

CITY OF ST. FRANCIS
ST. FRANCIS MN
ANOKA COUNTY

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 3, 2017

1. **CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The regular City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Steve Feldman.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Members present: Mayor Steve Feldman, Councilmembers Joe Muehlbauer, Robert Bauer and Rich Skordahl. Councilmember Jerry Tveit excused. Also present City Attorney Scott Lepak (Barna, Guzy & Steffen), City Administrator Joe Kohlmann, Community Development Director Kate Thunstrom, Police Chief Todd Schwieger, Fire Chief Matt Kohout, Liquor Store Manager John Schmidt, Finance Director Darcy Mulvihill, and City Clerk Barb Held.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Feldman asked to remove item 8 A. from the agenda. MOTION BY MUEHLBAUER SECOND SKORDAHL TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. Motion carried 4-0.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION BY BAUER SECOND SKORDAHL TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A-B AS FOLLOWS:

- A. City Council Minutes – March 20, 2017
 - B. Payment of Claims \$107,745.38 (Checks # 72274-72327)
- Motion carried 4-0.

5. **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

None

7. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. ISD #15 – Ord. Amendment, Conditional Use permit & Site Plan Review Event Parking Lot - Feldman stated this was pulled to have the full council address this issue. Also, staff and I met with school district staff to discuss their request further. During this meeting they discussed the possibility of a fence along Rum River Blvd and the installation of a turn lane off Rum River Blvd. to the maintenance road. Anoka County is going to be doing an overlay on Rum River Blvd this year and it would be the county and school district to work together for the installation of the turn lane. The cost of the turn lane would be that of the school district. Skordahl said if this is coming back to the council we can discuss further at that time.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Peddlers License – Ice Cream Truck – An application was received from Sara Liebeck to be able to sell ice cream treats through an ice cream truck service for a period including March through October. The hours of operation on her application would be from 10:00 am to 8:30 pm. The applicant also submitted a letter with her application requesting a fee which is less than our current fee structure. Staff did call around to other cities to see what they charge for this type of service. The information was included in the council packet. Skordahl stated that maybe our Peddlers License on the fee schedule could break down the different types of peddler type request a little more. After discussion of the fees and reviewing the other cities fee that were contacted, those chose to stay with our current fee schedule. MOTION BY MUEHLBAUER SECOND SKORDAHL TO APPROVE THE PEDDLERS LICENSE REQUEST FOR SARA LIEBECK/THE ICE CREAM MACHINE BUT NOT REDUCE THE FEE AS SHE HAD REQUESTED. Motion carried 4-0.

10. **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

- A. Mike Rodger, 2770 232nd Lane NW, asked if the school district was going have an environmental study done for the parking lot property they recently purchased. There will be rain runoff from the parking lot and believes there is a wetland in the area. Kohlmann stated I do believe the engineer did comment on that issue during his review of the project.
- B. Debra Sundberg, 23049 Arrowhead Street NW, said she called city hall today to complain about her water bill. City staff told her to come to the council meeting to voice her concern. My bill went up to \$90 a month for a single person and I do not believe I have a leak. I am worried about a family of four and what are their bills. Feldman asked if she had someone look at her meter. Feldman also stated the three of us got elected on that reason of the rates being so high. If you can just be patient with us, we feel your pain.
- C. Barbara Rudnicki 23041 Arrowhead Street NW, with just one person my bill is high. I try to be efficient as possible. I get being patient, but now with summer coming, how patient do I have to be. Feldman again stated we have not forgotten why we ran. Your concerns are heard and we are open and approachable. Unfortunately we are still waiting for the grant. Thank you for coming forth. Skordahl said you should look at your usage/consumption to see if that is the same. If it is the same as years past then it is solely cause by the rate increase. Feldman said we are doing research and have met with the Met Council who will be coming back out.

- D. Roger Wallin, 23027 Arrowhead Street NW, asked why did we have two rate hikes in a row. Feldman said we ran on that, need to learn from our mistakes. Could things have been done different, yes. We are not leaving any stone unturned. Wallin said some seniors are living month to month. Skordahl said I am the bad guy. I was on the council when the upgrade went in. The increase rates were put in to help pay for the wastewater treatment facility. The City had not had an increase in rates for a long period of time. Part of the catch up was that there were no recent rates increases and the new wastewater treatment plant. We needed an upgrade and the council at the time went forward with the new plat. Wallin said maybe we should quick expanding. Skordahl said we chose the plant upgrade to allow more people and businesses to come here. It wasn't a popular but with the information we had, we made the best decision. Muehlbauer said it was built so now we have to expand to help get the rates down.
- E. Mike Rodger said do you (Skordahl) want to help pay for this (water/sewer expenditures). Skordahl said no.

Feldman said I don't think they looked at other options. Not specifically looking at one council over the other, we are trying to fix this. We have put the brakes on spending, problem that it does not happen overnight. Planning without preparation is worthless. I am factual and honest; we are action not lip service.

11. REPORTS

- A. Administrator's Report – none
- B. Community Development Director - Quarterly Report – Thunstrom gave a quarterly report on building activity, zoning permits and code enforcement. PermitWorks was installed on staff computers. Also reaching out to developers about opportunities on residential and commercial needs.
- C. Councilmember Reports –
Muehlbauer reported the Chamber is looking for volunteers for Pioneer Days.

Bauer reported ISD #15 referendum questions will be on the ballot during the May 23, 2017 election. Get out and vote.

Skordahl would like to encourage people to be good neighbors. Be mindful of your neighbors as the weather gets nice there will be more dogs, kids on bikes, be good neighbors. Reminder of the City Council work session set for next Monday evening at 5:30 pm at city hall.

Feldman stated Lisa Rahn of ISD #15 will be putting out factual information regarding the referendum on the school's website. Once it is out there we will post it on the City's Facebook and website. We are currently working on how

we can make our website more user friendly. Street sweeping will begin April 4th, volunteers are needed for recycling day, dog leash laws are now on the website along with neighborhood watch programs. Roundabouts please signal your turn when exiting. I appreciate you letting staff and councilmembers know your concerns.

Angie Bray asked from the audience if the council had discussed changing the council meeting start time. Feldman said that is part of our work session discussion.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor Feldman adjourned the regular city council at 6:52 pm.

Barbara I. Held, City Clerk