

WAITE PARK CITY COUNCIL MEETING**JUNE 6, 2016**

A meeting of the Waite Park City Council was held at Waite Park City Hall on Monday, June 6, 2016 beginning at 6:30 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Members present were Mayor Miller, Councilmembers Linquist, Schneider, Schulz, and Theisen.

CITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

City Representatives present were City Administrator Johnson, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Virnig, Public Works Director Schluenz, Attorney Hansmeier, SEH Engineer Wotzka

OTHERS PRESENT

Diane Bartz, Tracey Thompson, Jim Alesire, Kim Kuester, Dan Molitor

OPEN FORUM

Mayor Miller invited anyone wishing to speak during the open forum to step forward, but no one came forth.

COUNCIL AGENDA

Motion by Member Schulz, second by Member Theisen, to approve the 6/6/16 Council Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

1. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Member Schneider, second by Member Theisen, to approve the following 6/6/16 Consent Agenda items:

- 1.A. Approved Special Council Minutes for April 26, 2016
- 1.B. Approved Council Minutes for May 2, 2016
- 1.C. Approved Board of Appeal and Equalization Minutes for May 9, 2016
- 1.D. Approved Tobacco License for Mills Fleet
- 1.E. Approved Resolution for Gambling License for St. Cloud Youth Hockey at Super America – 1013 2nd Street South (**RESOLUTION NO. 060616-01**)
- 1.F. Approved Resignation for Brian Alsaker from Fire Department
- 1.G. (Pulled for discussion – regarding Change Order #1 for 17th Avenue Improvement Project)
- 1.H. (Pulled for discussion – regarding Weed Inspector Contract for Rick Savage)
- 1.I. Approved election Judges for August 9, 2016 Primary Election

The motion carried unanimously.

1.G. CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR 17TH AVENUE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Member Linquist questioned where the ties were pulled out of the ground. SEH Engineer Wotzka stated there was an old railroad bed that ran down the west side of the property. The old railroad ties were located in about 40 feet of the southwest corner of the site. Member Linquist questioned whether Burlington Northern should have taken them out. SEH Engineer Wotzka stated the City had agreed to purchase the property "as is", so the City was responsible for taking the old railroad ties out. Attorney Hansmeier agreed the City purchased the property "as is" and so he feels there is no basis for recourse on the clean-up.

Motion by Member Schneider, second by Member Theisen, to approve Change Order #1 on the 17th Avenue Improvement Project. The motion carried unanimously.

1.H. WEED INSPECTOR CONTRACT FOR RICK SAVAGE

Discussion was held on whether this contracted position is needed since the City recently hired two new Public Works employees. It was also discussed whether the weed inspector position can be transferred to a Public Works employee. It was mentioned the Public Works Department is still short one employee. In the past, the City had an Assistant Weed Inspector that was not a City employee. The budget impact was also discussed. It was stated the budget impact would be minimal because the fees associated with weeds are charged back to the property owner. It was also stated that based on PERA rules, this discussion with Rick Savage could not take place until 30 days after his retirement from the City. Some of the Council Members would have liked to discuss this in a Work Session.

Motion by Member Schneider, second by Member Schulz, to approve the Weed Inspector Contract with Rick Savage.

Ayes: Mayor Miller, Members Schneider, Schulz

Nays: Member Linnquist, Theisen

Abstained: None

The motion carried.

2. PICKLEBALL COURTS PLANS/SPECS AND AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING FOR BID

Presented were selected plan sheets for review. Staff has been working with the Park Board and a Pickleball Sub-Committee on this project, both of which have reviewed and approved. Staff estimates the total project cost at approximately \$470,000.

The Park Board at its meeting on June 1, 2016, recommended for the Council to move forward with the project and they would also like to see the parking lots be considered to be built also, depending on available funding. They suggested that the north parking lot be first then the south parking lot, but that could be switched again depending on funding.

They feel that parking is a large item that also needs to be resolved in the short term. They also suggested, although not in a motion, to keep money available for the future bridge crossing on the Lake Wobegon trail extension. The timeframe is not confirmed but will be coming in the next few years, and they want to make sure the City is in a position to fund this.

SEH Engineer Wotzka presented the details of the six pickleball courts proposed to be built. The area is also proposed to be irrigated. Tracy Thompson, a U.S. Pickleball Association Ambassador for the St. Cloud area, stated the proposed courts meet all specifications. Discussion was held on building four or six courts. Ms. Thompson stated there are six pickleball courts at Calvary in St. Cloud and they are all being used. It is a fast-growing sport for all ages. Seniors are the largest demographic that play it at this time. It is an active and social sport. Izaty's or in the cities are the other closest pickleball courts. People come from all around to play at the courts in St. Cloud. The Minnesota Pickleball Club, Northern Paddles, started in 2011 with 30 members and there are now 150 to 200 members. The club raised one-third of the funds to build the courts at Calvary in St. Cloud. Their mission is to promote pickleball. The group will look into raising funds to help with the proposed pickleball courts in Waite Park. At this point, there is not any scheduling to play at the courts; it is open play where there is a rotation system of play where you rotate on and off the courts. There is a message board at Calvary that explains the information on playing the sport and the information is also on the city's website.

The courts are built like tennis courts. The proposed plan has a layer of bituminous with a layer of acrylic on top. There will be black vinyl fencing around the courts. Parking was also discussed. The estimates on adding a south parking lot is \$1.3 million and to add on to the north parking lot, the estimate is \$550,000. Plans for the parking lots will be presented at a different time with the proposal for the rest of the park.

Motion by Member Schneider, second by Member Schulz, to approve Plans and Specifications for the 2016 Pickleball Court Improvement Project and authorize advertising for bids as presented. Discussion was held on whether there will be any grass area inside the fenced area of the pickleball courts. There will not be any grass inside the fenced in area of the pickleball courts. It will be all hard surfaced. The motion carried unanimously.

3. COUNCIL/MAYOR

3.A. RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE METRO BUS BOARD APPOINTMENT

In the past, Mayor Miller has been appointed to the St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission Board Appointment. His membership expires on June 30, 2016. The Council will need to re-appoint a City Council Member to this membership for a three-year term from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2019. Staff's recommendation is to approve the presented resolution appointing that member. Mayor Miller expressed his interest in his re-appointment to the St. Cloud Metropolitan Transit Commission Board.

Motion by Member Schneider, second by Member Theisen, that the Resolution Adopting the Metro Bus Board Appointment of Mayor Miller be approved. (**RESOLUTION NO. 060616-02**)

Ayes: Members Linqvist, Schneider, Schulz, Theisen

Nays: None

Abstained: Mayor Miller

The motion carried.

Mayor Miller stated thank you letters were received from the Tri-School Donations Committee, Junior Achievement of the St. Cloud Area and WACOSA for the City's donations.

Member Schneider questioned what the City's park fund stands at. It was stated it is at a little over \$300,000.

3.B. REVIEW AND APPROVE BILLS

Motion by Member Schneider, second by Member Theisen, to authorize payment of the accounts payable list (0316M1, 0316M2, 0316M3, 0516D1, 0516D2). The motion carried unanimously.

4. ADMINISTRATOR

4.A. UPDATE

City Administrator Johnson stated the Stearns County Board of Commissioners will be meeting tomorrow, June 7th, to discuss a rezoning request on the Held property, which is along Highway 23. This property is in the City's orderly annexation area and the request is to rezone it from Urban Expansion to an Ag 40 zone for a solar farm. City Administrator read a letter that is proposed to be signed by the City Council and sent to the Stearns County Board of Commissioners stating the City's concerns with rezoning and the City's objection to the rezoning. The City feels this is spot zoning and not in the best interest to Waite Park at this time.

Motion by Member Linqvist, second by Member Schulz, to sign and send the letter to the Stearns County Board of Commissioners regarding the request for rezoning a property from Urban Expansion to an Ag 40 zone. The motion carried unanimously.

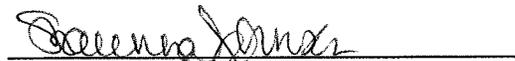
City Administrator Johnson reviewed the following:

- This week is the Waite Park Family Fun Fest. You can look on the City's website or the Waite Park Family Fun Fest's Facebook page for more information.
- The League of Minnesota Cities conference is next week in St. Paul.
- Mayor Miller stated he had sent an email to BNSF a few weeks ago regarding donating a windmill to the City. He stated he received an email back that their real estate department is looking into the request.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miller declared the meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.


Richard E. Miller
Mayor


Shaunna Johnson
City Administrator