

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2020 –6:30 P.M.

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. via zoom video call.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Johnson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: None

STAFF: City Administrator Kaltsas, Assistant to Administrator Horner, City Attorney Vose, Public Works Supervisor Bode

VISITORS: WHPS Chief Kroells

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 May 19, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting.
- b. Approval of Accounts Payable; Checks Numbered 19646-19670.

Johnson said the minutes should read ‘south’ instead of ‘north’ of Pagenkopf. Also, east of Valley Rd.

**Motion by Betts, second by McCoy to approve the Consent Agenda with the noted changes on the May 19<sup>th</sup> minutes. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, McCoy, Spencer and Grotting. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain. None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.**

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

5. REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES BY COUNCIL AND STAFF

**Spencer attended the following meetings:**

- Special City Council Session

**Grotting attended the following meetings:**

- Special City Council Session

**McCoy attended the following meetings:**

- Special City Council Session

- Memorial Day Service

**Betts attended the following meetings:**

- Special City Council Session
- Endorsement Meeting

**Johnson attended the following meetings:**

**(all meetings were via zoom)**

- Endorsement Meeting
- Orono Virtual Scholarships Awards
- Metropolitan Council Meeting
- EENR Conference Call for National League of Cities
- Delano Memorial Day Celebration
- NLC Legislative Call
- Haven Homes Advisory Committee Meeting
- Senior Community Services Meeting

**Horner attended the following meetings:**

- Online Elections Training

**Kaltsas attended the following meetings:**

6. LIQUOR LICENSE REIMBURSEMENT CONSIDERATION.

Kaltsas said the City Council recently discussed the possibility of reimbursing a portion of the City's annual liquor license fees to our local businesses as a way to offset some of the lost sale opportunities associated with the COVID-19 pandemic and the State of Minnesota closing orders. The three (3) liquor licenses issued in the City are as follows:

- Ox Yoke Inn

License for: Off Sale, On Sale and Sunday License

**Total Fee Paid \$5,800**

- Pioneer Creek Golf LLC

License for: On Sale and Sunday License

**Total Fee Paid \$5,700**

- Windsong Farm Golf Club LLC

License for: Off Sale, On Sale and Sunday License

**Total Fee Paid \$5,800**

The City looked at offering a prorated reimbursement amount based on the time that the executive order was in place and restricting the establishments ability to operate. Rather than considering a prorated amount for each business, it is recommended that the City consider a flat rate that would be equal for all three businesses. A \$1,000 refund of fees would be close to the prorated amount and easy to redistribute to the businesses.

Staff is seeking City Council direction relating to the possibility of providing a liquor license refund to our local businesses.

Johnson stated he thought this would be a good idea as these establishments have had a rough time. Betts said it was a great idea and Spencer agreed.

**Motion by Johnson, second by Betts to approve \$1,000 reimbursement to each 3 liquor establishments. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, McCoy, Spencer and Grotting. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain. None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.**

7. PROCLAMATION HONORING HENNEPIN COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES SPECIALIST DAVID THILL.

Johnson stated Thill's proclamation looked good.

**Motion by Betts, second by McCoy to approve the Proclamation honoring Hennepin County Natural Resources Specialist David Thill. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, McCoy, Spencer and Grotting. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain. None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.**

8. MISCELLANEOUS ADMINISTRATION UPDATES

Kaltsas noted through the grant award Horner applied for the City will receive 6 bike racks and 3 hand washing stations.

Kaltsas said at the next meeting the NLC Sewer Line insurance program will be discussed and up for approval.

Kaltsas said the street overlay program is set to being next week and there will be no custom shouldering. Johnson said he had a call from a resident on Brei Kessel who said he had not gotten a return call from the city about the overlay project. Bode stated he has spoken with the resident.

Kaltsas said Lake Independence is at a slow no wake according to the old level. DNR enforcement division now handles this. Medina has said nothing about this.

Kaltsas stated that Staff met with BKV architects again on the remodel and will get a few more ideas out to Council for exterior options.

Kaltsas said upcoming on Planning Commission Meetings will include looking at the zoning ordinance definitions again.

Kaltsas said the City will not be having any AB balloting.

Kaltsas noted that he and Gary attended a bi-weekly Hwy 12/92 realignment meeting. He said there is some movement on their end to take off the driveways as discussed. There is some legality on how they can spend their funds. Shared driveways.

Spencer asked about the Extratyme tower. Kaltsas noted they are working on footing design and have been tweaking the location. He said they should have it done within 24 hours. Kroells noted the civil unrest due to the recent events and said the police are here to protect and defend our community. He said the Lake Minnetonka regions together had 53 officers working, with 25-30 assigned to quick action response. He thanked public works for their cooperation. Kroells said they could not drive downtown over the weekend to take the arrested to jail, so they spent the night in Brooklyn Park's jail. He then talked about a defense attorney in Independence who is representing the officer, so there could be threats on his house and the police will be preparing for that and any other threats to safety. Kroells noted it is 17 major cities is where this rioting is occurring, and they are heavily funded. Grotting asked about security plans in the building renovation. Kroells stated having the gates will be good but glass buildings are always a concern.

9. OPEN/ MISC.

10. ADJOURN.

**Motion by Spencer, second by Grotting to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Grotting, Spencer and McCoy. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain. None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.**

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Respectfully Submitted,  
Trish Gronstal/ Recording Secretary