 9:00 - 11:00 AM. There will be a Town Hall on Wednesday, April 17 at 6:30 PM at City Hall where preliminary feedback will be shared about the engagement efforts surrounding the potential police partnership with St. Anthony Village. St. Anthony Village will have its Town Hall on Thursday, April 18 at 6:30 PM. NineNorth did a story on Falcon Heights being rated the #1 place to live by Niche.

Administrator Linehan notes the survey is open until Friday, April 12th at 5:00 PM so results can get analyzed. The Pollinator Event is from 6:30 - 7:30 PM with speaker Russ Henry. There is also the shredding event from 9:00 - 11:00 AM. Residents can bring up to 5 boxes/bags and there will be secure shredding on-site at City Hall. Electronic Waste is also accepted; both are limited to Falcon Heights residents. City Council will have their retreat on Saturday, April 27. The Town Halls will be broadcast through NineNorth. Public Works started street sweeping and they installed the parking permit signs at Hollywood Ct.

J. 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.

K. ADJOURNMENT: 7:38 PM

Councilmember Meyer motions to adjourn the meeting;
Approved 4-0



Randall C. Gustafson, Mayor

Dated this 24th day of April, 2024



Jack Linehan, City Administrator