



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023
7 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Dan Louismet called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. The City Clerk took attendance for Councilmembers Kevin Edberg, Heidi Hughes, Dan Jones and Bill Walsh. Councilmember Steven Engstran was excused. Staff in attendance were City Manager Lindy Crawford, Police Chief Dale Hager, Public Works Director/City Engineer Paul Kauppi, City Clerk Caley Longendyke, and City Attorney Troy Gilchrist.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting on September 26, 2023

It was moved by Councilmember **Jones**, seconded by Councilmember **Hughes**, to approve the minutes. Motion carried 4-0.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The resolution regarding a School Resource Officer Agreement with White Bear Lake Area Schools was removed from unfinished business. It was moved by Councilmember **Hughes**, seconded by Councilmember **Jones**, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried 4-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Accept minutes: August Environmental Advisory Council, August Park Advisory Commission, August White Bear Lake Conservation District
- B. Resolution ordering preparation of a feasibility report for the 2024 Pavement Rehabilitation Project **Res. No. 13255**
- C. Resolution approving on-sale 3.2% liquor, on-sale wine, and Sunday liquor licenses for Golf Nerd LLC **Res. No. 13256**

It was moved by Councilmember **Walsh**, seconded by Councilmember **Hughes** to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 4-0.

5. VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Swear-in Police Officer + Bi-annual Police Department Report

Officer Dan Swenson was given the Oath of Service and sworn in. Chief Dale Hager presented a bi-annual Police Department report. He provided an overview of the staffing structure and the number of staff. He noted that the department is authorized for 31 sworn police officers, but based on medical leave and field training, the department is down about eight officers. He

shared information about the different shifts for patrol officers. He also shared about the various roles of investigative staff and their schedules. Chief Hager gave general information on the role of the Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training, or POST Board, and summarized new rules adopted. He shared a list of organizations that partner with the Police Department and described the services they provide. These include Northeast Youth and Family Service Community Advocate Program; Mesa Consulting; Ramsey County VCET, SWAT and Mobile Field Force; MN BCA; MN Chiefs of Police Association, and Ramsey County Chiefs of Police Association. For the volunteer program, the department has had to temporarily put classes on hold due to the building construction and the lack of training space. Chief Hager talked about community engagement and future plans to expand this more.

Mayor Louismet reported that he has received positive comments from the community about Chief Hager in his new role. Councilmember Edberg asked about what strategies the department uses to address the staffing shortage while officers on leave. Chief Hager said there have been some action steps, including have investigators work on patrol and reducing the minimum for self-initiated activities. Councilmember Edberg asked in general about recruitment, turnover, retention and competitiveness. Chief Hager confirmed that it is very competitive and there were recently 200 positions open across the state throughout various agencies. He talked about officer movement between agencies, whether it's for better hours or closer distance to home. Councilmember Edberg asked about the emerging needs of the department. Chief Hager spoke about the growing need to address mental health, both for the health of staff and for the community, alluding to an increase in mental health-related calls. He felt that the City has been proactive in addressing these needs by partnering with organizations to support both areas. He noted there may be issues on the horizon regarding squad cars and that the department is currently waiting to replace six cars, which are in the queue to be built. He shared his enthusiasm for the department's new drones, foreseeing the advantage of the devices, and how more drones could potentially be beneficial in the future.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Nothing scheduled.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

~~A. Resolution regarding School Resource Officer Agreement with White Bear Lake Area Schools~~
Removed from the agenda.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Nothing scheduled.

9. DISCUSSION

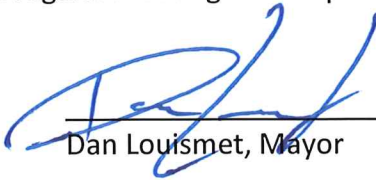
Nothing scheduled.

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Crawford shared information for two ribbon cuttings, one for the walking bridge connecting the Arts District facilities and one for the reopening of the Northeast Youth & Family Services' White Bear Lake Clinic. She encouraged the Council to attend the ribbon cuttings.

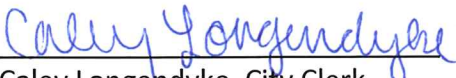
11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, it was moved by Councilmember **Walsh**, seconded by Councilmember **Jones**, to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:32 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.



Dan Louismet, Mayor

ATTEST:



Caley Longendyke, City Clerk