

## MEDINA CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 19, 2012

The City Council of Medina, Minnesota met in regular session on June 19, 2012 at 7:15 p.m. in the City Hall Chambers. Mayor Crosby presided.

### I. ROLL CALL

**Members present:** Crosby, Pederson, Martinson, Siitari, and Weir.

**Members absent:** None.

**Also present:** City Attorney Ron Batty, City Engineer Tom Kellogg, Planner Dusty Finke, Public Works Superintendent Steve Scherer, City Administrator Scott Johnson, Chief of Police Ed Belland, and Recording Secretary Amanda Staple.

### II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### III. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Johnson requested to add two items under the New Business portion of the agenda, the Meander Road Culvert Replacement and the 2012 Street Striping Agreement. He also noted that there would be an amendment to the bill list presented.

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Pederson, to approve the agenda as amended. **Motion passed unanimously.***

### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### A. Approval of the June 5, 2012 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

It was noted on page one, under Also Present, Tom Kellogg was noted as present but it was noted that he did not attend the meeting. On page two, beginning with line 10, it should state, "Siitari stated that he believed that the City operates very efficiently but noticed that the City is ranked higher on the amount spent per capita than other Metro communities in comparison to a peer group of 4<sup>th</sup> class cities which have populations from 2,500 to 10,000 residents." On page two, line 15, it should state, "Crosby commented that he believed that the City ranked better on the per capita tax rate of residents a mill rate basis to other cities in the western suburbs." On page two, line 18, it should state, "...correlating corresponding fund balances..." On page two, line 49, it should state, "...Willow Trail project on the Orono border..." On page eight, line one, it should state, "...establish a moratorium on wind ~~and solar~~..."

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Pederson, to approve the June 5, 2012 regular City Council meeting minutes as amended. **Motion passed unanimously.***

### V. CONSENT AGENDA

#### A. Approve Tennis Court Resurfacing Agreement

#### B. Resolution No. 2012-32 Appointing Election Judges for the August 14, 2012 Primary Election and the November 6, 2012 General Election

C. **Resolution No. 2012-33 Appointing Absentee Ballot Board Election Judges for the August 14, 2012 Primary Election and the November 6, 2012 General Election**

D. **Resolution No. 2012-34 Accepting the Donation from Rick Perry**  
*Moved by Weir, seconded by Pederson, to approve the consent agenda. **Motion passed unanimously.***

## VI. COMMENTS

### A. **Comments from Citizens on Items not on the Agenda**

There were none.

### B. **Park Commission**

Scherer advised that the Commission will meet the following night to discuss the Willow Trail project, the Enclave at Brockton project, and the process for the gate at Independence Beach.

### C. **Planning Commission**

Planning Commissioner Anderson spoke in representation of the Planning Commission and advised that the Commission met the previous week to discuss the Enclave at Brockton project and a variance request from Henri Germain and provided an update on each of those items. He noted that the Commission unanimously voted against the variance request.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

### A. **Henri Germain Variance Request – 790 Navajo Road**

Finke explained the request submitted by the applicant for a variance from the wetland buffer requirements for one of the wetlands on their property. He noted that the applicant would like to continue mowing the wetland area as has been done historically. He advised that the Planning Commission held a public hearing on this matter the previous week and unanimously recommended denial of the request. He reviewed the current City code regarding this matter and the requirements that must be met before a variance could be issued and also provided sample conditions and options that could be utilized should the Council feel a variance is appropriate.

Weir stated that her difficulty with the application was that she did not feel the applicant provided appropriate practical difficulties. She was also concerned that a precedent would be set in providing a variance for this issue, as she feels that similar cases will come forward in the future.

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Pederson, to direct staff to prepare a Resolution denying the variance request per the findings of the Planning Commission. **Motion passed unanimously.***

### B. **Meander Road Culvert Replacement**

Scherer stated that during routine inspections, staff has identified a rotted culvert, which was installed five or six years ago. He explained that some culverts need more frequent replacement because of water conditions and other factors. He noted that staff discovered that there had not been permitting done for the culvert through the watershed when the original installation occurred. He advised that Weir and Johnson were able to

obtain a permit from the Watershed, which is contingent upon a few factors. He explained that the original pipe was not sized correctly and will be replaced with a larger arch type pipe. He proposed for the pipe portion of the project to be funded through the Storm Water Fund and believed the labor costs could be provided at no additional cost under the current contract for work being done in that area. He recommended that this item move forward quickly in order to take advantage of the assistance provided onsite at this time as he did not believe staff could complete the work without assistance. Weir recommended that the cost of the culvert and installation be split between storm water and road funds

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Siitari, to authorize the Meander Road Culvert replacement and authorize staff to complete further decisions on this matter. **Motion passed unanimously.***

### **C. 2012 Street Striping**

Scherer advised that the contractor that completed this work the previous year would be willing to provide the service requested at the same price charged in 2011. He noted that this item should have been included on the Consent Agenda and apologized that he was unable to submit the information on time.

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Pederson, to approve the 2012 Street Striping Agreement with Twin Cities Striping Inc. **Motion passed unanimously.***

## **VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Proposed Hollydale 115kV Transmission Line Project**

Johnson noted that he attended the recent public meeting on June 8<sup>th</sup> and Council Member Martinson attended the meeting on June 7<sup>th</sup> regarding the proposed Hollydale transmission line project. He provided a brief update.

Crosby provided background information and noted that ultimately the City does not have a say in how this project is designed and completed. He stated that many of the Council members have been approached by residents regarding this matter and noted that currently there are three options proposed for the design. He believed that because the City does not have any power in this decision, the public meeting locations should be made clear to residents so that proper input can be given. He stated that he would not be uncomfortable with the City requesting that the line is buried underground when placed near residences and that single pylon poles are used. He also did not believe the City should endorse one route over another, as each of the routes will affect residents of Medina.

Weir questioned if there are plans to increase the easement size in some locations.

Johnson stated that there may be interest in purchasing additional easement in some locations but was not clear if those areas were located in Plymouth or Medina.

Martinson stated that she attended the hearing and stated that while many residents from Plymouth made appeals against the project, she did not hear any appeals from Medina residents. She confirmed that the City of Plymouth did not make a formal statement towards the project.

Johnson stated that the public process is still ongoing and is open until 4:30 p.m. on Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, and comments can still be received until that time.

Susie Sween, 2112 Holy Name Drive, stated that she is in agreement with the comments made by the Council in regard to this issue.

Crosby confirmed that the Council would be in agreement with making a statement that the lines be buried underground when near residences and that pylon poles should be used.

Siitari questioned if there has been any information released regarding possible health risks.

Johnson confirmed that he could draft a letter, which could be sent prior to the upcoming deadline.

#### **B. City Vision Statement**

Johnson stated that an updated Vision Statement was provided to the Council and advised that Weir had been working with staff to incorporate the requested revisions.

Crosby requested that “shrewd” be replaced with “economical”.

Siitari suggested that the portion reading “cost-management and efficient service” be replaced with “efficient and effective service”.

Siitari suggested that under safety, “deterring and prosecuting crime and” should be replaced with “deterring crime, apprehending criminals, and”.

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Siitari, to approve the City Vision Statement as amended.  
**Motion passed unanimously.***

Crosby thanked Weir for her work on the Vision Statement.

### **IX. CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT**

#### **A. Highway 55/CR 116 Proposal Update**

Johnson advised that the proposed intersection improvements were included in the packet for Council review. He stated that Hennepin County would next like to setup a meeting to review the proposal with the Subcommittee, and noted that he believed it would be beneficial for the Council to provide comments before that time.

Weir questioned the type of long term access points that would be provided to the potentially land locked business owners and lots located both north and south of Highway 55 and east of the 116 intersection.

Finke noted that MNDOT would not close the access if an alternate access is not going to be provided.

Crosby noted that it appears that only three businesses/property owners would be affected by the proposed closures.

Scherer stated that he spoke with some of those property owners. He commented that the City could possibly use the Municipal State Aid (MSA) funds to fund the City portion of the project.

Johnson advised that the next step would be for the City Subcommittee to meet with Hennepin County and further discuss the proposed improvements. He confirmed that he and Scherer would continue to discuss the funding options. He noted that the plans for another public meeting would be discussed after the meeting takes place.

**B. Hackamore Signal Light Update**

Belland reported that there have not been any accidents since the light has been installed and activated. He stated that in speaking to residents, the light is providing breaks in traffic, which allow residents to pull out of their development onto the roadway.

Pederson commented that this has improved traffic from the previous conditions.

Belland believed that a turn lane would need to be installed going eastbound on Hackamore in the future. He believed that since the light has been installed, the City should reach out to the County to determine if there is interest in taking over that portion of the road to continue to County Road 47.

Scherer noted that he had spoken with the County and there is not interest in that option as the County would actually like to turn back the other portion of the roadway to the City of Plymouth.

**X. MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Crosby stated that he and Siitari attended a meeting in Loretto, which focused on future budgeting for the Loretto Fire Department. He explained that currently each of the cities using the Fire Department undergoes a separate and different negotiation process. He noted that it was agreed that a single system should be used to generate a fee, which would apply to each member city. He stated that further discussion regarding the services which can be combined between the Hamel and Loretto Fire Departments has stalled, he believed for lack of drive. He suggested that City staff determine a cost estimate to provide a facilitator that could assist in the process. He advised that Corcoran is currently reviewing their fire service contracts and will solicit RFP's for the service, aiming to occur in 2014. He noted that he will be unable to attend the July 3, 2012 Council meeting.

Johnson noted that Martinson will also be absent from that meeting and confirmed that the other members will be in attendance for that meeting.

Crosby noted that Wally Marx has withdrawn his application and will not be moving forward at this time.

Weir stated that Medina has established that it is not responsible for the Dance Hall Creek project through the Pioneer-Sarah Watershed CIP, which has a large cost. She also provided an update on the recent activity of the Elm Creek Watershed. She discussed the City Clean-Up Day and noted that 60 trees were available, 28 of which were unsold. She questioned the type of tree that sold best and the types, which were not sold.

Scherer noted that he has a specific list that he could share and advised that the leftover trees were planted in City parks.

Weir questioned if the number of trees purchased in the future should be reduced.

Scherer confirmed that the numbers for certain trees could be reduced, or the amount of each tree could be amended to fit with the purchasing trend.

**XI. APPROVAL TO PAY THE BILLS**

Crosby noted that an additional bill was submitted for Kennedy and Graven.

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Martinson, to approve the bills, EFT 001665E-001687E for \$43,705.90 and order check numbers 038396-038472 for \$215,964.48, and payroll EFT 504280-504308 for \$43,369.83 and payroll check number 020363 for \$2,542.37 with the addition of the Kennedy and Graven bill, which is check number 038473 for \$15,885.06. **Motion passed unanimously.***

**XII. ADJOURN**

*Moved by Weir, seconded by Siitari, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. **Motion passed unanimously.***

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T.M. Crosby, Jr., Mayor

Attest:

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Scott Johnson, City Administrator