



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2018

6:00 PM

Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kevin Voracek at 6:00 pm. Council Members Elizabeth Cap, Kay Duchene, Royal Ross, John Rowan, Steve Underdahl and Janna Viscomi were in attendance. Also in attendance were City Administrator Tim Murray, Assistant to the City Administrator Heather Slechta, Public Works Director Travis Block, Police Chief Andy Bohlen, City Engineer Mark Duchene, Finance Director Karla McCall, Human Resources Manager Kevin Bushard, and Director of Community and Economic Development Deanna Kuennen.

Presentations/Introductions

Presentation from the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities

Bradley Peterson, the Executive Director of the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities (CGMC), provided the Council with a presentation on the services provided by and resources available from the CGMC to its members. The CGMC focuses on five main issues, Local Government Aid/Property Tax Relief, Economic Development, Environment and Energy, Transportation and Annexation. The City was a member of the CGMC in the past, however, as part of a number of budget reduction measures that were taken at that time, it was decided to not renew that membership about 7-8 years ago. Membership dues annually are approximately \$52,000.00, however CGMC will offer the City a ramp up with the first year costing approximately \$13,000.00 with an increase over the next four years. The Council will discuss membership in the CGMC at a future work session.

Approve minutes of August 15, 2018 Regular Council Meeting and August 15, 2018 Special Meeting
Motion by Ross, seconded by Rowan to approve minutes of August 15, 2018 Regular Council Meeting and August 15, 2018 Special Meeting and carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

- A. List of bills to be paid
- B. Resolution 2018-167 Approve Main Street Fall Festival Street Closures
- C. Approve Permanent Right-of-Way Easement and Temporary Construction Easement for 818 4th Street NW
- D. Approve Right-of-Entry Agreements for TH 60 Reconstruction Project (Contract 2019-03)
- E. Resolution 2018-168 Requesting Permission from Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT) to Mark Crosswalks on TH 60 (4th St NW) from Lincoln Avenue to Central Avenue
- F. Approve Knights of Columbus Application to Conduct Excluded Bingo on November 4, 2018 at the American Legion Hall
- G. Approve Hold Harmless and Indemnification Agreement with Grampa Al's for September 1, 2018
- H. Resolution 2018-171 Approve Premises Permit Application for Knights of Columbus 889
- I. Resolution 2018-172 Authorizing MnDOT Agreement No. 1031914 for Taxilane G Pavement Rehabilitation Project
- J. Approve Hangar Rental Agreement
- K. Resolution 2018-173 Support of a Minnesota Investment Fund Program Application in Connection with Daikin Applied Americas, Inc.
- L. Resolution 2018-174 Approve Hiring Library Technician
- M. Resolution 2018-175 Approve Application for Off-Site Gambling for Knights of Columbus #889

Motion by Rowan, seconded by Duchene to approve Consent Agenda Items A-M and carried unanimously.

Requests to be Heard

Citizen comment period

Peter van Sluis explained that in March of this year, the City of Podensac, sent a letter to Mayor Voracek requesting a delegation be put together to send to Podensac this November for the 100th anniversary. The delegation could be either descendants of the soldiers or others representing Faribault. Mayor Voracek asked Mr. van Sluis to take on this project. Mr. van Sluis further explained that in 1918, the 136th Infantry Battalion of Faribault was stationed in Podensac, France. At the end of WW I, there was a celebration and proclamation, thanking the soldiers for being there. They also named a street "Rue de Minnesota". Mr. van Sluis was able to find records of the original soldiers at the Rice County Historic Society, and was contacted by a grandson of one of the soldiers stationed in France after the story was in the newspaper.

In mid-March Mr. van Sluis sent an email confirming that the City did receive the request and that he has started to work on it. Again on June 21, 2018, another email was sent that we were well on our way researching and planning. On July 11, 2018, Heather Slechta, Assistant to the City Administrator also sent an email as requested, as no responses were received from the previous emails. A final email was sent on July 31, 2018, to Podensac's general email address, mairie@podensac.fr, as well as to Edouard Legrand, but again no response. Mr. van Sluis found a local native French speaker who made some phone calls on his behalf to Podensac. She was able to speak with Mr. Legrand who was looking forward to this project, and wondered why he had not heard from us. Through further correspondence it was learned that Podensac would like to discuss the possibility of becoming Sister Cities.

Mr. van Sluis requested the Council discuss the possibility to send 4-5 delegates to Podensac in November. One of the delegates could be the grandson of the soldier stationed in France. The estimated cost to send the delegation is \$1000-\$1500 per person, Podensac would pick up all costs in France, including room and board as well as local transportation. Mr. van Sluis also requested the City discuss the possibility of becoming Sister Cities with Podensac.

Council will discuss sending a delegation to Podensac as well as becoming Sister Cities with Podensac at a future meeting.

Public Hearings – None

Items for Discussion

Resolution 2018-169 Approve Intersection Traffic Control Revisions

Public Works Director Travis Block explained that Staff received a request for the installation of a 4-way stop sign at Spring Road/7th Ave. SW & 12th St. SW, it is currently a 2-way stop, with stop signs on 12th St. S. The request was initially reviewed at the April 17, 2018 General Affairs Committee meeting. At that time, the installation of a 4-way stop was not recommended. The Committee wanted more time to look at the location and have the study brought back to a future meeting. The 4-way stop is being requested in an attempt to slow down speeding drivers on Spring Road/7th Ave. SW. Being that stop signs are designed to regulate traffic flow and not speed, crash records and traffic volumes do not warrant the installation of a 4-way stop.

After additional review staff arrived at a mixed recommendation. One option was move the 2-way stop currently on 12th St. SW to Spring Road/7th Ave. SW. However, this has the potential to shift the perceived speeding problem to 12th St. SW. The second option would be to add stop signs to Spring Rd. /7th Ave. SW, making it a 4-way stop. While the location does not meet the guidance criteria for a 4-way stop, this could address some geometrics associated with Spring Rd./7th Ave. SW. The third option is to leave the intersection as is, a 2-way stop on 12th St. SW. This matter was further discussed at the August 21, 2018 General Affairs Committee meeting, where the Committee selected the recommendation to move the 2-way stop currently located on 12th St. SW to the Spring Rd./7th Ave. SW legs of the intersection.

Motion by Duchene, seconded by Underdahl to approve Resolution 2018-169 Approve Intersection Traffic Control Revisions and carried unanimously.

Resolution 2018-170 Approve Crosswalk Installation

Public Works Director Travis Block explained that Staff received a request for the installation of a midblock crosswalk on 19th Ave. NW, currently there is no crosswalk present. The proposed crosswalk would connect a parking lot on the west side of 19th Ave. to Harry Brown's Family Automotive Center on the east side of 19th Ave. NW. Employees typically park on the west side of 19th Ave. NW and cross to and from Harry Brown's on the east side. There are no connecting points for the crosswalk at the proposed midblock location. Additionally, there are no facilities present to complement the crosswalk, nor are there plans to install sidewalks per the sidewalk and trail plan. Installation of the crosswalk is not recommended.

This matter was discussed at the August 21, 2018 General Affairs Committee meeting. The Committee did not concur with staff's recommendation and recommended installation of the crosswalk and identifying signage. Additionally, the Committee is requiring that there be no parking stalls in the west parking lot adjacent to the crosswalk.

Nicole Bittner, HR Director for Harry Brown's stated that this is a busy road, she has seen many near misses as employees are crossing the street. They are looking to make their campus more pedestrian friendly and will contribute where they can.

The Council discussed the midblock crosswalk in great detail.

Motion by Ross, seconded by Rowan to approve Resolution 2018-170 Approve Crosswalk Installation. Motion carried 5:2 with Council Member Underdahl and Mayor Voracek voting Nay.

Bids – None

Boards and Commissions Reports, Announcements and Project Updates

The Finance Department provided a monthly financial report for the Councils review. Mayor Voracek will be attending a meeting in Northfield, the topic will be about the new ice arena that is planned for Dundas/Northfield. City Administrator Tim Murray reminded the Council of the upcoming retirement party for Fire Captain Jon Bolster and City Hall will be closed on Monday in observance of Labor Day. Murray also stated that there will be a Finance Committee meeting next Tuesday at 6:00pm, so those not on the Finance Committee do not need to arrive at 6:00pm, the Joint Committee will begin once the Finance meeting adjourns. Council Member Janna Viscomi stated that the Ravine Street area looked nice now that it has been mowed. The Council had a brief discussion about installing crosswalks near 10,000 Drops Distillery as well as by the Kwik Trip located by the bridge. In order to install crosswalks at these locations the City would need to work with MnDOT.

Adjournment

Motion by Viscomi, seconded by Ross to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the City Council.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather J. Slechta
Assistant to the City Administrator