



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Richfield, Minnesota

Special Worksession

March 9, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Goettel at 6:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Members

Present:

Debbie Goettel, Mayor; Pat Elliott; Fred Wroge; Sue Sandahl; and Tom Fitzhenry.

Staff Present:

Steven L. Devich, City Manager; Mike Eastling, Public Works Director; Kristin Asher, City Engineer; Robert Hintgen, Utilities Superintendent; and Cheryl Krumholz, Recording Secretary.

Item #1	DEMONSTRATION OF NEW SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND DATA ACQUISITION (SCADA) UTILITY SYSTEM AND DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE CAPITAL INVESTMENTS AT WATER TREATMENT PLANT (COUNCIL MEMO NO. 35)
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Utilities Superintendent Hintgen demonstrated the SCADA utility system.

Utilities Superintendent Hintgen discussed the water plan and distribution improvements project cost estimates.

City Manager Devich explained the potential funding sources.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 6:55 p.m.

Date Approved: _____

Debbie Goettel
Mayor

Cheryl Krumholz
Recording Secretary

Steven L. Devich
City Manager



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Richfield, Minnesota

Regular Meeting

March 9, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Goettel at 7:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Debbie Goettel, Mayor; Sue Sandahl; Pat Elliott; Fred Wroge; and Tom Fitzhenry.

Staff Present: Steven L. Devich, City Manager; Mike Eastling, Public Works Director; Karen Barton, Acting Community Development Director; Kristin Asher, City Engineer; Corrine Heine, City Attorney; and Cheryl Krumholz, Recording Secretary.

OPEN FORUM

Steve McKeown, 7104 Portland Avenue, stated his concerns regarding the poor road condition of Portland Avenue and potential house and utilities damage from the Metro Transit buses.

Public Works Director Eastling stated the City is having discussions with Hennepin County regarding the County doing reconstruction of their roads, i.e. Portland, Nicollet, rather than patching.

PRESENTATION OF COLORS AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Goettel led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/Fitzhenry, S/Sandahl to approve the minutes of (1) Special City Council Worksession of February 23, 2010 and (2) Regular City Council Meeting of February 23, 2010.

Motion carried 5-0.

Item #1	COUNCIL DISCUSSION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HATS OFF TO HOMETOWN HITS
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City Manager Devich discussed the public survey, as requested by the City Council, on the website to gather input on the community’s willingness to pay additional taxes for infrastructure costs for the Dispatch Center in the new City Hall. He added the survey information and link to the website are on the City’s Twitter and Facebook accounts and will be in the Richfield Sun Current.

Council Member Fitzhenry stated he is doing research on possibly Richfield dispatching for other cities.

Council Member Elliott and Mayor Goettel expressed concern regarding potential costs of joining Hennepin County.

Mayor Goettel acknowledged the successful efforts of Council Member Sandahl and staff at a Metropolitan Council meeting to stop the delay of the Richfield-Edina Interceptor Project and to have it move forward as planned.

Mayor Goettel discussed The Biggest Loser television special taped earlier at Richfield High School and is to be aired in the spring.

Council Member Fitzhenry stated complaints regarding the condition of Hennepin County streets in Richfield should be directed to the City Public Works Department so a record can be maintained and forwarded to the county.

Council Member Wroge acknowledged the death of Bob Turner, a Richfield resident active in sports programs.

Council Member Sandahl acknowledged the recent media recognition of Frank White, Programs/Athletics Manager, and the history of black baseball leagues.

Item #2	COUNCIL APPROVAL OF AGENDA
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Mayor Goettel removed Item #3A from the Consent Calendar and moved it to Item #4 for separate consideration.

M/Wroge, S/Fitzhenry to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion carried 5-0.

Item #3	CONSENT CALENDAR
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- A. Item was removed from the Consent Calendar to be considered separately as Item #4.
- B. Consideration of approval of scheduling public hearing on April 13, 2010 regarding issuance of new on-sale wine and 3.2 percent malt liquor licenses for Joy's Pattaya Thai Kitchen, 7545 Lyndale Avenue S.R. No. 38
- C. Consideration of approval of amendment to Metropolitan Council Family Affordable Housing Cooperation Agreement to convert ten Family Affordable Housing Program units located in Richfield to project based Section 8 units S.R. No. 39

M/Goettel, S/Sandahl to approve the Consent Calendar as amended.

Motion carried 5-0.

Item #4	CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS, IF ANY, REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR
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Former Item #3A - Consideration of approval of resolution authorizing Trailway Cooperative Agreement between Three Rivers Park District and City of Richfield for construction, easement rights, maintenance and use of Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail associated with Edina-Richfield Interceptor Improvement Project S.R. No. 37

Council Member Wroge presented Staff Report No. 37.

Council Member Wroge asked about the overall cost of the trail, including cost sharing and winter use.

City Engineer Asher explained the level of winter maintenance is still under discussion.

Kelly Grissman, Planner for Three Rivers Park District, explained the funding from the Park District to reimburse the City for construction costs.

M/Elliott, S/Sandahl that the following resolution be adopted and that it be made part of these minutes:

RESOLUTION NO. 10347

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF RICHFIELD TO ENTER INTO A TRAILWAY COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE THREE RIVERS PARK DISTRICT FOR THE NINE MILE CREEK REGIONAL TRAIL

Motion carried 5-0. This resolution appears as Resolution No. 10347.

Item #5	CONSIDERATION OF SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 210.01 RELATED TO CITY COUNCIL SALARIES S.R. NO. 40
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Council Member Sandahl presented Staff Report No. 40.

Council Member Sandahl suggested the City Council receive a 0% salary adjustment.

M/Sandahl, S/Goettel that this constitutes the second reading of Bill No. 2010-1 amending Section 210.01 related to City Council salaries, that it be published in the official newspaper and that it be made part of these minutes.

Motion carried 5-0.

<p>Item #6</p>	<p>CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION CALLING FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON APRIL 27, 2010 TO CONSIDER MODIFICATION TO REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR RICHFIELD REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA AND PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF 2010-1 HOUSING TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT RELATING TO DEVELOPMENT OF 90-UNIT MARKET RATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT WITH AFFORDABLE COMPONENT AT 6401 LYNDAL AVENUE (WOODLAKE PLAZA) S.R. NO. 41</p>
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Council Member Wroge presented Staff Report No. 41.

Council Member Wroge questioned the proposed services and uses, appraisal of the site, concerns related to how current tenants are treated, retail impacts in that area, and the lack of blight.

Terry McNellis, Michael Development, explained the financial risks and responsibilities of the owner and that the lender-ordered appraisal had not yet been received.

Council Member Wroge stated he liked the plans but not the providing of public financial assistance.

Mayor Goettel expressed concern of using too much tax increment financing (TIF), especially with the current budget issues facing the City. She added that residents have voiced concerns with higher density, increased public safety issues, and a less-intrusive project. She also had been contacted by current and former tenants.

Council Member Elliott stated the HRA presentation the previous evening had addressed the concerns raised tonight. The building is attractive and tailored to lessen neighborhood impacts. He expressed concerns voiced to him about the broker used by the owner to try to fill vacancies.

Council Member Elliott said he was not fond of TIF but he did like the higher-scale, new development which the City had not experienced in several years.

Council Member Sandahl agreed with Council Member Elliott and expressed support for the proposed development as new upper scale , yet affordable, rental housing and alternative for the community.

Council Member Fitzhenry also expressed support that this development may encourage other development in the area.

Mayor Goettel clarified that several developers have shown interest in the Lyndale Garden Center but that property has a difficult owner. She added other commercial sites in the City have recently been purchased without TIF assistance.

Council Member Wroge suggested more financial negotiating be done.

Mr. McNellis stated they have done other projects like this and the financial risk is on their end.

M/Wroge, S/Goettel that the following resolution be adopted and that it be made part of these minutes:

RESOLUTION NO. 10348

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON THE PROPOSED ADOPTION OF A MODIFICATION TO THE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR RICHFIELD REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA; AND THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE 2010-1 HOUSING TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT, AND THE ADOPTION OF A TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN THEREFORE

Motion carried 5-0. This resolution appears as Resolution No. 10348.

Item #7	CONSIDERATION OF SELECTION OF RAILING TYPE FOR INSTALLATION ON PORTLAND AVENUE BRIDGE OVER TRUNK HIGHWAY 62 AS PART OF MN/DOT 2010 REHABILITATION PROJECT S.R. NO. 42
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Council Member Fitzhenry presented Staff Report No. 42.

Council Member Fitzhenry clarified Mn/DOT will pay the cost difference if an upgrade is selected.

The City Council selected the Lyndale Avenue over I-494 bridge railing.

M/Fitzhenry, S/Sandahl to approve selection of railing type for installation on Portland Avenue bridge over trunk Highway 62 as part of Mn/DOT 2010 rehabilitation project.

Motion carried 5-0.

Item #8	CONSIDERATION OF PURCHASE OF INJECTION EQUIPMENT AND CHEMICALS FROM JRK SEED TO INITIATE TREE INJECTION PROGRAM TO PREVENT SPREAD OF OAK TREE DISEASE (TWO LINED CHESTNUT BORER) IN AUGSBURG PARK FOR APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF \$21,000 S.R. NO. 43
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Mayor Goettel presented Staff Report No. 43.

Public Works Director Eastling made a presentation, "Combating Tree Disease."

Chris Link, Street Maintenance Supervisor, discussed the guidelines for diagnosing private and public trees.

Public Works Director Eastling explained the inoculation/removal timeline.

M/Goettel, S/Sandahl to approve purchase of injection equipment and chemicals from JRK Seed to initiate tree injection program to prevent spread of oak tree disease (Two Lined Chestnut Borer) in Augsburg Park for approximate amount of \$21,000.

Motion carried 5-0.

Item #9	CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION ADOPTING EMERALD ASH BORER REMOVAL/TREATMENT POLICY S.R. NO. 44
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Council Member Elliott presented Staff Report No. 44.

Public Works Director Eastling explained the inoculation of private trees is not offered by the City but a list of professional service providers is given. Financial assistance similar to Dutch Elm Disease is an option.

Public Works Director Eastling discussed the role of the Community Services Commission in establishing criteria for the inoculation process. The recommended criteria would be presented to the City Council for their consideration.

M/Elliott, S/Goettel that the following resolution be adopted and that it be made part of these minutes:

RESOLUTION NO. 10349

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF RICHFIELD TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING POLICY FOR THE REMOVAL AND TREATMENT OF ASH TREES INFECTED WITH EMERALD ASH BORER

Motion carried 5-0. This resolution appears as Resolution No. 10349.

Item #10	CITY MANAGER'S REPORT
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City Manager Devich discussed the Metropolitan Council meeting regarding the Richfield-Edina Interceptor Project.

Item #11	CLAIMS AND PAYROLL
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M/Wroge, S/Sandahl that the following claims and payrolls be approved:

U.S. BANK 03-09-10

A/P Checks: 192791 – 193018

\$ 1,613,189.85

PAYROLL 64810 – 65125

\$ 525,249.37

TOTAL

\$ 2,138,439.12

Motion carried 5-0.

OPEN FORUM

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The City Council meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:40 p.m.

Date Approved: _____

Debbie Goettel
Mayor

Cheryl Krumholz
Recording Secretary

Steven L. Devich
City Manager