

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2021 –6:30 P.M.
(Virtual Meeting/ All Attendees)

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Independence City Council was called to order by Mayor Johnson at 6:30 p.m.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Johnson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL (Note: all noted present were “virtually” present

PRESENT: Mayor Johnson, Councilors Spencer, Betts, and McCoy

ABSENT: Grotting

STAFF: City Administrator Kaltsas, Assistant to Administrator Horner

VISITORS: None

3. ****Consent Agenda****

All items listed under Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by Council and will be acted on by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

a. Approval of City Council Minutes from the February 2, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting.

b. Approval of Accounts Payable; (Batch #1 Checks Numbered 20271-20275, Batch #2 Check Numbered 20276-20292).

c. Approval of annual liquor license renewals for the following establishments:

i. Ox Yoke Inn - Off Sale, On Sale and Sunday License

ii. Windsong Farm Golf Club LLC - Off Sale, On Sale and Sunday License

iii. Pioneer Creek Golf LLC - On Sale and Sunday License

Motion by McCoy, second by Betts to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes: Johnson, Spencer, McCoy, and Betts. Nays: None. Absent: Grotting. Abstain. None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

4. SET AGENDA – ANYONE NOT ON THE AGENDA CAN BE PLACED UNDER OPEN/MISC.

Kaltsas added discussion on Medina Fire District Meeting.

5. REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES BY COUNCIL AND STAFF

Spencer attended the following meetings:

- Met with Joe Baker on Pioneer Sarah Creek Watershed.

Grotting attended the following meetings:

- None

McCoy attended the following meetings:

- None

Betts attended the following meetings: (Virtual)

- Experienced Officials Conferences
- Police Commission Meeting

Johnson attended the following meetings: (Virtual)

- Towards Zero Death Virtual Meetings
- Experienced Officials Conference
- Regional Council of Mayors Meeting
- Orono School Board Meeting
- West Hennepin Chamber of Commerce Meeting
- Northwest League of Cities Meeting
- Fire Department Meeting with Medina
- Executive Committee Meeting for Highway 55 Corridor
- Met with Engineer on Highway 55 Corridor
- Met with Dobozenski resident (in-person)
- Met with Wes Bendickson (in-person)

Horner attended the following meetings:

- West Hennepin Chamber of Commerce Meeting

Kaltsas attended the following meetings:

- Bi-weekly meeting on County Road 92 and Highway 12 projects

6. West Hennepin Public Safety Director Gary Kroells: Presentation of the January 2021 Activity Report.

Kroells stated there were 388 incidents reported through the end of January. There were 265 in the City of Independence and 109 in the City of Maple Plain. Kroells highlighted a few cases.

for a complete report see the packet

7. Consideration of the **Ordinance 2021-01**: An ordinance updating Section 305.01 Planning commission established and continued. Adding two (2) alternate planning commission positions.

Kaltsas stated Council discussed the possibility of expanding the planning commission by adding Planning Commission Alternates as a way to provide experience for citizens interested in serving the City and also as a way to ensure a quorum for all meetings. Staff reviewed possible ways to achieve alternates on the planning commission with Council and has prepared an amendment to the ordinance based on the discussion. The proposed ordinance will allow the City Council the ability to appoint up to two alternate planning commissioners. The alternates would have the ability to vote if there were any absent members of the commission. Alternate members would also attend all regular meetings of the commission.

Motion by Spencer, second by McCoy to approve Ordinance 2021-01: updating Section 305.01 Planning commission established and continued. Adding two (2) alternate planning commission positions. Ayes: Johnson, Spencer, McCoy, and Betts. Nays: None. Absent: Grotting. Abstain. None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

8. OPEN/MISC.

Kaltsas stated he and Johnson attended the Medina Fire District meeting number one and wanted to know the feedback on whether the City should proceed with attending these meetings. Kaltsas said the meeting was not well organized. Johnson agreed it was not a good meeting and people could not hear or see well at all. Johnson said he is not interested in participating in further meetings. Kaltsas said he will let Scott Johnson know that the City is not going to actively participate at this point.

9. ADJOURN.

Motion by Betts, second by Spencer to adjourn at 7:10 p.m. Ayes: Johnson, McCoy, Betts, and Spencer. Nays: None. Absent: Grotting. None. Abstain. None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Trish Gronstal/ Recording Secretary