

MEDINA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2009

The City Council of Medina, Minnesota met in regular session on March 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Chambers. Mayor Crosby presided.

I. ROLL CALL

Members present: Crosby, Siitari, Smith, and Weir.

Members absent: Johnson

Also present: City Attorney Ron Batty, Associate Planner Dusty Finke, City Engineer Darren Amundsen, City Administrator Chad Adams and Recording Secretary Robyn Sauer.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

It was requested to add item **C. Ordinance Establishing Fees for City Clean-Up Day** and item **D. Resolution Authorizing Publication of Ordinance by Title and Summary** to NEW BUSINESS.

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Smith, to accept the agenda as amended. **Motion passed unanimously.***

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of the March 3, 2009 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

It was noted on page 6, line 48, it should state: "Crosby noted the new residential tree ordinance was a two-step process, one involving the initial development of property and the other involving the lots so created." Page 7, line 2, should include the action taken, which was for Staff to make changes as discussed, as well as other modifications as Staff deems appropriate, and for the item to come back to Council on the consent agenda. Page 8, line 46, it should state: "Crosby suggested an non-grade tank."

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Siitari, to approve the March 3, 2009 regular City meeting minutes as amended. **Motion passed unanimously.***

V. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Ordinance Creating the Commercial Highway, Commercial Highway 2, Commercial-General, and Commercial-Neighborhood Zoning Districts; Amending Section 825.07 and Adding New Section 838**
- B. Resolution to Publish Commercial Zoning Ordinance by Title and Summary**
- C. Resolution Certifying Delinquent City Charges for Services to the Hennepin County Auditor for Collection in 2010**
- D. Approve Civil Defense Siren Installation Services Agreement with Ready Watt Electric**
- E. Approve Public Safety Interoperable Communication System Sub-Grant Agreement**

Items A, B and D were removed from the consent agenda for discussion.

Moved by Weir, seconded by Smith, to approve items C and E of the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

- A. **Ordinance Creating the Commercial-Highway, Commercial-Highway 2, Commercial-General, and Commercial-Neighborhood Zoning Districts; Amending Section 825.07 and Adding New Section 838**
- B. **Resolution to Publish Commercial Zoning Ordinance by Title and Summary**
Weir stated species selection should be guided by soil conditions. The Council agreed to make the change.

Crosby noted temporary outdoor sales were limited to 50 days per calendar year.

Moved by Weir, seconded by Siitari, to approve items A and B of the consent agenda, as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

- D. **Approve Civil Defense Siren Installation Services Agreement with Ready Watt Electric**
Crosby commented he wanted to be sure the City was covered and asked if Staff had documentation that Hennepin County would be paying the City. Adams replied they had received a letter, which was sufficient, since they had received a grant.

Moved by Weir, seconded by Smith, to approve item D of the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. COMMENTS

- A. **From Citizens on Items Not on the Agenda**
There were none.

- B. **Park Commission**
Paul Jaeb, Park Commissioner, indicated the Park Commission was looking for approval of the new City logo so they could focus on bids for park signs. Crosby replied the Council had agreed to put the new logo up for public review through April 15th and indicated the logo would come back to the Council on April 21, 2009.

Weir suggested having the logo boards available for the public to see at City Hall. Smith commented that the logo would be in the Park Commission's packet for the meeting on March 18, 2009.

Jabe indicated they had discussed getting quotes to screen utilities and install ivy for the baseball field backboard. He noted quotes went out to the local nurseries. Jabe stated they talked about adding money to the 2010 budget to create a master plan for Hamel Legion. The Park Commission had begun planning for clean-up day on April 25th. He indicated the Park Commission would be present and they had talked about promoting organics and recycling at the venue.

Smith stated they had talked about whether there was money in the budget this year so they could start the planning process earlier for the master plan by hiring a consultant. Smith commented that had been done in the past with equipment. Smith suggested the Park Commission bring a motion forward at the meeting on March 18, 2009.

Adams indicated he thought a consultant would cost under \$20,000.

Smith commented the sooner they started the process, the better.

Jaeb stated the Park Commission had reviewed the DNR financial assistance program and the City had submitted an application for the fishing pier at Holy Name Park.

C. Planning Commission

Finke stated the Planning Commission had a good discussion regarding institutional land use and at the next meeting they would talk about the public/semi public ordinance. Finke noted they have an application from Holy Name Cemetery looking to combine their lot with the house to the east of the cemetery, which would create 130 additional plots. Finke stated Holy Name currently owns the property and commented the house would stay. Finke noted Staff has not yet completed the review.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Feasibility Report for 2009 Mill and Overlay Projects

Adams stated Darren Amundsen was filling in for Tom Kellogg.

Crosby asked if there would be per lot assessment information for the residents in the notices for the urban street projects. Adams replied yes.

Crosby stated he was concerned about Pioneer Trail costs to residents due to the low number of parcels. Adams replied there were approximately ten land owners, and the recent policy approved outlined a 25% assessment, rather than 50% assessment for the urban projects.

Smith noted she was concerned with cracks coming through on Medina Road and stated it had only been a year and a half since it had been repaired. Smith commented she thought Pioneer Trail may not have had proper face and fabric initially and questioned if this project should move forward at this time.

Amundsen stated the mill and overlay methods were chosen as the most economical way to extend the life of the roadway and noted it was more effective to seal coat the cracks in the future.

Smith reiterated her concern that it would just be a "band aid." Smith noted if it were a sufficient solution, but not optimal, why would they do it, and was it worth spending \$123,000 now.

Weir asked what the life of the overlay would be. Amundsen replied the life would be 5-10 years on Pioneer Trail, depending on traffic.

Crosby noted Pioneer Trail could be affected by the placement of the Public Works facility.

Smith commented it was not the correct solution and she was concerned with throwing money away when it was not a good road to start with.

Adams stated the County built this segment of road, but never put a final wear course on it. The City has been planning on placing the final wear course for a number of years, but has been continuously delayed. Adams commented the proposed Pioneer project was the final wear course.

Smith noted there were still large trucks on Pioneer Trail.

Crosby suggested Council could pass the resolution and could always pull it.

Crosby asked for the history to be presented at the next meeting.

Batty stated there were two options and noted the Council could adopt the resolution as it is and have the discussion about whether it would be right to fix it or not when the public hearing is held on June 2, 2009, or the Council could choose to not adopt the resolution.

Crosby indicated he would like to discuss Pioneer Trail before the June 2nd meeting, so if it is going to be pulled, they would be able to do so before the public hearing.

1. **Resolution Receiving Feasibility Report and Calling for Public Hearings on Four Improvement Projects and Levying Special Assessments for Same**

*Moved by Smith, seconded by Weir, to approve the resolution receiving feasibility report and calling for public hearings on four improvement projects and levying special assessments for same. **Motion passed unanimously.***

B. **Data Practices Procedure**

Adams stated Staff had reviewed other city's procedures and had condensed Medina's to meet standards.

Smith applauded Staff for their work on the Data Practices Procedure.

Crosby asked if they should include more of what the act stated and note that all participants in the process would be expected to produce the information required by law. Adams replied that was included in the Orientation manuals, but that a statement would be added in the purpose section.

Weir commented it would be nice to have it in the Data Practices Procedure as well. Adams replied he would add a category.

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Siitari, to approve the Data Practices Procedure with the changes discussed. **Motion passed unanimously.***

C. **Ordinance Establishing Fees for City Clean-Up Day**

*Moved by Smith, seconded by Weir, to approve the ordinance establishing fees for City Clean-Up Day. **Motion passed unanimously.***

D. **Resolution Authorizing Publication of Ordinance By Title and Summary regarding revisions of the City's Fee Schedule**

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Siitari, to approve the resolution authorizing publication of ordinance by title and summary regarding revisions of the City's fee schedule. **Motion passed unanimously.***

VIII. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Commercial Business Survey Report

Adams stated the purpose for the survey report would be used as a tool for an intern who is starting in May. Adams indicated the survey report would be posted on the website so participants could review the results.

Weir asked if Medina's taxes were burdensome compared to other cities. Adams replied no, the levy rate was lower and market value was not that out of line with other cities nearby for commercial properties.

Smith suggested educating the public a bit.

Crosby commented on the "dissatisfied" column of the table and noted Council needed to get out into the community more often.

Smith indicated she would like to see the City make note of new businesses in town, etc., in the newsletter. Adams suggested a spotlight on a group of businesses.

Crosby stated the City should pay attention when a business receives an award, etc.

B. Legislative Update

Weir commented the resolution regarding legislative policies was very nicely done.

Adams stated he and Weir had met with Senator Olson and Representative Smith on Friday and indicated the legislators had sponsored the TIF legislation bill. Adams noted the City may have to testify on behalf of the bill.

Smith stated she has a graph showing the disparity of funding for the courts. She commented the way the courts were funded was a major problem. Smith noted Hennepin County lost a lot of funding for their courts and they do a substantial number of cases per judge. Smith indicated Hennepin County does 36% of the cases in the State and that Hennepin County was being short-changed since they only receive 27% of the revenue back. Smith stated she would like to send the message that the funding system doesn't work for Medina.

Adams suggested adding additional language to number six of the resolution. The Council agreed.

1. Resolution Supporting 2009 Legislation

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Siitari, to approve the resolution supporting 2009 legislation, with modifications discussed. **Motion passed unanimously.***

C. Federal Stimulus Funding Update

Adams stated they were planning to drop the Loretto storm water pond based on funding and timing.

Adams noted a key application was for a third water filter in Hamel. Adams indicated time lines were coming up to get on a list, but it might be a long shot for Medina, based on demographics.

Adams stated the City may receive a rebate back from Wright-Hennepin Electric for lighting improvements made to City Hall a few years ago.

Weir asked if the City was looking for other grants for the Loretto project. Adams replied yes, they would be looking for Clean Water Legacy grants this fall for a 2010 project.

Weir stated there was an unsightly collection of four electrical boxes on the corner of Sioux and Hamel Roads. Adams replied the City was required to put a junction box in that location, which was the largest of the boxes.

Adams noted it was wise to put the lighting and transformer boxes close to the junction box as well. Adams indicated he was working with Staff for options of screening or painting murals on the boxes as a disguise. Adams noted moving the boxes could be a challenge, but they could explore that option.

Weir asked Staff to photograph the boxes and to clarify lot lines regarding the tree in question. Adams replied the City wouldn't just take down trees and commented that would not be a legitimate City cost.

Crosby commented he was not enthused with the idea of a mural.

Smith suggested the Park Commission could come up with an idea for screening.

Weir suggested putting the new logo on one of the boxes.

IX. MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Crosby noted there would be office hours Saturday, March 21st. Crosby and Smith will both be there.

Smith stated their Anoka County public information department had decided it was time to look at different ways to cut down the newsletter cost. Smith noted if the newsletter was printed on smaller-sized paper, it would save money on printing and postage and commented it is the printing process that results in nicer picture and color. Smith showed an example and stated it was a clever way to reduce size and save money. Smith indicated it saved the County \$3,000, reducing costs from 11 cents to 10 cents per newsletter.

Adams stated the newsletter was on the list of things to do in 2010 and noted he would like specific details be sent to him. Smith replied she would send him the details.

X. APPROVAL TO PAY THE BILLS

*Moved by Smith, seconded by Weir, to approve the bills, EFT 000422-000431 for \$30,184.85 and order check numbers 033740-033794 for \$69,871.26 and payroll check numbers 020198-020199 for \$230.87 and EFT 501894-501924 for \$45,417.92. **Motion passed unanimously.***

XIV. ADJOURN

*Moved by Smith, seconded by Siitari, to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. **Motion passed unanimously.***

T.M. Crosby, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Chad M. Adams, City Administrator-Clerk