

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2022 – 6:30 P.M.
City Hall Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Johnson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Johnson, Councilors Spencer, Betts, Grotting and
McCoy (virtual)

ABSENT: None

STAFF: City Administrator Kaltsas, Assistant to
Administrator Horner and WHPS Director Kroells

VISITORS: None

4. ****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 1, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting.
- b. Approval of Accounts Payable (Batch # 1; Checks Numbered 21032-21067).
- c. Approve Agriculture Preserve Application for the Following Property (PID No. 20-118-24-23-0002).
- d. **RESOLUTION 22-0215-01** – Approval of Organic Recycling Grant and Establishment of Organics Drop Off Site at City Hall.
- e. Approval of Pay Application #14 by Rochon Corporation for City Hall Improvements.

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

5. SET AGENDA – ANYONE NOT ON THE AGENDA CAN BE PLACED UNDER OPEN/MISC.
6. REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES BY COUNCIL AND STAFF

McCoy attended the following meetings:

- None

Grotting attended the following meetings:

- LBAE certification

Spencer attended the following meetings:

- LMC Leaders Institute

Betts attended the following meetings:

- LBAE certification
- Experienced Official
- Caucus

Johnson attended the following meetings:

- Experienced Official
- TZD on aging drivers
- NW League
- NLC presentations projects form different cities
- Regional Council of Mayors
- Staged trucking Thefts (virtual)
- Fire District at Long Lake/Orono City Hall
- Caucus

Horner attended the following meetings:

- BKV & Rochon

Kaltsas attended the following meetings:

- Hwy 12 Corridor
- Water Resource – PSCWM watershed TAC

7. West Hennepin Public Safety – Director Gary Kroells: Presentation of the January 2022 Activity Report.

Please see report for the full list of Activity.

Kroells said there were 202 incidences in Independence and 94 in Maple Plain. Kroells stated that on February 8th he was invited to speak at the House Transportation policy committee and hearing about traffic safety and they wanted to highlight Highway 12 as a success story of the 4 E's of education. He stated that there is a direct correlation between police officers writing traffic tickets for speed enforcement and the number of fatalities happening.

Kroells explained the process of arresting people on DUI charges but because of the lack of staff in healthcare and hospitals, it is making it much more difficult to get blood drawn and urine tested to prove that the drivers are under the influence at the time of arrest.

8. Consider Approval of a Lease Agreement with North Memorial Health Care for Use of Stalls in the New West Hennepin Public Safety Garage Space.

Kaltsas explained the lease agreement with North Memorial. They would like to push the date out to August due to some shift changes. The shift in demographics and ambulance, they have decided the lease will be a 5-year agreement. Johnson asked about insurance on plate glass. Kaltsas said it could be the windows. McCoy asked Kaltsas about the internet. Kaltsas said we would be able to utilize our existing internet so it will not cost any additional amount for internet.

Motion by McCoy, second by Spencer to approve the Lease Agreement with North Memorial Health Care. Ayes: Johnson, Spencer, Betts, Grotting and McCoy. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain. None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

9. Follow Up Discussion Regarding Fernwood Hills Park Property Confirmation

Kaltsas said that Bob Vose did review this. The Fernwood Hills Park property was deeded to the City of Independence, but the state could take it back. The land was an "open to the public" and after 30 years there would no longer be a deed restriction on the property. Kaltsas said we will continue using it as we are for the city. This notice was from the State Department of Revenue.

Motion by Johnson, second by Betts to approve the staff to recertify the Fernwood Hills Park Property. Ayes: Johnson, Spencer, Betts, Grotting and McCoy. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain. None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

10. Open/Misc.

11. Adjourn.

Motion by Spencer, second by Betts to adjourn at 7:08pm. Ayes: Johnson, Spencer, Grotting, McCoy and Betts. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain. None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amber Simon / Recording Secretary