



**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 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 7:00 p.m. Councilmembers Doug Biehn, Kevin Edberg, Steven Engstran, Dan Jones and Bill Walsh in attendance. Staff members present were City Manager Ellen Hiniker, Assistant Manager Rick Juba, Community Development Director Anne Kane, City Engineer Paul Kauppi, Finance Director Don Rambow, Assistant Finance Director Kerri Kindsvater, City Clerk Kara Coustry and City Attorney Patrick Sweeney.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Councilmember **Biehn** seconded by Councilmember **Edberg**, to approve the Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting on November 27, 2018.

Motion carried unanimously.

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

It was moved by Councilmember **Jones** seconded by Councilmember **Engstran**, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

**4. VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS**

Nothing scheduled

**5. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Nothing scheduled

**6. LAND USE**

A. Consent

1. Consideration of a Planning Commission recommendation granting a variance for 2103 East County Road F. **Resolution No. 12304**

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

Motion carried unanimously.

## B. Non-Consent

### 1. Consideration of a Planning Commission recommendation authorizing amendments to the land use section and classification map of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan

Community Development Director Kane reported that the City initiated an action to reguide 4.6 acres at the northwest corner of County Road E and Linden Avenue from “Commercial” to “High Density Residential”. The parcels include two vacant lots and three single-family residences.

Ms. Kane explained that staff had identified this area as appropriate for higher density, transit-oriented type development as part of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan Update. The area is proposed as a new land use category called “Mixed Use Transit Oriented Development”. The 2040 Comprehensive Plan is slightly behind schedule, so as a stopgap measure, staff is proposing an amendment to the 2030 plan from Commercial to High Density Residential.

Ms. Kane stated that in addition to the map amendment, staff proposes a text amendment under the description of the high-density residential (HDR) land use classification to include all types of residential development, except single-family and allows for 9-17 units per acre or greater when approved through a planned unit development (PUD).

Ms. Kane said the Planning Commission received a letter expressing many concerns from Anne Lindgren, who lives in Linden Place Villas. In addition, the Mayor and Council received an e-mail of concern from the President of the Cedar Cove Village Home Association.

Ms. Kane explained that this amendment is being proposed at this time in order to provide the possibility of multi-family housing at this location, not necessarily to accommodate a particular project. If/when developer who is currently in conversation with the property owners approaches the City, multiple approvals from the City would still be necessary, including a Preliminary and Final Plat, a Rezoning from Commercial to HDR and likely a PUD. Between concept plan review and Development Phase approvals, at least three more public hearings are anticipated before a development could be approved.

In response to Councilmember Biehn’s inquiry about the current general business zoning, Ms. Kane explained that general business is a broad category. She recounted proposals to build a large grocery store, full-service gas station with a car wash and a local courier service in that location. Other options could be a bar, restaurant or drug store.

Councilmember Jones asked for clarification as to when staff first identified these parcels for high-density residential. Ms. Kane described a number of public open houses conducted in the beginning of 2017, in which this area was first identified for high-density development. Councilmember Jones also clarified that Linden Avenue is a Minnesota State Aid (MSA) route.

Councilmember Edberg asked; why not keep the general business designation. Ms. Kane explained that the current Comprehensive Plan seeks to reinforce the residential character of the corridor. The County Road E corridor has pockets of commercial, some that struggle or are underutilized. It was her opinion that adding residential to the area would better support existing commercial businesses along the corridor. Ms. Kane also explained that past proposed commercial interest in this location was more incompatible than residential.

In response to a question by Councilmember Edberg regarding the interest in these particular parcels, Ms. Kane stated that these parcels were identified as underutilized in their present state and there is an active for-profit business operating on the other parcels. Ms. Kane described two vacant lots owned by an LLC that also owns The Stadium. She believed three residential lots are individually owned and they have entered into contracts with the developer interested in this assemblage.

In response to a question by Councilmember Edberg, Ms. Kane described Low Density as single-family, with 1-4 residential units per acre. Medium density are townhomes, quads and eight-plex's, Hoffman Place is considered High Density, multi-family apartment buildings with 17-40 residential units per acre.

Councilmember Walsh asked whether the City needed more density. Ms. Kane stated that as part of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan update, the Metropolitan Council allocated additional growth of 1200 units in White Bear Lake. Upon review of all plausible sites, if all were developed at mid-density, White Bear Lake would still come up just 20 units short of this goal. Ms. Kane explained that White Bear Lake is more dense than many suburbs, but the City must plan to achieve the Metropolitan goal, even though there is no penalty for non-achievement.

Councilmember Engstran asked; why not medium density and referenced the developer proposing a 4-story "monstrosity" if reguided as high-density. Ms. Kane explained that in an ideal world, the most intensive residential density would exist along major corridors such as this, with lessening density further away from major corridors.

Councilmember Biehn asked; what has changed since the original planning as commercial. Ms. Kane stated the location was designated commercial as far back as 1999. She suspected this was due to The Stadium and thinking businesses would continue to pop up along the corridor, however, the great recession and a change in housing expectations of millennials has shifted over the last 20 years.

Mayor Emerson opened the public hearing at 7:29 p.m.

Laura Kunde 3692 Linden Place expressed concern for the amount of traffic a new high density residential development would cause on Linden Avenue. She noted the high number of cars that wait at the Highway 61 light during rush hour on County Road E. Ms. Kunde believed Linden Avenue would be used as the entrance to any high-density development, which would further increase traffic by 180 cars and deplete street parking. She said her father already has to park and walk across the street when he visits because there is not enough guest parking for the townhomes.

Ms. Kunde pointed to all of the people in the audience who had the same sentiment

about high density at that location. She stated that a monstrosity development would further diminish privacy and view of trees enjoyed by nearby townhomes. She felt the area should be guided toward medium density to continue the look and flow of the area, or remain commercial in the hopes of attracting a strip mall. Ms. Kunde stated she understood there needs to be growth but did not believe this was the place for it.

Mayor Emerson called for other speakers. There being none, she closed the public hearing at 7:38 p.m. and returned to the Council for deliberation.

In response to Councilmember Jones, Ms. Kane read the concerns expressed by single-family residents living west of the Linden/ Cedar Cove development, as recorded when that development was first proposed in 1992. Ms. Kane highlighted comments found in the April and May 1992 Planning Commission minutes and the City Council minutes from June 9<sup>th</sup> and June 23<sup>rd</sup> of the same year. Additional comments from single-family residents registered at that time included concerns about where the added children from the townhomes would play; stormwater runoff, and safe crossing of County Road E to reach Willow School.

Councilmember Jones stated that the Bruce Vento Trail is slated to be just east of Hoffman Road, which would attract millennials. He added millennials will comprise 30% of society and pay social security taxes – they are the future.

Councilmember Biehn stated our city is fully developed with many older homes. He felt it is important to attract millennials to the City so they will be positioned to purchase and redevelop the older homes when those turnover. He felt it important to attract millennials to White Bear Lake to further growth and complete the housing cycle.

Councilmember Walsh asked philosophically whether the City needed to grow. He mentioned BRT will change the City drastically and while he mentioned the City has density sufficient to cover taxes currently, he noted Councilmember Edberg's comment, "respond to the market".

Councilmember Walsh stated that developers have done market research to identify a market demand here. He believes in market forces and supports these developments, but noted the neighbors living in these areas are not receptive to these proposed developments changing their neighborhoods. He encouraged residents, including himself, to become more involved in the Comprehensive Planning process for a broader discussion in identifying where more dense development might work within the City as a whole.

Councilmember Edberg clarified that his point was two-fold – would the Metropolitan Council permit the City to respond to the market and to the needs and interests of citizens. He believes that communities get choices about the kind of community they want to have. His point was; there is a balance between market forces and community desires. He stated he is not likely to vote for a 4-story development, but he would support medium or high density not to exceed three stories.

Councilmember Jones thought it important to bring millennials into White Bear

Lake so they are positioned to backfill the White Bear Lake housing stock, which is vastly comprised of ramblers in the southern portion of the City. He explained there have only been two apartment complexes built in White Bear Lake since 1989, one on Centerville Road and one at Highway 96 and Otter Lake.

Councilmember Jones stated this is one of only a few areas that could be high density in the City. He would approve a 3-story high-density development here and would consider a 4-story high-density development if done through a PUD in which other amenities would be included. Councilmember Jones preferred this area be dually zoned for general business and residential and was unsure if he was willing to give up the commercial zoning of this area.

Councilmember Engstran stated he mostly agreed with Councilmember Edberg about 3-story cap. He said he would like to see this regulated as medium density. He suggested regarding Birch Lake Professional Building on the north side of Highway 96 and north of Buerkle Road for high-density instead.

It was moved by Councilmember **Biehn** seconded by Councilmember **Walsh**, to adopt **Resolution No. 12305** authorizing amendments to the land use section and classification map of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan.

Councilmember Edberg said it made sense to zone this location for housing given its proximity to BRT. He stated the regarding, to support the ultimate discussion of rezoning makes sense. He expressed concern about the kinds of density, how it would be accessed and its proximity to the road.

Motion carried. Councilmember Engstran nay.

## 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing scheduled

## 8. ORDINANCES

### A. Second reading of an ordinance establishing 2019 annual fee and utility rate schedule

City Manager Hiniker reviewed changes since first reading, which included the deletion of a gambling manager background check fee as these are performed by the State rather than the City. She explained that the cost for cleaning the Boatworks Commons increased \$5, so the fee schedule was changed to reflect the actual cost of cleaning would be passed along to the user. Lastly, solicitors are currently charged a flat fee per company, however, due to the large groups requiring background checks, staff proposed the current \$50 fee be capped at two solicitors with \$10 paid for each additional solicitor after two.

Councilmember Edberg asked for clarification on the City's relationship with the ISI. Ms. Hiniker explained the International Skating Institute is an organization the City belongs to in order to be credentialed to provide skate school instruction.

Mayor Emerson opened public hearing at 8:07 p.m. There being no one who came forward to speak, the public hearing was closed.

It was moved by Councilmember **Jones**, seconded by Councilmember **Edberg** to adopt **Ordinance No. 18-12-2033** establishing a fee schedule for services, permits and licenses.

Councilmember Walsh mentioned there have been continued increases on taxes and fees, but there needs to be downward pressure to the costs of living in the City. He referenced the City has been catching up to its neighbors, although comparing to neighbors is not the justification for fees. Councilmember Walsh encouraged continued consideration of the folks who are paying these fees.

Councilmember Jones pointed out that inflation should be factored into these fees in which case they should all be increased. He also mentioned that the first time Council reviewed the fee schedule; fees had not been adjusted for 15 years. Councilmember Edberg noted the majority of fees are not being increased.

It was moved by Councilmember **Jones**, seconded by Councilmember **Engstran** to adopt **Resolution No. 12306** establishing the title and summary approval of Ordinance No. 18-12-2033 to facilitate publication.

Motion carried unanimously.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Resolutions adopting 2018 Tax Levy Collectible in 2018 and adoption of the revised 2018 and proposed 2019 Budget

City Manager Hiniker recapped the budget timeline and reviewed the proposed tax levy, which was presented in great detail during the truth in taxation hearing held on November 27, 2018. Ms. Hiniker stated the impact on the proposed 2019 tax levy equals \$720,000, which would support the following key budget elements:

- Continued process of reflecting all general operational costs within the General Fund. The Engineering Department was reallocated from an Internal Service Fund and will be supported by transfers from the Construction Fund to the General Fund (budget neutral).
- Appropriate \$105,000 to the Fire Department for an operational restructure to ensure public service level response is appropriate (12 FTE Paramedic/Firefighters).
- Support leadership transition in Public Works and Finance Departments utilizing outside consultation for strategic planning, capital and fiscal management planning, and actuarial work estimated to total \$19,000.
- Consolidate IT, City Clerk and Assistant City Manager into Administration (budget neutral).
- Consolidate Public Works Facility operational costs in a General Fund department (budget neutral).
- Provide \$40,000 to support ongoing maintenance costs related to parks and highway facilities.
- Allocate \$25,000 to urban tree management to address emerald ash borer.
- Appropriate an additional \$39,000 to cover fuel expenditures.

- Personnel service adjustments totaling \$272,000 to maintain competitive wage and compensation package.
- Debt service obligation in the amount of \$220,000.

It was moved by Councilmember **Edberg**, seconded by Councilmember **Jones** to adopt **Resolution No. 12307** approving the 2018 tax levy collectible in 2019.

Councilmember Walsh mentioned that while some of these additional expenses are items he already voted to support, he felt more work could be done to find cost savings in other parts of the budget. He mentioned that there have been three years of increases, each larger than the last.

Councilmember Jones mentioned the City had gone several years without any tax levy increases and will be funded within \$5 of 2008 funding levels. He thinks the most important investment outside of his own home, is in the City as they are the ones taking care of his property to make it more valuable for the biggest investment in his lifetime. He believes City staff has done a great job at the lowest cost.

Mayor Emerson said we can be proud of our street improvement projects and infrastructure improvements to sewer and water service. She stated that the City has a responsibility to maintain its infrastructure.

Motion carried. Councilmember Walsh nay.

It was moved by Councilmember **Jones**, seconded by Councilmember **Biehn** to adopt **Resolution No. 12308** adopting the 2019 budget and revising the 2018 budget.

Motion carried. Councilmember Walsh nay.

It was moved by Councilmember **Biehn**, seconded by Councilmember **Edberg** to adopt **Resolution No. 12309** committing fund balances for specific purpose.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Councilmember **Jones**, seconded by Councilmember **Walsh** to adopt **Resolution No. 12310** authorizing city contributions towards volunteer and employee recognition presented in the 2018 and 2019 budget.

Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Councilmember **Biehn**, seconded by Councilmember **Jones** to adopt **Resolution No. 12311** authorizing city contributions and involvement in promoting business and cultural activities in White Bear Lake in the 2018 and 2019 budget.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### B. Resolution approving Classification and Compensation Plan

City Manager Hiniker reported that the City Council annually reviews the Position Classification and Compensation Plan, originally adopted by the City Council in 1988 to maintain salary structures and demonstrate fiscal responsibility. Ms. Hiniker stated

that a “point-factor analysis” recognizes the relative degree of difficulty, skill requirements, impact of decisions and other job-related factors for each position when compared to all other positions in the City. The plan establishes a salary structure in the form of ranges and explains the composition of the salary structures and its method of administration.

Ms. Hiniker stated the plan itself has not varied from year to year, although changes have been made to some of the positions along the way. Each year, the table that defines the salary structure is reviewed for adjustment based on analysis of the economy and the public and private market sector. Ms. Hiniker reported the City has reasonably kept pace with its labor market through 2018, but based on updated survey information and the City’s prevailing wage objective, a 3% adjustment to the table is recommended.

Councilmember Edberg pointed out that Building Inspector, Highway Maintenance, Civil Engineers and Police Officers maximum range is barely above the Metro median rate for those positions. Councilmember Edberg interprets this to mean the City’s compensation is set at a very reasonable rate.

Councilmember Walsh stated that the City is proposing to increase the wage table by 3% in order to keep up with the Joneses. He suggested we should be celebrating the fact that City has a great staff who is getting done what is needed and at a lower cost comparatively. He pointed out wages are the drivers of all cost increases and that the 3% proposed increase goes above 2.5% inflation.

In response to Councilmember Walsh, Ms. Hiniker reported that the City did not get as many applications for police officer opening as in the past, but stated this is a market trend. She also referenced a small application pool for a recent sewer division position, but again pointed to an overall tight labor market presently. Although tight labor pools effect all employers, she felt it important the City maintain its position relative to wages so the City does not become among the lowest paying employers in the market.

Councilmember Jones stated that just because these are public sector workers, does not mean they are doing any less of a job. He does not want turnover or change; he wants to retain good workers who provide better service. He thought it important that City staff be paid well. He believes the City is managing pay well by keeping up with the metro median.

It was moved by Councilmember **Jones**, seconded by Councilmember **Edberg** to adopt **Resolution No. 12312** establishing 2019 Compensation Table.

Councilmember Biehn encouraged the City to consider conducting a new Classification and Compensation Study as this study was last completed in 1988. He stated this would provide the City with an updated comparison to the competition.

Councilmember Engstran added that fire fighters make \$12.25/hour to enter a burning building, which has not been increased in some amount of time. He stated they could make more at McDonalds.

Motion carried. Councilmember Walsh nay

C. Resolution revoking massage therapy establishment license at Red Dragonfly Massage



Ms. Hiniker reported that before the Council is a resolution recommending revocation of the massage therapy establishment license at Red Dragonfly Massage. The applicant was not present to speak. Ms. Hiniker recognized efforts made by the White Bear Lake Police Department to monitor these activities in the City. She also explained that tighter revisions to the Massage Ordinance will be brought for first reading in January, 2019.

It was moved by Councilmember **Jones**, seconded by Councilmember **Engstran** to adopt **Resolution No. 12313** revoking massage therapist establishment license for Red Dragonfly Massage LLC.

Motion carried unanimously.

- D. Resolution ordering preparation of a feasibility report for the 2019 Street Reconstruction Project and the 2019 Mill and Overlay Project, City Project Nos.: 19-01, 19-06, 19-13.

City Engineer Paul Kauppi described two components of the 2019 Street Improvement Program, including full reconstruction and mill & overlay. Full reconstruction entails complete removal of pavement, addition of curb, gutter, storm sewer and rehabilitation of sanitary sewer and water main systems. He reviewed three areas of the City that are slotted for full reconstruction in 2019. Mr. Kauppi explained that a neighborhood meeting was held on November 27<sup>th</sup>, which was attended by approximately 50 residents and the project was well received.

Mr. Kauppi reviewed the mill and overlay projects planned for 2019. He explained that roads should last 25 years initially, then a mill and overlay should last another 20-25 years before another full reconstruction would be needed. The neighborhood meeting for mill and overlay projects is scheduled for January 16, 2019.

Mr. Kauppi explained that at this point in time, staff is asking Council to order the feasibility report to identify the extent of work and costs associated with these proposed projects.

Councilmember Jones asked if this maintenance was part of the schedule or if there were issues with the bituminous. Mr. Kauppi explained that these areas are generally in good shape currently. It was confirmed this is a scheduled mill and overlay assessment and was not due to premature failure.

It was moved by Councilmember **Walsh**, seconded by Councilmember **Edberg** to adopt **Resolution No. 12314** receiving feasibility report and ordering a public hearing for 2019 Street Reconstruction Project / 2019 2019 Mill and Overlay Project, City Project Nos.: 19-01, 19-06, 19-13.

Motion carried unanimously.

- E. Resolution authorizing YMCA Revenue Conduit Debt

Finance Director Rambow reported that Council adopted a preliminary resolution on November 27<sup>th</sup> authorizing an official bond statement position to be issued for the YMCA. Today Council is considering a resolution authorizing issuance of debt for the

YMCA. Mr. Rambow explained this debt consolidation is the sole responsibility of the YMCA. He stated this is a refunding issue that will result in significant reduction in interest savings for the YMCA.

Julie Eddington with Kennedy and Graven addressed the Council. She stated this item was noticed as a public hearing for tonight. YMCA bonds require a public hearing because this is the first time White Bear Lake will be issuing for the full \$22 million. She stated the bonds are refunding various debt throughout the region, including White Bear Lake.

Mayor Emerson opened a public hearing at 9:02 p.m. but as no one came forward to speak, the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Edberg inquired as to the amount of capital the City pledged over ten years for the original YMCA reconstruction in White Bear Lake. Mr. Rambow responded that the City committed \$2,725,000 million, which was an internal borrowing. He stated those funds are now going toward repayment of the Sports Center debt, which will last approximately eight more years. Councilmember Edberg asked if there was any connection between the resources the City put in and this proposed refinancing. Mr. Rambow stated there was no connection.

It was moved by Councilmember **Jones**, seconded by Councilmember **Edberg** to adopt **Resolution No. 12315** authorizing YMCA Revenue Conduit Debt.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### F. Resolution authorizing Century Hills Housing Revenue Conduit Debt

Finance Director reported this is a request by Century Hills to issue debt to help renovate the facility. He stated the City would have no responsibility to repay these revenue bonds.

Councilmember Edberg inquired as to public policy enabling a City to assist a private owner such as this with their housing stock. Julie Eddington with Kennedy and Graven explained the federal tax code allows for a tax exemption that must flow through cities in order to give non-profits a break on their interest rate. The reason behind this tax exemption is to promote non-profit activities.

Ms. Eddington explained this particular project is an affordable housing project that has been in the city for a long time. Century Hills intends to reinvest in the project, do some capital improvements and issue some new allocation bonds. Ms. Eddington explained, this resolution gives them the ability to approach the state and request that allocation, which has been in great demand.

Councilmember Edberg asked if Century Hills was a non-profit. Ms. Eddington explained they are not a non-profit, but there is a provision in the tax code that permits this exemption for for-profit developers if they are doing something for the public good, which is providing affordable housing to low income renters.

Councilmember Edberg asked what standards the developer is held to over time that ensures the public good has been served. Ms. Eddington stated that the Bond Council

will ensure Century Hills enters into a regulatory agreement that is recorded against the property. They are planning 40% of units to be affordable to 60% of median income or less. Ms. Eddington explained that if they get additional tax credits, they are also required to have rent restrictions on affordable units.

Councilmember Edberg asked if Century Hills could acquire this bond, flip the property and walk away. Ms. Eddington explained that with respect to bonding, the income restrictions under the tax code must remain effective for 15 years regardless of the owner. Generally speaking when there are housing bonds, there is a trustee with respect to the bonds and a covenant recorded against the property to follow the owner.

In response to Councilmember Walsh, Mr. Rambow stated that the City will collect a 0.25% of the issue for its efforts.

It was moved by Councilmember **Jones**, seconded by Councilmember **Biehn** to adopt **Resolution No. 12316** authorizing Century Hills Housing Revenue Conduit Debt.

Motion carried unanimously.

G. Resolution approving 2019 International Union of Operating Engineers Local 49 – Public Works Contract

City Manager Hiniker stated that staff and the union negotiated in good faith and reached an agreement with the insurance the same as approved by non-bargaining employees. The City proposes to cover the additional cost of insurance premiums. Ms. Hiniker reported that if this two-year contract is approved, there will be a 2020 reopener to address insurance contributions.

Ms. Hiniker stated that standby pay in 2019 would be increase \$15 and increase by \$25 in 2020. She also reported that clothing pay for safety shoes and work clothing is proposed to increase from \$300 to \$400, still below many other entities providing \$600 - \$700. Most significantly, Ms. Hiniker explained the maintenance positions are being merged together to reduce variations in pay, which will result in a 3% increase in the hourly rate of pay. An additional 1% market adjustment is also being recommended for 2019.

It was moved by Councilmember **Edberg**, seconded by Councilmember **Engstran** to adopt **Resolution No. 12317** approving 2019 International Union of Operating Engineers Local 49 – Public Works Contract.

Motion carried. Councilmember Walsh nay.

H. Resolution in support of White Bear Lake participation in ClimateSmart exchange

City Manager Hiniker reported that the City received a formal invitation from the University of MN to join the ClimateSmart program. Ms. Hiniker explained this program is funded by the Federal Republic of Germany in collaboration with the University of MN's Institute on the Environment. Its purpose is to facilitate an exchange of information between select cities in MN and Germany. Duluth, Rochester, Morris, Warren and Elk River have participated for the last three years. Ms. Hiniker stated the City of White Bear Lake has been invited to partner with the City of Ludenscheid.

Ms. Hiniker noted that some of the projects the City is considering include street lighting retrofits, building energy efficiencies and electric vehicle charging stations. She explained that Ludenscheid has an institute specific to LED lighting.

Ms. Hiniker explained this is a two-year commitment with 2020 dates still unknown. Germans will visit MN from June 8 – 15, 2019 and Minnesotans would visit Germany from September 20 – 28, 2019 for which the City would provide airfare. If approved, the City of White Bear Lake commits to accelerating energy conservation and use of alternative sources of energy, as well as serving as a mentor or the MN communities. Ms. Hiniker stated that an intern from a German University would also come to work in White Bear Lake for three months, which would require a small stipend.

It was moved by Councilmember **Engstran**, seconded by Councilmember **Biehn** to adopt **Resolution No. 12318** in support of White Bear Lake participation in ClimateSmart exchange.

Motion carried. Councilmembers Jones and Walsh nay.

## 10. HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Chair Doug Biehn called the Housing and Redevelopment Authority to order at 9:29 p.m. Refer to the minutes of the Housing and Redevelopment Authority for action taken that included the following items:

- A. Roll Call
- B. Approval of the February 13, 2018 HRA Meeting Minutes
- C. Resolution not waiving the monetary limits on Municipal Tort Liability established by Minnesota Statutes 466.04 for Housing and Redevelopment Authority.
- D. Adjournment

Mayor Emerson reconvened the City Council meeting at 9:31 p.m.

## 11. CONSENT

- A. Acceptance September Park Advisory Commission Minutes; October White Bear Lake Conservation District Minutes, November Planning Commission Minutes
- B. Resolution not waiving the monetary limits on Municipal Tort Liability established by Minnesota Statutes 466.04. **Resolution No. 12319**

It was moved by Councilmember **Biehn**, seconded by Councilmember **Jones** to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion carried.

## 12. DISCUSSION


Nothing scheduled

## 13. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

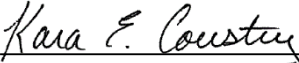
- Mayor Emerson proudly displayed an award received from Minnesota Monthly Magazine bestowed upon White Bear Lake as the “Best Minnesota Town of 2018”. She also referenced the Governor’s Proclamation given to the City in honor of this distinction. As winners, the City receives a media ad valued at \$50,000 and a party.
- Brian Hensien, the City’s new Cable-caster was introduced.
- Lake Links meeting was held last night to discuss South Shore Boulevard. Joe Lux from the County reported they are nearing completion of the right-of-way study and were pleased to discover that most of the right-of-way is about 66 feet to allow for the trail. Ramsey County hoped to go out for an RFP this summer for design of this project.
- Rush Line open house on Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, most likely in City Hall, although a larger venue is being sought. The Council will be considering this item at the second meeting in January.
- Council calendar for work sessions in 2019 was provided to Council. Ms. Hiniker pointed out that Saturday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> will be a strategic planning session.
- Work Session reminder for Monday at 6:00 p.m. in the Expansion Room.
- Remember to move cars from the streets when it snows so to facilitate plowing.
- Finance Director Don Rambow’s retirement date was announced for February 22, 2019.

#### 14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, it was moved by Councilmember **Biehn** seconded by Councilmember **Jones** to adjourn the regular meeting at **9:46 p.m.**

  
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Jo Emerson, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
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Kara Coustry, City Clerk