

CITY OF ST. FRANCIS  
ST. FRANCIS, MN  
ANOKA COUNTY

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

June 20, 2016

1. **Call to Order:** The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Steve Kane at 6:00 pm.
2. **Roll Call:** Present were Mayor Steve Kane, Council members Richard Orpen, Rich Skordahl, and Chris McClish. Council member Tim Brown excused. Also present were City Engineer Cody Holmes (Bolton & Menk, Inc.), City Attorney Scott Lepak (Barna, Guzy & Steffen), Fire Chief Matt Kohout, Public Works Director Paul Teicher, Liquor Store Manager John Schmidt, Police Sgt. Todd Schwieger, City Finance Director Darcy Mulvihill, Community Development Director Kate Thunstrom, City Administrator Joe Kohlmann, and City Clerk Barb Held.
3. **Adopt Agenda:** MOTION BY McCLISH SECOND SKORDAHL TO ADOPT THE JUNE 20, 2016 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA. Motion carried 4-0.
4. **Consent Agenda:** MOTION BY ORPEN SECOND McCLISH APPROVE THE JUNE 20, 2016, CITY COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA A-FAS FOLLOWS: Skordahl asked if we are conducting exit interviews. We just had two people recently leave from the police department.
  - a. City Council Minutes –June 6, 2016
  - b. Pay Request No. 11 for \$1,840,682 to Gridor Construction, Inc. for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements
  - c. TNT Fireworks Retail Sale Permit: 23122 St. Francis Blvd, Cty Market Parking Lot
  - d. Accept the resignation of Police Officer Eric Algiers
  - e. Acknowledge the SFHS Dance Team Parent Booster Club Lawful Gambling Exempt Permit at the St. Francis High School on September 12, 2016
  - f. Payment of Claims \$2,415,467.99 (ACH #153E-154E \$122,336.88 Check # 70829-70905 \$2,293,131.11) Motion carried 4-0.
5. **Meeting Open to the Public:** Doug Lennartson, 23355 Jonquil Street NW, stated he has called city hall a number of times about some homes in his neighborhood. In 2001 when I built my house I was told to remove the decorative rock 10 feet back from the curb. There are a number of people that have rock right up to the curb. Also there a homes that have so many cars in the driveway they park in the street. I have called Kate (Community Development Director) and Joe (City Administrator) and express mine concerns. Someone is going to get killed because you can't see around all the vehicles. I know some people have been cited and received citations for the excess cars and junk. Don't know if they have a business out of their home or not. Respectfully ask the city to look into this.

Steve Feldman, 22766 Poppy Street, before you vote on the agenda item for stop signs on Poppy Street. I would like to clarify a few points. The engineers report dated March 15 referenced the findings solely on an engineering study. My letter dated May 12 request two stop signs, one would be in Oak Grove facing North and the other sign would be in our City facing South. I don't believe that his recommendation for traffic calming measures such as

median barriers, chokers or bump-outs can be done on a two lane road. Plus the cost factor, if it could be done, would be far more than what I and my neighbors are asking for. Can't believe of the cost of two stop signs would cost more than the previous amount that was spent back in 2008 on signage. We believe the signs are a good attempt to slow traffic down and as I have stated before, in a previous meeting, our Chief of Police and the Commander of Anoka County Sheriff's Office, my neighbors from Oak Grove and St. Francis are all in favor of this. In closing, I would just like to say that it is better to try something and fail than not try at all. If the signs do not work they can always be taken down, but on the other hand they could prevent an accident and that alone should be reason enough to install them. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

6. **Petitions, Requests, Applications:**

a. **Presentation of Donation to St. Francis Ambassador Program:** Mayor Kane stated these girls travel thousands and thousands of miles representing St. Francis. Kane presented the St. Francis Ambassadors a check for \$365.67. This donation comes from the proceeds of the Mayor's Snowmobile Ride that again was cancelled this year. There are many repairs that are needed on the float and donations to their program are always welcome. Kane stated he and his wife feel this is a worthwhile program and would like to donate a check of \$100 to them also.

7. **Ordinances & Resolution:**

a. **Resolution 2016-24: Proclaiming Support of a Heart Safe St. Francis:** MOTION BY ORPEN SECOND McCLISH TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2016-24 A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING SUPPORT OF A HEART SAFE ST. FRANCIS. Motion carried 4-0. Kane thanked Fire Chief Matt Kohout for all his work in moving this project along.

8. **Reports of Consultants & Staff Members:**

a. **Engineer:**

b. **Attorney:**

c. **Staff:**

**Economic Development:**

**Finance: GFOA-Distinguished Budget Presentation Award 2016:** Kane stated I think this is number seven in a row. Kane thanked Finance Director Darcy Mulvihill for all her work. The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting.

**Fire:**

**Public Works:**

**Liquor Store:**

**Police:**

**City Administrator: Poppy Street Signage:** City Administrator Joe Kohlmann stated there is an engineering report dated March 15, 2016 attached to my agenda memorandum that was part of the packet. I want to clarify as Mr. Feldman stated at a staff level their staff said they would bring this forward if we approved it. Kane said at 5:30 pm this evening I was on the phone with Mayor Korin of Oak Grove. Mayor Korin knows of this request but at this point, he is not in favor. He thinks this is a speed issue and feels once the roundabouts are in the speed concerns will go away. He said he has seen none of the data. What he is going to do is to have his interim city administrator look into the notes and review the city engineer's report. Kane said right now my suggestion would be to table this until Oak Grove approves it. Orpen said

maybe they will do the same thing and send it back for our approval and it will go back and forth. I think we should approve it and pass it on to them. Mr. Feldman from the audience asked the Mayor for a point of order, which Kane granted. Feldman said I did talk to the Chief of Police and he thinks the stop signs would work hand in hand with the roundabouts and slow down the traffic. I had talked to the former administrator Rick Juba but I also have talked to the current interim Dallas Larson but maybe he does not have all the paperwork. McClish said I support the stop signs. **MOTION BY McCLISH SECOND SKORDAHL TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF THE STOP SIGNS ON POPPY STREET CONTINGENT ON THE APPROVAL FROM THE CITY OF OAK GROVE.** Orpen asked would the stop sign keep the traffic moving as the roundabouts are intended for. McClish thought the round abouts are designed more to keep the traffic moving on the county roads and not city roads. Motion carried 4-0.

9. **Report from Councilmembers:** McClish wanted to thank all the volunteers who worked during Pioneer Days.

Skordahl thanked Mr. Feldman for all his hard work on the Poppy Street signage.

Orpen stated there is a community event this weekend at the high school. The play “The Lion King Jr.” will be held Friday 7:00 pm, Saturday 7:00 pm and Sunday at 2:00 pm. The cast are kids from 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to high school. Orpen asked Kane if he contacted Commissioner Look regarding a library expansion. Kane said yes I did and he said there is no upgrade in the future for the St. Francis Library. That is not before one is built in the eastern part of Anoka County. He is trying hard to keep it open. Orpen said I really do not agree with that reasoning. At least repair the parking lot.

10. **Report from Mayor:** I have the honor tonight to report that one of our residents Kiana Eide, has been selected to be on the Olympic Rhythmic Gymnastics Group. Kiana is the daughter of Troy and Lolita Eide owners of Hong Kong Delight in St. Francis. Troy and Kiana have been living in Illinois the last two years while she was training. They are trying to raising money so all four of their family members can attend the Olympics in Rio, Brazil. Cost are very expensive for airfare, hotel and tickets to the events. They do have a GoFundMe account set up.

11. **Old Business:** None.

12. **New Business:** Orpen said the crash that happened on 235<sup>th</sup> Avenue where a car went through a house speed was definitely a factor. That one was an exception; however, I would like to see the speed limit lowered to 30 mph down from 35 mph along 235<sup>th</sup>. Kane asked if staff could come back to the next meeting with findings on how that could be lowered. Orpen also stated I would like thank the fire department for their help securing the scene.

13. **Adjournment:** Mayor Kane adjourned the regular city council meeting at 6: 27 pm.