



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA
TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2024
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, Steven Engstran, Heidi Hughes, Bill Walsh, and Andrea West. Staff in attendance were City Manager Lindy Crawford, Public Works Director/City Engineer Paul Kauppi, Police Chief Dale Hager, and City Clerk Caley Longendyke.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting on April 9, 2024

It was moved by Councilmember **West**, seconded by Councilmember **Edberg**, to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Minutes of the City Council Work Session on April 16, 2024

It was moved by Councilmember **Engstran**, seconded by Councilmember **West**, to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Louismet reported the addition of an agenda item under *New Business* for a resolution regarding a Minnesota Department of Public Safety Grant. It was moved by Councilmember **Engstran**, seconded by Councilmember **West**, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Resolution accepting various restricted donations **Res. No. 13352**
- B. Resolution accepting the adjusted 2024 SCORE funding allocation **Res. No. 13353**
- C. Resolution authorizing a single-event liquor extension for El Pariente Mexican Grill – Cinco de Mayo celebration **Res. No. 13354**
- D. Resolution authorizing a liquor extension for 4 Deuces Saloon during certain downtown events **Res. No. 13355**

It was moved by Councilmember **Edberg**, seconded by Councilmember **Engstran**, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

5. VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. Law Enforcement Memorial Proclamation

Mayor Louismet read a proclamation recognizing the service of law enforcement officers in the community and the observation of Police Week in White Bear Lake from May 12 to 18, 2024. Mayor Louismet added his thanks to the City's officers and asked the audience to stand.

B. Citizen's Police Award, Michael Henderson

Police Chief Hager shared that the department's Awards Committee wishes to recognize White Bear Lake resident Michael Henderson with a *Citizen's Award* for helping prevent two car jackings and assisting an officer in subduing a suspect in December 2023. The *Citizen's Award* recognizes the efforts of citizens who support the Police Department's commitment to the improvement of the quality of life in White Bear Lake. Sergeant Vette said a few words thanking Mr. Henderson for his assistance and presented the award to him.

C. Public Works / Engineering Department Biannual Report

Public Works Director/City Engineer Kauppi presented a biannual report for the Public Works / Engineering Department. He provided an overview of the staffing structure and shared infrastructure statistics, such as the following: 89 miles of streets, 106 cul-de-sacs, 24 parks, 122 miles of watermain, 446 street lights, and more. Director Kauppi summarized the department's operations, projects, gave an overview of equipment and invited the public to attend a Public Works open house on May 22, which will include displays, hands-on activities, and tours of the facility.

D. Finance Department Quarterly Report

Finance Director Kindsvater provided the quarterly report for the Finance Department. She reported the City is on track with its expenses and revenues for the 2024 budget so far. While reviewing revenues, she mentioned the City receiving \$13,500 more from the Xcel Energy's electric revenue that is paid to the City annually. Revenues from rental inspection fees are also higher than compared to 2023, which may be attributed the Building Division having full staff at this time compared to last year. Permits for heating and air conditioning are also up. With the less amount of snow over the winter, the City had less expenditures for snow and ice removal. For the License Bureau, customer transaction counts continue to be higher than last year. At this time last year, the Maplewood DMV office was still open, so she expects the year-to-date comparisons to level out in the next quarter. Director Kindsvater said transactions for electronic vehicle title and registration (EVTR) transfers are significantly higher and she explained the process involving the car dealership and the License Bureau. Since January 1, the License Bureau has received an additional \$1 for all tab renewals, title transfers, duplicate titles, duplicate stickers and plates, and title corrections.

Director Kindsvater shared about new DMV kiosks in Cub Food stores. She explained that the closest DMV location to the kiosk is the lead office, and receives 10% of the collected filing fees through the kiosk transactions. Any DMV office that is located within 10 miles of the kiosk can participate and receive a portion of the revenues. The City agreed to be a lead office for the kiosk to be set up at the Cub Foods on Highway 96 and Centerville Road, in White Bear Township. Six participating DMVs will receive a portion of the revenues. She noted that the transaction per hour count is skewed due to increased number of pay periods in the first

quarter. Mayor Louismet asked if the customer will be paying the same price at kiosks. Director Kindsvater said the fee will be the same, but there will be a kiosk operation fee. She confirmed it is cheaper for customers to physically visit the License Bureau for transactions. Councilmember Walsh shared his wondering about state policy and the motivation of the kiosks. He referenced the explanation of the EVTR transactions and asked if there's an opportunity to promote the partnership between the License Bureau and local car dealerships, but Director Kindsvater replied that every dealership does it the same.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Nothing scheduled.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing scheduled.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Minnesota Department of Public Safety Pathways to Policing Grant Program

Chief of Police Hager shared information about a grant program through the Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS) that would support the City's efforts in attracting non-traditional law enforcement candidates and financially assisting their education. The City's grant application was selected to receive \$75,000 in matching funds, with the City's contribution being funded by the Public Safety Local Government Aid (LGA) and the Police Department's operating budget.

Councilmember Edberg asked about the difference between funds from Public Safety LGA and the grant. Chief Hager described LGA funds as coming from the governor and legislature to be used between police and fire departments, with a variety of allowable uses, and the grant is from DPS and is to be used specifically for recruitment efforts. City Manager Crawford added that the City will use approximately \$12,000 of LGA funds to help fund some of the City's contribution towards the matching grant.

It was moved by Councilmember **Walsh**, seconded by Councilmember **West**, to approve **Res. No. 13356**, accepting a grant through the 2024-2025 Pathways to Policing Grant Program, administered by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. Councilmember Walsh shared his appreciation for staff's efforts in applying for and securing various grants. Motion carried unanimously.

9. DISCUSSION

Nothing scheduled.

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Crawford shared that the City's spring and summer newsletter was delivered to residents and is available to view on the City's website and thanked City Clerk Longendyke for putting it together.

She made a note of the following upcoming events: the Sports Center's Spring Skate Show, Trash-to-Treasure Day, a ribbon cutting for True North Direct Primary Care, an anniversary celebration for All-Star Pet Hotel, the City's Spring Clean-Up Day, a leadership luncheon for Northeast Youth &

Family Services and Touch-a-Truck. City Manager Crawford acknowledged department heads who present biannual and quarterly reports for the benefit of the Mayor, City Council, and public.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, it was moved by Councilmember **Engstran**, seconded by Councilmember **West**, to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:58 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Dan Louismet, Mayor

ATTEST:

Caley Longendyke, City Clerk