



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

November 28, 2022

7:00 PM

Fridley Civic Campus, 7071 University Avenue N.E.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lund called the City Council Meeting of November 28, 2022, to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Scott Lund
Councilmember Dave Ostwald
Councilmember Tom Tillberry
Councilmember Stephen Eggert
Councilmember Ann Bolcom
Walter Wysopal, City Manager
Scott Hickok, Community Development Director
Brian Weierke, Public Safety Director
Beth Kondrick, Deputy City Clerk
Joe Starks, Finance Director
Sarah Sonsalla, City Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. Proclamation: Representative Connie Bernardy Appreciation Day – Friday, December 2, 2022

Mayor Lund thanked Representative Bernardy for her years of service and read the proclamation declaring Friday, December 2, 2022, as Representative Connie Bernardy Appreciation Day. Representative Bernardy recognized the leaders in Fridley, volunteers, and City staff. She said she was thankful to have the opportunity to represent the community in which she grew up. She recognized the collaboration that is needed to accomplish great things in the community, and provided examples of things they had accomplished over the years together.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA

The Council requested clarification on the date for a license to expire within Item 10. Staff clarified that the license is for a partial year, expiring on April 30, 2023.

Motion made by Councilmember Eggert to adopt the proposed Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Ostwald.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. Approve the Minutes from the City Council Meeting of November 14, 2022.
3. Receive the Minutes from the City Council Conference Meeting of November 14, 2022.
4. Receive the Minutes from the Board of Canvass Meeting of November 16, 2022.
5. Receive the Minutes from the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of October 3, 2022.
6. Receive the Minutes from the Planning Commission Meeting of November 16, 2022.

NEW BUSINESS

7. Resolution No. 2022-128, Approving Change Order No. 1 (Final) for 2021 Street Rehabilitation Project No. ST2021-01.
8. Resolution No. 2022-129, Approving Gifts, Donations and Sponsorships Received Between October 15, 2022, and November 16, 2022.
9. Resolution No. 2022-133, Approving Special Use Permit, SP #22-000001 by Wild Things Unlimited (Ward 3).

LICENSES

10. Resolution No. 2022-130, Approving City Licenses and Permits.

CLAIMS

11. Resolution No. 2022-131 Approving Claims for the Period Ending November 22, 2022.

ADOPTION OF REGULAR AGENDA

Motion made by Councilmember Ostwald to adopt the regular agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Tillberry.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

OPEN FORUM, VISITORS: Consideration of Items not on Agenda – 15 minutes.

A resident commented on the continued traffic problems on Channel Road. Brian Weierke, Public Safety Director, noted that he has been involved in this issue and will follow up with the resident.

A resident spoke on behalf of the residents on Stinson Boulevard--both those in Fridley and Mounds View. She provided a petition against the proposed bituminous trail, noting that 100 percent of the Mounds View residents and 91 percent of the Fridley residents signed the petition. There were safety concerns noted at the crossings at 73rd and at Osborne Road.

Walter Wysopal, City Manager, noted that is a project proposed by the City of Mounds View but because it is a shared street, Fridley has agreed to be the project manager. He described the steps that would be followed in the process which would include public meetings.

Another resident who lived on Channel Road expressed concerns with safety on the road because of traffic.

Motion made by Councilmember Ostwald to accept the petition and enter it into the record. Seconded by Councilmember Eggert.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC HEARING(S)

12. Public Hearing to Consider On-Sale Liquor License by Kevin Spaeth for Two Stooges Sports Bar and Grill and Resolution No. 2022-132, Approving On-Sale Liquor License for Two Stooges Sports Bar and Grill.

Motion made by Councilmember Bolkcom to open the public hearing. Seconded by Councilmember Ostwald.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND THE PUBLIC HEARING OPENED AT 7:40 P.M.

Beth Kondrick, Deputy City Clerk, presented a request from Two Stooges Bar and Grill for an On-Sale Liquor License. She explained that this is an existing business but new owner, noting that the applicant does not plan to change the name of the business or current business model. She reviewed background analysis, noting that upon completion of a background investigation, there were no findings, outstanding issues, or reasons to deny the license.

Council asked the applicant about his history in operation of liquor and food service, whether there were any anticipated changes for the business, and plans for reputable security. Kevin Spaeth, applicant, provided his history in this industry. He confirmed he was aware of the 60/40 ratio for food and alcohol. He noted that some members of the existing staff team will remain onboard including one of the previous owners who will manage the billiards. He recognized that there are some internal staffing changes that will need to occur. He noted that he will be following the recommendation of the Police Department as to the security team and will continue to keep the Police involved.

Brian Weierke, Public Safety Director, provided details on the types of security recommended by the Public Safety Department. He noted that since the change in security and early closing time, there has been a vast improvement at the business.

Council asked about the hours of operation. Mr. Spaeth replied that they would be open 11 a.m. to midnight, seven days per week.

Motion made by Councilmember Bolkcom to close the public hearing, Seconded by Councilmember Tillberry.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND THE PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 7:50 P.M.

Motion made by Councilmember Bolkcom to adopt Resolution No. 2022-132, Approving On-Sale Liquor License for Two Stooges Sports Bar and Grill. Seconded by Councilmember Tillberry.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

13. Truth in Taxation Public Hearing, Proposed 2023 Budget, and Property Tax Levy.

Motion made by Councilmember Eggert to open the public hearing. Seconded by Councilmember Ostwald.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND THE PUBLIC HEARING OPENED AT 7:53 P.M.

Joe Starks, Finance Director, reviewed the budget goals and objectives, the financial strengths of the City, economic expectations, and general assumptions. He reviewed details on the general fund including revenues, local government aid, and expenditures. He provided details on the special revenue funds, capital project funds, enterprise funds, utility rate comparisons, property tax levy, levy comparisons, and property tax programs available. He reviewed the 2023 budget calendar and welcomed any questions and/or public input.

Council noted that residents recently received their tax statements from Anoka County and recognized the hard work of staff in creating a conservative draft budget in uncertain times.

Motion made by Councilmember Eggert to close the public hearing, Seconded by Councilmember Bolkcom.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND THE PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 8:28 P.M.

No formal action was needed. The Council will consider final adoption of both items at their regular Council meeting on December 12, 2022.

NEW BUSINESS

14. Resolution No. 2022-134, Supporting Anoka County Joint Law Enforcement Council's Renewal of Legislation for Future Public Safety Projects.

Brian Weierke, Public Safety Director, presented a draft resolution supporting the Anoka County Joint Law Enforcement Council's renewal of legislation for future public safety projects. He noted that this resolution would reflect support from the City allowing Anoka County to issue bonds for such projects. He noted that all communities in the county are asked to adopt a similar resolution and it would not commit any city to municipal funding for these projects.

Motion made by Councilmember Ostwald to adopt Resolution No. 2022-134, Supporting Anoka County Joint Law Enforcement Council's Renewal of Legislation for Future Public Safety Projects. Seconded by Councilmember Eggert.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INFORMAL STATUS REPORTS

The Council noted a disco fundraiser will be hosted by North Suburban Art Center on December 10.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Councilmember Ostwald to adjourn. Seconded by Councilmember Eggert.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:34 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Moore
City Clerk

Scott J. Lund
Mayor