

City of Excelsior
City Council Meeting

MINUTES

Monday, July 6, 2020

6:30 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Carlson called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. This meeting was a remote meeting conducted via Zoom.

2. ROLL CALL

City Council: Mayor Carlson and Councilmembers Caron, Dierking, Kurschner and Miller

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Luger, City Attorney Staunton, Public Works Superintendent Amundsen, City Engineer Dawley, Planning Director Becker and City Clerk Peterson

Attorney Staunton stated in accordance with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.021, the Mayor, the City Manager and the City Attorney have determined that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of the "COVID-19 Health Pandemic" emergency declared under Chapter 12 of the Minnesota Statutes. All staff and City Council members will be participating by telephone or other electronic means. All actions votes will be recorded as roll call votes.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(a) June 15, 2020 Council Work Session Minutes

Kurschner moved, Caron seconded, to approve the June 15, 2020 Council Work Session Minutes. On a roll call vote, Kurschner, Caron, Dierking, Miller and Carlson voted yes. Motion carried 5/0.

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(b) June 15, 2020 City Council Minutes

Kurschner moved, Dierking seconded to approve the June 15, 2020 City Council Minutes with the addition the Planning Commission should be the reviewing body in the residential review process. On a roll call vote, Kurschner, Dierking, Caron, Miller and Carlson voted yes. Motion carried 5/0.

(c) June 29, 2020 Special Work Session Minutes

Caron moved, Dierking seconded, to approve the June 29, 2020 Special Work Session Minutes with the addition to crazy days to include that the event should comply with the Governor's Order for safety measures and social distancing. On a roll call vote, Caron, Dierking, Kurschner, Miller and Carlson voted yes. Motion carried 5/0.

4. OPEN FORUM

Peter Hartwich, 186 George Street, addressed the City Council in support of their decision in the work session regarding mask wearing in Excelsior and stated he would like to see the Good Neighbor Guidelines process move forward.

5. CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS, QUESTIONS and REPORTS

(a) Excelsior-Lake Minnetonka Chamber of Commerce Update

Jen Weiss, Excelsior-Lake Minnetonka Chamber of Commerce, gave an update on the operations of the Chamber.

(b) Excelsior Fire District Board Update

Councilmember Dierking presented an update on the Excelsior Fire District Board.

(c) Excelsior Boulevard Trail Crossing

Mayor Carlson gave an update on the Excelsior Boulevard Trail Crossing.

(d) 2019/2020 Project Update

Public Works Superintendent Amundsen gave an update on the 2019 and 2020 Street and Utility Projects.

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(e) Public Works Update

Public Works Superintendent Amundsen gave an update on departmental operations.

(f) City Hall Update

City Manager Luger gave an update on City Hall operations.

(g) Buoys/Slides

Councilmember Miller asked the Park and Recreation Commission to discuss allowing powerboats on buoys and slides when conducting the annual review of the Mooring Policy.

(h) 5th Grade Class Excelsior Elementary

Mayor Carlson thanked the Excelsior Elementary 5th Graders for the bench and rain garden at College Lake and Water Street.

6. AGENDA APPROVAL

(a) Meeting Agenda

Kurschner moved, Dierking seconded, to approve the July 6, 2020 Meeting Agenda with the removal of item 11(a) Providing Public Works Services for Greenwood and 12(a) Community Mask Wearing Policy and the addition of 12(a) Community Masking Special Meeting. On a roll call vote, Kurschner, Dierking, Caron, Miller and Carlson voted yes. Motion carried 5/0.

(b) Consent Agenda

Caron moved, Kurschner seconded, to approve the consent agenda removing items 6(b)3 Second Reading of Ord. No. 612 Food Truck Regulations and 6(b)7 United Healthcare Annual Charity Bike Ride. On a roll call vote, Caron, Kurschner, Dierking, Miller and Carlson voted yes. Motion carried 5/0.

1. Approve Verified Claims – Approve for Payment Manual Checks #086557 – #086607

Action – Approved for payment manual checks #086557 – #086607.

2. June Building Permit Report

Action – Accepted June Building permit report.

4. Hess Roise Agreement

Action- Approved the consulting agreement with Hess, Roise and Company.

5. Approve Staffing Study Proposal

Action – Approved the proposal from Waldron Company to complete a staffing study at a cost not-to-exceed \$4,300.

6. Approve Pay Voucher No. 2 for 2020 Street and Utility Improvement Project

Action – Approved Construction Pay Voucher No. 2 for the 2020 Street and Utility Improvement Project and authorized payment in the amount of \$501,994.34 to Northdale Construction Co., Inc.

8. Adopt NFPA 96 Annex B, Mobile and Temporary Cooking Operations

Action – Adopted NFPA 96 Annex B, Mobile and Temporary Cooking Operations.

9. Resolution Appointing Election Judges to Serve at 2020 Elections

Action – Adopted Resolution No. 2020-45 – A Resolution Appointing 2020 Primary and General Election Judges.

3. Second Reading of Ord. No. 612 Food Truck Regulations

Action – Miller moved, Kurschner seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 612 changing the yearly number of mobile food vehicle vending licenses from four to five. Vote on the motion, Miller, Kurschner, and Carlson voted yes;

Caron and Dierking voted no noting they feel the Council needs to take a deeper look at these regulations at a future meeting. Motion carried 3/2.

7. United Healthcare Annual Charity Bike Ride

Action – Councilmember Dierking recused herself from the discussion and vote on this item. Kurschner moved, Caron seconded to approve the Special Event Permit for United Healthcare’s Annual Charity Bike Ride. Motion carried 4/0.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

(a) None

8. PETITIONS, REQUESTS and COMMUNICATIONS

(a) COVID-19 Local and State Emergency Update

Miller moved, Caron seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 2020-44 Extending the Local Emergency and directed staff to continue remote meetings until further notice. On a roll call vote, Miller, Caron, Dierking, Kurschner and Carlson voted yes. Motion carried 5/0.

(b) College Lake

The Council agreed to the following for Water Street:

- Enhance the green space between the walkway and College Lake by shifting Water Street to the east and providing additional plants and trees including evergreens in this area by the lake.
- Install bump out crosswalks at College Avenue and Water Street - one going North/South and one going East/West.
- Create a new parking area on the east side of Water Street just south of The Waters garage entrance for delivery trucks and visitors.
- Investigate reducing the speed limit on Water Street to 25 mph.
- Landscape screening of The Waters along the length of Water Street to include a variety of species for winter and summer screening.
- The width of Water Street to be 22-feet wide.
- Install a 5-foot asphalt trail on the west (lake) side of Water Street from Academy Avenue to College Avenue.

- Install a concrete sidewalk on the west side of Water Street from College Avenue to Grathwol Lane.
- No bollards along Water Street since there will be a boulevard that separates pedestrians from traffic.
- Use surmountable curb along Water Street and College Avenue to allow wildlife to cross the road for breeding.
- Investigate a pedestrian crossing option mid-block by The Waters.
- Include one to two additional wooden benches in the pocket park and replace the metal bench with a wood bench. (No more than three benches in total.)
- Assess tree coverage and replace dying trees. Develop a planting plan for ongoing screening of The Waters from the Pleasant Avenue neighborhood to ensure that trees that are dying are replaced with new trees and a variety of screening trees to include evergreens.
- Install a wrought iron fence along Academy Avenue ditch area, fence style as selected by the City Council at the meeting.

For College Ave the following decisions were made:

- Install a 5-foot wide blacktop walkway/trail next to College Lake on the South side of College Ave from Water Street westward to the end of the lake.
- Install a 5-foot wide pedestrian shoulder with a painted white line on the south side of College Avenue transitioning from the new walkway/trail to William Street.
- Install a 3-foot wide pedestrian shoulder with a painted white line on the north side of College Avenue from Water Street to William Street.
- Install crosswalks at College Avenue and William Street, one going north/south and one going east/west to connect the walkways on College, William and Glencoe.
- Pedestrian shoulders will be delineated by painted white lines on the new blacktop road surfaces as specified by staff.
- No bollards will be used and minimal signage will be used to reduce visual clutter.
- Minor road and curb adjustments will be made to reduce negative impacts for landmark trees, blind curves, elevation changes and retaining walls.

Rhoda Brooks, 723 Water Street, Apt. 4013, addressed the Council to state residents at The Waters would be interested in helping with purchasing benches for the pocket park.

Susan Louris and Elton Anderson, 556 William Street, addressed the Council in favor of a protective fence where Academy Avenue connects to Water Street.

Kirsten Halloran, 636 Pleasant Street, addressed the Council stating she is opposed to fog lines.

Kirstin Gilbertson, 783 Pleasant Street, addressed the Council stating she is opposed to fog lines.

Mike Rau, 354 Oak Street, addressed the Council asking for Engineer Dawley to show the six options.

Deb Hutchinson, 335 College Avenue, addressed the Council expressing her support of a walkway on the south side stating this option meets the needs of the residents.

Bob Jackson, 345 College Avenue, addressed the Council stating he feels a walkway on the south side makes the most sense.

Brian Halloran, 636 Pleasant Street, addressed the Council stating he is opposed to fog lines.

Miller moved, Kurschner seconded, to approve the project on College Avenue as described above. On a roll call vote, Miller, Kurschner, Caron and Carlson voted yes; Dierking voted no. Motion carried 4/1.

9. ORDINANCES and RESOLUTIONS

(a) None

10. REPORTS of OFFICERS, BOARDS and COMMITTEES

(a) None

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11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(a) None

12. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Set Date for Special Meeting

The Council set a Special Council meeting for Monday, July 13, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss a face covering policy in Excelsior.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Miller moved, Dierking seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 10:21 p.m. On a roll call vote, Miller, Dierking, Caron, Kurschner and Carlson voted yes. Motion carried 5/0.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynette R. Peterson, City Clerk