



**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA  
TUESDAY, MAY 22, 2018  
7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Mayor Jo Emerson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Councilmembers Doug Biehn, Kevin Edberg, Steven Engstran, Dan Jones and Bill Walsh in attendance. Staff members present were City Manager Ellen Richter, Assistant City Manager Rick Juba, City Engineer Mark Burch, Community Development Director Anne Kane, City Clerk Kara Coustry and City Attorney Andy Pratt.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Councilmember **Engstran** seconded by Councilmember **Jones**, to approve the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting on May 8, 2018.

Motion carried unanimously.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

City Manager Richter added 9F: Resolution accepting bids and awarding contract to Viking Automatic Sprinkler Company for the Fire Suppression System at White Bear Lake Sports Center, Renovation City Project #18-09.

Councilmember Engstran moved 10D, Fire Department Auto Aid Agreements from the Consent Agenda to be placed under New Business, 9G.

It was moved by Councilmember **Biehn** seconded by Councilmember **Edberg**, to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

**4. VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Northeast Youth and Family Services – Jerry Hromatka**

Mayor Emerson welcomed Jerry Hromatka, President and CEO of Northeast Youth and Family Services (NYFS). Mr. Hromatka provided an overview of services provided by NYFS on a budget of 3.3 million, in which \$0.85 of each dollar goes directly toward programming. Primary populations served include ages 5-21, for a total of 4,000 youth, adults and families served in three program areas including mental health, day treatment and community services. Mr. Hromatka explained that White Bear Lake residents are assured access to mental health, the senior chore program and diversion services regardless of their ability to pay.

Mr. Hromatka explained that citizenship is about being part of something bigger than yourself. He stated that NYFS service reduce the need for public funds. Mr. Hromatka referenced social return on investment research by the University of Minnesota, stating that for every dollar put into youth work, \$5 dollars is returned. For every \$100 put into mental health, employers get about \$1,800 back. Also, early intervention and prevention are less expensive than deeper services provided later through Ramsey County.

Mr. Hromatka encouraged folks to participate in the upcoming NYFS Board of Directors' run Mayor's Challenge Golf Tournament on June 11<sup>th</sup> at Keller Golf Course.

At Councilmember Walsh's suggestion, Mr. Hromatka elaborated that mindfulness is about being in the moment rather than being in the past, which is a great stress reducing technique. NYFS have been teaching students and adults various techniques for being mindful and its Board of Directors has suggested providing this service as a lunch and learn to businesses.

Councilmember Edberg asked for a comment on the overall relationship with the City. He asked if NYFS is financially stable and if there were any gaps resulting from a reduction in funding. Finally, Councilmember Edberg asked for insight related to mental health of school-age children.

Mr. Hromatka provided his opinion that isolation and despair are the main reasons for children (and adults) to feel disconnected to a goal and a sense of purpose. He relayed the importance of reaching out to those who get lost and getting them connected again. In terms of budget, NYFS is equity rich but balance sheet poor. Cash flow is fine, but the Board of Directors has been stressing the importance of weening off contracts as long-term funding sources. Related to the City's relationship, Mr. Hromatka stressed the importance of the City continuing to provide support to NYFS. He credited the success of NYFS with bringing disparate groups of people together to find common ground moving forward.

Mayor Emerson thanked Mr. Hromatka and expressed pride in the City's long-standing partnership with NYFS.

#### B. White Bear Area Chamber of Commerce – Tom Snell

Mayor Emerson introduced Tom Snell, Executive Director of the White Bear Area Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Snell reported that the Chamber has approximately 400 members today. He noted a vast increase in visitors from 10 per year to over 1,000 per year since moving into the Railroad Depot in downtown White Bear Lake.

Mr. Snell covered several initiatives of the White Bear Area Chamber of Commerce in the past year. The Chamber launched a business education network program with a focus on health care and human services in order to bring together schools and businesses to identify and address gaps in the workforce resulting for retiring baby-boomers. The Chamber has done 11 presentations in the White Bear School District on issues related to health care and human services and there will be a health care workforce fair held at Century College on October 26.

On economic development efforts, Mr. Snell explained that ribbon cuttings are an important aspect of welcoming new community members. Over the past five months, there have been over 20 ribbon cuttings in White Bear Lake. There have also been 11

Grow Minnesota visits, a State Chamber of Commerce initiative in which local businesses are interviewed to determine what they need in the community.

Mr. Snell reported on Chamber's support for the bike trail and the lake links trail, as well as bonding received for repairs to a rail bridge at the Rice Creek Watershed District. Two major distribution centers, International Paper and Cummings, can now rely on this bridge for another 75 years for products. He stated the Chamber Board is also in support of the concept of a 4-corners development on County Road E and Bellaire.

As a major sponsor of the Leadership Program for the Greater White Bear Community Foundation, Mr. Snell relayed that the Chamber is hosting an event with the Rotary on May 31 at the Yacht Club to focus on building more support for the Community Foundation.

Mayor Emerson thanked Mr. Snell for all he does at the Chamber to support White Bear Lake. Councilmember Dan Jones thanked Tom Snell for his direction and leadership at the White Bear Area Chamber of Commerce.

## 5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Nothing scheduled

## 6. LAND USE

Nothing scheduled

## 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing scheduled

## 8. ORDINANCES

Nothing scheduled

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Resolution approving request for a Comprehensive Plan extension

Community Development Director Kane reported that the City has completed approximately 70% of the Comprehensive Plan. While staff had hoped to be in a position to schedule the Public Hearing for the May 28th Planning Commission meeting, it became evident based on competing case load, that an extension would be necessary. In discussing the matter with the City's Sector Representative at Metropolitan Council, staff was encouraged to seek the full 6-month extension to allow wiggle room for this one-time request. Ms. Kane forwarded a resolution asking until May 31, 2019 to submit the final document, although staff anticipates its completion by the end of this summer.

It was moved by Councilmember **Biehn**, seconded by Councilmember **Jones**, to adopt **Resolution No. 12235** approving request for a Comprehensive Plan extension.

Motion carried unanimously.

B. Resolution approving the general obligation bond sale

Finance Director Don Rambow reported that the City's Standard and Poor's bond rating was recently upgraded from AA to AA+ after noting significant developments throughout the City. A review of the City's finances noted that the general fund is strong and reserves are gradually improving. Ehlers conducted the bond sale today. Four competitive bids were received with extremely favorable long-term rates at 3.2% and 3.3%, reflecting a savings of approximately \$100,000 in financing.

Shelly Eldridge, the Senior Financial Advisor and Vice President of Ehlers, expressed excitement for the City's recent bond rating increase and presented Mayor Emerson with a commemorative plaque containing of an old style paper bond.

It was moved by Councilmember **Walsh**, seconded by Councilmember **Biehn**, to adopt **Resolution No. 12236A** awarding sale of \$5.850 general obligation Million Series 2018A bonds.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Councilmember **Jones**, seconded by Councilmember **Edberg**, to adopt **Resolution No. 12236B** awarding \$3.330 general obligation Tax Abatement Million Series 2018B bonds.

Motion carried unanimously.

C. Resolution approving change order number 1 for the 2018 Seal Coating Project, City Project No. 18-02

City Engineer Burch reported the City entered into a contract with Pearson Bros, Inc. for the performance of the 2018 Seal Coating contract. Staff is requesting a change order to revise use of the pea gravel cover rock on residential streets to trap rock, which would increase project costs by \$19,299. Mr. Burch explained that pea gravel is getting more difficult to find, while trap rock is a better looking and more durable product.

It was moved by Councilmember **Biehn**, seconded by Councilmember **Engstran**, to adopt **Resolution No. 12237** approving change order number 1 for the 2018 Seal Coating Project, City Project No. 18-02.

Motion carried unanimously.

D. Resolutions authorizing Bellaire Center Tenant Rental Agreements

City Manager Richter reported that agreements have been reached to renew rental contracts for a two-year term with the White Bear Dance Center, Garden of Hope Montessori School and Sunrise Draperies. An agreement with Comcast, the last of the Bellaire Center Tenants, will require additional time to finalize. Ms. Richter described all of them as good tenants and forwarded a recommendation for approval of the agreements.

It was moved by Councilmember **Jones**, seconded by Councilmember **Engstran**, to adopt **Resolution No. 12238** authorizing a rental agreement with Prestige Productions dba White Bear Dance Center; **Resolution No. 12239** authorizing a rental agreement with Garden of Hope Montessori School; **Resolution No. 12240** authorizing a rental

agreement with Sunrise Draperies.

Motion carried unanimously.

- E. Resolution authorizing a Community Roadside Landscape Partnership Program application in support of proposed landscape enhancements within the I-35E right of way adjacent to Tower Crossings. (Division 25, LLC)

Community Development Director Kane reported that the second phase of Tower Crossings is underway with completion of the building frame of the proposed Lunds & Byerlys store. The developer of Lunds & Byerlys is proposing to remove volunteer landscape materials within MnDOT's I-35E right-of-way adjacent to where the new grocery store abuts the freeway. The existing area would be re-planted to lower height landscape materials, including 225 shrubs to stabilize the slope, but still allow the new wall signage to be seen by passing motorists.

The developer of Tower Crossing PUD, John Johansson with Division 25, LLC is requesting the City of White Bear Lake enter into a MnDOT Community Roadside Landscape Partnership Program to allow new landscaping to be installed within the I-35E right-of-way. The developer assumes all responsibility for design, implementation and on-going maintenance during the establishment period and will submit a separate Letter of Credit to the City to cover 125% of the estimated cost to complete the work.

It was moved by Councilmember **Engstran**, seconded by Councilmember **Biehn**, to adopt **Resolution No. 12241** authorizing a Community Roadside Landscape Partnership Program application in support of proposed landscape enhancements within the I-35E right of way adjacent to Tower Crossings. (Division 25, LLC).

Motion carried unanimously.

- F. Resolution accepting bids and awarding contract to Viking Automatic Sprinkler Company for the Fire Suppression System at White Bear Lake Sports Center, Renovation City Project #18-09

City Engineer Burch explained that when bids for modification of the fire sprinkler system to allow for installation of the low-E ceiling were received last November, the low bid was \$143,880. Due to confusion with the work specified, the bid was rejected and subsequently revised to clarify specifications. Staff recommends the City Council receive the revised bid of \$53,000 from Viking Automatic Sprinkler Company and award them the contract for the work.

It was moved by Councilmember **Biehn**, seconded by Councilmember **Walsh**, to adopt **Resolution No. 12242** accepting bids and awarding contract to Viking Automatic Sprinkler Company for the Fire Suppression System at White Bear Lake Sports Center, Renovation City Project #18-09.

Motion carried unanimously.

- G. Resolution approving Fire Department Auto Aid Agreements with Lake Johanna, Maplewood and Hugo.

City Manager Richter referenced existing mutual aid agreements in place with Mahtomedi, Lino Lakes and Vadnais Heights. The City would like to round out area

coverage by also including Lake Johanna, Maplewood and Hugo. Mutual aid agreements are trending among Fire Departments because they allow for better response times given vehicle locations and available resources at any given point in time.

Fire Chief Peterson explained that auto aid agreements are being utilized among neighboring communities throughout Ramsey County. He explained that with the new CAD system, everything is GPS driven now. The addition of these other agencies means they will be automatically dispatched to a call, which creates a safer environment because more people are dispatched more immediately to help each other out.

It was moved by Councilmember **Jones**, seconded by Councilmember **Walsh**, to adopt **Resolution No. 12245** approving Fire Department Auto Aid Agreements with Lake Johanna, Maplewood and Hugo.

Motion carried. Councilmember Engstran abstained.

Councilmember Walsh inquired as to an update on the recent Fire Department schedule changes. Fire Chief Peterson reported that shift schedules are a huge adjustment for the department, but they are generally going well. Under the scheduling approach, it is more evident when there are holes in coverage, which has both increased clarity and anxiety in the department related to staffing.

## 10. CONSENT

- A. Resolution approving a temporary liquor license for Pine Tree Apple Classic.  
**Resolution No. 12243**
- B. Resolution approving a Massage Therapy Establishment license for Red Dragonfly Massage. **Resolution No. 12244**
- C. Acceptance of March Environmental Advisory Commission Minutes

It was moved by Councilmember **Edberg** seconded by Councilmember **Biehn**, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

## 11. DISCUSSION

## 12. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- Green Step City – Step 4 was recently achieved by the City due to efforts toward recording energy use with the MPCA. The City of White Bear Lake will be receiving an award at the upcoming League Conference. Connie Taillon has been working on a press release. A Step 5 designation was also recently added, for which the City will continue to strive.
- Lake Links Trail - There is 4 million to fund the Lake Links Trail in the bonding bill, with 2.6 million directed toward design and construction of the South Shore segment. Ms. Richter shared a Lake Link Trail report prepared from funding received through the last bonding bill. This was a collaborative effort between Ramsey County, the Town of White Bear and the City of White Bear Lake. Ramsey County has agreed to survey along South Shore to establish right-of-way, which will be done this fall and winter.

More work will be done with the traffic study as options for one-way and two-way roads are explored.

- Legislative Update – Effective June 1, 2018 through July 1, 2019, legislation was passed which restricts the DNR from spending any money to enforce the recent court order whereby water permits were amended. Because of this, the City is not currently obligated to move forward with the residential irrigation ban, or create a plan for surface water conversion. Ms. Richter asked residents to be mindful of the City's existing irrigation ban, which is in effect between May 1 – September 30 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Lake Level Litigation – In following with the DNR, the City filed its appeal of the Lake Level court ruling. The DNR filed for a stay to the Court of Appeals.
- Manitou Days Parade – Mayor and Council participating in the Manitou Days Parade should plan on meeting at the Fire Department on Friday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in time for 6:30 p.m. The parade starts at 6:30 p.m.
- Whitaker Street End Lease – staff has been researching the gas tank and other considerations. This item will come before the Council on June 26, 2018.
- 4 Square Flats Concept – The developer's next neighborhood meeting is Wednesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 6 – 8 pm at Century College Theatre.

Councilmember Edberg explained that a 2-scale model showing the impact of four buildings on the corners would help residents to better visualize the proposed concept plan and how space is used on those four corners.

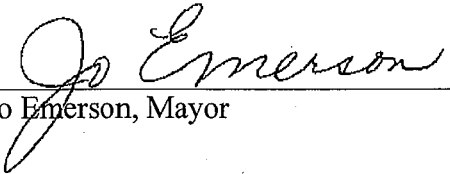
Councilmember Jones stated the newest market rate apartment complex south of County Road F is 60 years old. He emphasized that residents need to understand what market rate means to clear up confusion related to this.

- Memorial Day Parade – The VFW will lead the parade starting at 9:15 a.m. from City Hall, arriving at Union Cemetery around 10:00 a.m. In addition, at 2:00 p.m. the VFW will be holding a ceremony at the lake.
- Controlled Burn – Councilmembers are invited to participate in a controlled burn on Murray Avenue (with appropriate training) on Saturday, June 9 at 8:00 a.m.
- Body Cameras – Training will be taking place in the next couple of weeks in preparation for the implementation of body cameras in June.
- Engineering Updates – Mark Burch
  - Street reconstruction projects - The sanitary sewer line will be connected overnight along White Bear Avenue. Regarding the mill and overlay on Sumac and Manitou, the curb is complete, sod laid and pavement goes in tomorrow. Curb was poured on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Streets today. Piggy-backing of service lines is being corrected along with copper pipe replacement of lead and corroded galvanized pipes. The trail on White Bear Parkway from 96 to Birch Lake Blvd has been milled, but may be a bit delayed due to soft soil conditions. Birch Lake Blvd S. will be the last project, which has not yet been initiated for that reason.
  - Sports Center Project - Concrete will be poured on Thursday, which is controlled through lasers for perfect leveling required for this job.

- Clark Avenue Flagpole Project - The time capsule was recovered from the 1940 Clark Avenue Flagpole. The flag will be retired during a brief ceremony in which the Mayor will speak this Thursday at 2:00 p.m.

### 13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, it was moved by Councilmember **Engstran** seconded by Councilmember **Jones** to adjourn the regular meeting at **8:42 p.m.**

  
Jo Emerson, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Kara Coustry, City Clerk