

CITY OF ST. FRANCIS
ST. FRANCIS MN
ANOKA COUNTY

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 18, 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, Jerry Tveit, Joe Muehlbauer, Robert Bauer and Rich Skordahl.

Also present; Assistant City Attorney Dave Schaps (Barna, Guzy & Steffen), City Engineer Craig Jochum (Hakanson Anderson), City Administrator Joe Kohlmann, Community Development Director Kate Thunstrom, Liquor Store Manager John Schmidt, Finance Director Darcy Mulvihill, and City Clerk Barb Held.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION BY MUEHLBAUER SECOND SKORDAHL TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. Motion carried 5-0.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION BY MUEHLBAUER SECOND FELDMAN TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A-J AS FOLLOWS:

- A. City Council Minutes – September 5, 2017
- B. Accounting Technician/Deputy Clerk Job Description and Authorization to Advertise
- C. Assistant Community Development Director Job Description and Authorization to Advertise
- D. MMUA Safety Management Program Contract October 1, 2017-September 30, 2018
- E. Resolution 2017-26: Adjusting the Tax Levy for Bond Indebtedness
- F. Resolution 2017-27: Providing Preliminary Approval of a Proposed 2017 Tax Levy, Collectible in 2018 and Setting Budget Hearing Date
- G. Resolution 2017-28: Setting a Public Hearing on an Easement Vacation
- H. Accept the Resignation of Part Time Liquor Store Clerk Jennifer Baker
- I. Approval of the Application for Excluded Bingo Activity on 11/11/17 and 12/2/2017 at the St. Francis American Legion for the St. Francis Lions Club
- J. Payment of Claims \$331,570.79 (ACH #207 & #208 \$128,855.10 and Check #'s 73055-73122 \$202,715.69)

Motion by Tveit to pull items C and E seconded by Feldman.

Discussion was held on the need for an Assistant Community Development Director at this time and the Levy.

Tveit said with the addition of an Assistant Community Development employee is more money than we can chew. Not just for this budget but for additional years. Not sure we need to bring on another full time employee that will affect our tax levy, they go hand and hand.

We discussed this in the work session. Feldman said our administration has been running lean for many years. We are not getting done with what we should get done. More about efficiency and making the city work better. It can't come together on a few shoulders. Plans without preparation go nowhere.

Muehlbauer said I did have a concern with the cost of the additional staff but spoke with city administrator. We're taking advantage of market value.

Bauer sided with Mr. Tveit. My goal is for the City to restructure. Just because the economy is good now, it may change.

Feldman said administration has been running lean for some time. Police is at full staff, new fire chief and public works added on. Have some back up.

Skordahl said with respect to the position there is a lot of work that is going to be asked of our staff to do. We just got done with St. Francis Forward that will create work. We did speak on this in the work session. Did a study on staffing and we were far behind in staffing compared to other cities. There is a lot of stuff that goes on at city hall that we don't see. Time is perfect and the funds and need are there. With the stuff we have been adding we have been behind in staffing.

Tveit said the rental housing, vacancy and chicken ordinance is fairly new. Citizens I talk to is they want smaller and more effective government. We were on a hiring and wage freeze for a number of years. Tveit said during the work session discussion this would be a 7.5 % increase.

Feldman again said planning without preparation is worthless. There are things that should have been done for years but didn't have the people to do it. We are spending the money wisely. Futuristic thinking and putting dollars to good use.

Motion carried 3-2. Tveit and Bauer voting nay.

5. **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

None

6. **SPECIAL BUSINESS**

None

7. **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

None

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Ordinance 231, Second Series “Animals and Fowl” - Second Reading
Muehlbauer said a resident brought up to me of how you would know when people get rid of the chickens when we only give out twenty permits. Maybe we need some more regulations.

Feldman asked if there is some way we can put that in the permit. Thunstrom said we can send out reminder cards to see if they are still housing chickens. Staff provided an implementation plan for the City Council to review.

Skordahl said if you are going to get chickens please keep them in your yard. Be a responsible animal owner.

Tveit said he still thinks twenty permits is not enough and it hurts the residents if you are not one of the lucky twenty. I understand to pass it as is and we can revisit it.

Feldman said we don't want to open up the flood gates, we want to start this up responsibly. We can look at this after a year. Start out slow and in a responsible way.

Bauer said he does agree with Tveit. Concession is that we can look at it again next year.

After more discussion it was decided on to forward.

MOTION BY BAUER SECOND MUEHLBAUER TO APPROVE THE SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 231, SECOND SERIES AMENDING “LOCAL REGULATIONS REGARDING THE KEEPING OF CHICKENS”.

Roll Call: Yay: Skordahl, Muehlbauer Feldman, Bauer

Nays: Tveit.

Motion carried 4-1.

- B. Resolution 2017-29 – Approving the Summary Publication of Ordinance 231, Second Series

MOTION BY TVEIT SECOND MUEHLBAUER TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2017-29 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUMMARY PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCE 231, SECOND SERIES. Motion carried 5-0.

- C. Ordinance 232, Second Series “Diseased Trees” – Second Reading
MOTION BY TVEIT SECOND BAUER TO APPROVE THE SECOND
READING OF ORDINANCE 232, SECOND SERIES “DISEASED TREES”.

Roll Call: Yay: Tveit, Muehlbauer, Feldman, Bauer, and Skordahl,
Nays: none

Motion carried 5-0.

- D. Resolution 2017-30 - Approving the Summary Publication of Ordinance 232,
Second Series

MOTION BY MUEHLBAUER SECOND BAUER TO ADOPT RESOLUTION
2017-30 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUMMARY PUBLICATION OF
ORDINANCE 232, SECOND SERIES. Motion carried 5-0.

- E. Work Session Scheduling – Riverbank Lane Street Improvement
Work Session is set for October 10, 2017 at 6:00 pm at the community center
for the Riverbank Lane/Kings Hwy Street Improvement.
MOTION BY MUEHLBAUER SECOND BAUER SETTING A DATE OF
OCTOBER 10, 2017 6:00 PM FOR THE RIVERBANK LANE STREET
IMPROVEMENT FEASIBILITY STUDY DISCUSSION. Motion carried 5-0.

- F. Right of Entry Agreement-Bridge Street Project Land Conveyances
Schaps reported as part of the Joint Powers Agreement with Anoka County for
the reconstruction of Bridge Street and the addition of two roundabouts, certain
properties were to be conveyed by the City of St. Francis to Anoka County.
Anoka County is working with the abutting private property owners, Robert and
Carolyn O'Brien to obtain a settlement agreement and convey a portion of the
property to them not needed for right of way in the reconstruction project.
Currently, these portions of property are owned by the City of St. Francis and
which are required under the terms of the Joint Powers Agreement to be
conveyed to Anoka County. Allowing the O'Brien's to fulfill their desire to
expand their existing business operations and parking area located at 3175
Bridge Street. As this process has taken some time to complete the transfer of
property from the City to the County, the County is requesting the City grant a
Right of Entry agreement with the County to allow access and enable them to
work with the O'Brien's to proceed with their plans to expand their operations
on the property. The Right of Entry will expire upon the City's conveyance of
the property to Anoka County. The City needs to have two readings of the
ordinance authorizing the conveyance of city surplus property to Anoka County
pursuant to Bridge Street Joint Powers Agreement.

MOTION BY TVEIT SECOND MUEHLBAUER TO ENTER INTO A RIGHT OF
ENTRY AGREEMENT WITH ANOKA COUNTY. Motion carried 5-0.

- G. Ordinance 233, Second Series Conveying Surplus Property to Anoka County
per terms of Bridge Street Joint Powers Agreement – First Reading

MOTION BY MUEHLBAUER SECOND BAUER APPROVING THE FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 233, SECOND SERIES AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE OF CITY SURPLUS PROPERTY TO ANOKA COUNTY PURSUANT TO BRIDGE STREET JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT.

Roll Call: Yay: Muehlbauer, Feldman, Bauer, Skordahl, and Tveit,

Nays: none

Motion carried 5-0.

10. **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

None

11. **REPORTS**

A. Public Works Report – Received report from public works.

B. Councilmember Reports-
Skordahl nothing to report.

Bauer nothing to report.

Muehlbauer reported he went to the school board meeting last week. The school is holding an informational bond meeting tonight at the St. Francis High starting at 7:00pm in the Saints room.

Tveit reported he attended the URRWMO Sept 20th meeting at Oak Grove. They are working on the ten year water management plan. Thanks to Bridge Church for hosting a Block Party this past Sunday what a great thing for the community, they have done a ton of community outreach and projects for St. Francis.

Feldman reported there has been a delay on the implementation of our new website. A resident asked him about the data sign. We are doing our own speed study on Bridge Street with our machines. Police are out on the streets looking for speeders and safety.

C. Upcoming Events - Oct 2: City Council Meeting @ 6:00 pm
Oct 4: Council/Planning Commission – Comp Plan @
6:00 pm (Community Center)

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor Feldman adjourned the regular city council at 6: 47 pm.