

**City of Columbus
Regular City Council Meeting
April 8, 2015**

The April 8, 2015 meeting of the City of Columbus City Council was called to order at 6:59 p.m. by Mayor Dave Povolny at the City Hall. Present were Council Members Denny Peterson, Jeff Duraine, Bill Krebs & Mark Daly; City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko; Attorney Bill Griffith, Jr., Engineer Larry Bohrer, Public Works Supervisor Jim Windingstad and Public Information Coordinator Bronwyn Pope.

Also in attendance were: Jody Krebs, Lloyd Rehvein, Mike Meyer, Julie Eddington, Nick Waldoch, Sherri Nase, Roger Nase, Jeff Joyner, Jon Peterson, Frank Wagaman, John Waldoch, Steve Wagaman, Chad Maassen, Brian Dumke, Ron Barnes, Jesse Preiner, Mary Preiner, Pat Preiner and Terri Hodges (Forest Lake Cable Commission).

A. CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

1. Call To Order - Regular Meeting – 6:59 P.M.
2. Pledge of Allegiance

B. CONSENT AGENDA

3. Motion – Approval of the City Council Meeting Minutes 03/18/15
4. Motion – Agenda Approval with Additions
5. Motion – Pay Bills as Posted

Motion by Krebs to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Peterson.
Motion approved unanimously.

C. PRESENTATIONS

6. Open & Award Bid – 1987 Morbark Chipper

Mayor Povolny opened the 1987 Morbark Chipper bids. The highest bidder was Bill Masbeng with a bid of \$5,100.00.

Motion by Peterson to accept all of the bids. Seconded by Daly. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion by Duraine to award the 1987 Morbark chipper to highest bidder, Bill Masbeng in the amount of \$5,100.00. Seconded by Peterson. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion by Duraine to go to the second bidder if the first bidder declines. Seconded by Peterson. Motion approved unanimously.

7. PRESENTATION: CONDUIT BONDING (JULIE EDDINGTON)

Julie Eddington presented the Council with the opportunity for the city to consider issuing Conduit Bonds for a 501c3 nonprofit business in the City of Richfield for \$21 million. The City of Richfield is not able to issue bonds this year because they have their own bonds in

2015. If Columbus issued these bonds, the city would not be able to issue any other bank-qualified bonds this calendar year. The city would collect a \$50,000.00 fee for issuing these bonds. The bonds would not affect the cities' bond rating and the city would not be liable for any of the debt. A number of metro cities issue conduit debt to collect the administrative fee. Council discussed the issue and determined they would be interested in granting the bonds if the revenue could be directed to offset the city's land debt.

Motion by Peterson to participate in conduit financing as requested by the project in the city of Richfield with an earmark of \$50,000 to go toward debt service. Seconded by Duraine. Motion approved unanimously.

8. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Jody Krebs updated the council regarding the Planning Commission's April 1, 2015 meeting.

- Jody Krebs presented the council with a motion for an Interim Use Permit (IUP) for 9218 Lake Drive for ice salt bunkers which have already been installed. The Planning Commission recommended acceptance of the IUP.

Motion PLZ 01200 by Peterson to approve the application for 9218 Lake Dr Interim Use Permit PC 15-102 for building a bulk storage bunker, based on the findings of fact and recommendations from the Planner's memo dated March 24, 2015, with an addition to Finding #9, and a correction to Recommendation #9, as noted below. Second by Krebs. Motion approved unanimously. Motion carried

Findings of Fact

- 1) Peterson Companies, Inc. ("Peterson") submitted an IUP application on January 14, 2015 to construct and operate salt/sand storage buildings at 9218 Lake Drive ("Property"). The application was found incomplete.
- 2) An updated IUP application, received by the City on February 13, 2015, was found complete.
- 3) The 60-day review period ends on April 14, 2015. The 120-day review period, if necessary, ends on June 13, 2015.
- 4) Peterson erected temporary structures on the Property for salt and sand storage for its snow plowing business.
- 5) On December 10, 2014 the City Council authorized issuance of a building permit for the erected structures, subject to application for an IUP.
- 6) Peterson constructed two contiguous concrete walled, wood and metal framed structures, which are approximately 80 feet long and a combined width of approximately 45 feet.
- 7) The roofs are approximately 24 feet in height and are covered with 'greenhouse plastic.'
- 8) Peterson has requested a one-year permit.
- 9) The Property will be used only by Peterson employees for access to salt/sand storage for use in its snow removal business; **excepting third party vendors delivering salt and/or sand.**
- 10) Truck traffic during an average snow event (less than 10 inches) is estimated at approximately eight trucks per day.

- 11) Peak truck usage for major snow events (greater than 10 inches) is estimated at approximately ten trucks per day.
- 12) A front end loader and skid steer loader will be left on the Property during the snow season.
- 13) Except for year round site maintenance, delivery of salt and sand in the snow season, and the loading of dump trucks with salt/sand mix during snow events, no other use of the Property is proposed.
- 14) Access to the Property is provided via the existing gated access on Lake Drive.
- 15) There will be no fuels stored or dispensed on the Property and no hazardous materials will be used or stored on the Property.
- 16) The Planning Commission held a public hearing on April 1, 2015 to consider the proposed Peterson IUP.

Conditions

Based upon the above findings of fact, the City Council approves the Peterson Salt/Sand Storage Buildings IUP, with the following conditions.

- 1) Approval of the IUP is conditioned upon issuance of a building permit for the salt/sand storage buildings and subsequent occupancy permit.
- 2) Access to the Property is subject to jurisdiction by Anoka County.
- 3) Use of the Property is limited to year round site and building maintenance, year round communication tower access and maintenance, seasonal vendor unloading of bulk salt and sand, storage and blending of salt and sand, and seasonal load out of salt/sand during snow events.
- 4) Use of the Property for salt/sand blending, storage and load out during the snow season is limited to Peterson employees and vehicles.
- 5) Equipment storage on the Property shall be limited to a front end loader and skid steer loader during the snow season and during deliveries and processing of salt and sand.
- 6) There shall be no fuels or hazardous materials stored on the Property.
- 7) The term of the IUP shall be valid from the date of City Council approval until May 31, 2016.
- 8) The salt/sand storage buildings shall be removed from the Property and the Property shall be restored to a pre-salt/sand storage buildings condition within 30 days of the expiration of the IUP.
- 9) Peterson shall ~~be~~ reimburse the City for its out of pocket expenses incurred in the review and approval of the IUP, including any subsequent inspection and enforcement actions.

- **Information – Solar Energy Presentation (Enclosure)**

The Planning Commission recently received an informational solar energy presentation and provided the informational materials to the Council.

- **Direction – Waldoch Farms Rezone Non-Binding Rezone Request**

The Planning Commission supports the Waldoch Farms plan to apply to extend the Commercial Zoning district to the back of Waldoch Farm and brings forth to the council for consideration. John Waldoch, Nick Waldoch and Jeff Joyner came forth for questions from

the council. The space between the existing commercial district and potential residential lots includes wetland. A buffer along Zodiac would be created by putting residential lots on the west side of that parcel. Commercial access would continue to be off of Lake Drive for all commercial lots. The 3-4 potential residential lots would be accessed off Zodiac St. NE. The Waldochs explained they would meet with neighbors regarding a project if it were to move forward. The Council said they would support the Waldochs submitting a rezoning application plan which included buffers for residential neighbors. The Waldochs will pursue the application for this project.

- **Private roads –**

The Council asked the Planning Commission to look at private roads. The Planning Commission discussed and came to the consensus that private roads were probably not in the best interest in residential areas. The Planning Commission does not support additional private roads in residential areas at this time.

- **Lighting ordinance –**

The Council asked the Planning Commission to look at the lighting ordinance. The Planning Commission looked at examples of good and bad lighting, and lighting regulations. The Planning Commission will continue to look at this issue and bring a recommendation of code amendments to the Council.

- **Drive MSP vision plan –**

At the April 15 joint meeting with the City Council and Met Council it is the consensus of the Planning Commission to bring forward a strong message to discuss possible density changes in the new comp plan which has to be put together by 2018. Two Met Council representatives will be at the meeting.

9. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

Columbus resident Roger Nase spoke regarding the earlier Waldoch Farm rezoning discussion. Nase's property includes 990 feet on the north side of the 30 acre Waldoch parcel that could potentially be rezoned to commercial. Nase asked the Council to be sure to include a buffer requirement along the north side of the 30 acre parcel similar to that being discussed for the west side of the southern parcel. Griffith explained that any proposal from Waldoch Farm could include buffer conditions from the city. Povolny assured Nase the Council will look at buffering as part of the conditions of that proposal. Current city code includes a 35 foot set-back and requirement of screening between commercial/industrial districts and residences.

D. STAFF & CONSULTANT REPORTS

10. ENGINEER REPORT

- **Update – 2015 Sealcoat and Crack Seal for Project**

Allied Blacktop Company will begin crack sealing the week of April 20 and it will take about 3-4 days to complete. The complete crack sealing schedule will be added to the city website and listed in the Forest Lake Times. Sealcoating will take place later during warmer weather, likely the third or fourth week of May and will take about four days to complete. Bohrer asked the council to their preference for timing regarding the 2015 overlay project on Notre Dame because the project should not be done at the same time as the Broadway/Kettle River roundabout. Anoka County has not yet decided on a date for the round-about project, but may begin in the latter half of the summer. Bohrer explained the project map detailing which road parcels will receive sealcoating

and crack seal, and the portion of Notre Dame which will be over-layed. A bid for the project will include the option to change out mailboxes. Council gave approval to start the Notre Dame project.

- **Update – Metropolitan Council Water Planning**

The city has received a draft of the draft metropolitan area Water Supply Plan which the city will have the opportunity to comment on. This is the document that every cities' portion of the comprehensive plan will have to comply with. Conservation is going to be an important aspect, which is generally more focused on residential areas. Columbus water supply along the freeway district is primarily light industrial. Columbus has a local representative, Jamie Shurbon on the advisory committee.

- **Update – White Bear Lake Lawsuit Settlement Legislation Update**

The DNR recently presented a update on legislation regarding water and the settlement regarding the White Bear Lake lawsuit. The DNR presentation was hosted by the League of Minnesota Cities. There is a draft bill in the senate that relates to one of the first steps in the settlement (Senate File No. 1910. Appropriation; Water Supply Sustainability Study) put forward by Senator Chuck Wiger whose district includes the city of White Bear Lake. The bill is looking for a \$1.5 million appropriation for a more detailed feasibility study for providing surface water to the six communities in and around the lake of White Bear Lake which does not include Columbus. The DNR is providing this draft to all 13 communities from the US geological survey initial report, including Columbus, to see if there is a strong negative reaction to the \$1.5 million appropriation to continue the feasibility study. The Council previously passed a resolution not supporting the study. Columbus has not been asked to respond officially, but the DNR wants to know if there is a strong reaction to the bill. The council discussed the draft bill, with a final decision to send a letter signed opposing the draft bill.

Motion by Krebs to authorize a letter from the council, signed by the mayor, reflecting the council's opposition to the proposed Senate File No. 1910. Seconded by Duraine. Motion approved unanimously.

- **Information – FEMA Letter**

10 months ago the city sent a letter to FEMA asking for flood plain identification and making amendments to the flood plain map in order to help property owners identify flood plains. FEMA responded that it cannot put the parcel lines on the flood plain map, but would include the amendments in the comments portion of the revised map. Columbus will work to overlay the new flood plain map with a parcel map.

- **Update LRIP grant**

Dennis Postler reported on the LRIP MnDot grant application. The LRIP grant application for Hornsby Street was not awarded. Only one project was funded besides the earmarked projects. About a ½ dozen projects were funded in each MnDOT district. \$36 million in the metro was earmarked projects. The City can apply again in the future or consider making the Hornsby Street project part of the overall interchange project.

11. ATTORNEY REPORT

Four of the non-central metro counties have hired a federal lobbyist to challenge the met councils transportation funding. Anoka County is one of the participating counties. Transportation funding is a priority in the legislature this year.

12. MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT

Council Member Peterson

Nothing to report.

Council Member Daly

Nothing to report.

Council Member Duraine

The Fire Board is looking at hiring a new fire chief. There were four finalists who did not work out so the Fire Board is looking to hire a long-term interim while they restart the process.

Council Member Krebs

Council Member Krebs asked if Forest Lake Contracting is required to come back to the council with an update regarding their road usage. Mursko will let the council know if that is a condition. Krebs also asked for discussion regarding the council's focus for the April 15 Met Council meeting. Potential topics included density issues, the comprehensive plan due in 2018, the water issue and their role in future water planning, as well as overall goals which are included in the Thrive 2040 Plan.

Mayor Dave Povolny

Nothing to report.

13. Public Works Report

The DNR will close Camp 3 Road this year, possibly by July which leaves Columbus 105 feet of road frontage to maintain. Windingstad proposed potentially turning that 105 feet of road into a minimum maintenance road. This road is from Zodiak to Yule Yosts driveway and would continue to be maintained by Columbus.

Motion by Peterson to bring back a resolution to have a rational to change this road to minimum maintenance. Second by Bill Krebs. Motion approved unanimously.

Public Works presented proposal to upgrade to a high flow brush mower for the skid steer. Windingstad will present a proposal to the Public Works Committee, but wanted to get direction from the Council first. There is money in the equipment fund for a brush mower which would be used to clear the freeway land and ongoing to mow ditches throughout the year. Public Works will demo a high flow brush mower, and, at Council's recommendation, look at other comparable models. A final

proposal will be brought back to the Public Works Committee and then on to the Council.

14. Public Information Coordinator Report

The council considered a draft survey which will go to Columbus residents whose property is along the proposed Anoka County Regional Trail. An updated survey will be sent to all residents along both sides of the proposed trail. The survey will include a return envelope without postage, as well as options to fax, email or drop off the survey. There will also be room for residents to write in additional comments or questions.

14. City Administrator's Report

- Questions: Neighborhood N-NW area of the freeway district. They will be under mandatory sanitary sewer connection in 2016. This neighborhood would like to do the same thing as the SW district, which is that the existing owners pay the connection fee, then if they sell their home they will hook up to sanitary sewer system. The council agreed the policy should be applied the same throughout the freeway district

Motion by Duraine to extend the existing home sanitary sewer mandatory connection policy throughout the freeway district. Seconded by Daly. Motion approved unanimously.

- Question: NW Quad Land Sale is the council interest in them purchasing an easement for a billboard sign. Council does not want to sell an easement. Mursko also asked for, and was granted, approval to continue platting the quad land parcels.
- Questions: Dirt Bike Complain

The city received a complaint regarding dirt bike noise off Broadway. This is the only complaint received at this time. City staff will ask if Anoka County has a noise meter that could be used to test noise levels. Once noise levels are captured, the information will be brought back to the council.

- Review – ColumBiz Event

Mursko reviewed the table captain plan for the Council's role in the April 9, 2015 ColumBiz event. ColumBiz is an invitation-only event for Columbus area business leaders.

Treasurer's Report

Mursko asked the council for a vote to use DAVCO Computer Services on an as-need basis. The owner of the company is Mayor Dave Povolny who recused himself from the discussion and vote. The city will continue to use multiple sources for IT consultation. DAVCO would match the state bid contract price. Mursko asked several other cities who they use for comparison and what they spend. Lino Lakes spends \$20,000 annually on IT services, in comparison to Columbus which spends about \$2,500.

Motion by Peterson to allow the staff to use DAVCO on an as-needed basis to match the state bid amount. Seconded by Daly. Motion approved unanimously.

Receipts: \$ 17,832.67
Disburse: \$ 101,528.01
Balance: \$ 1,900,795.98

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

- **Joint Planning Commission and City Council Meeting 4/15/15**
- **Calendar of Meetings (Page 41)**

F. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Krebs to adjourn. Second by Duraine.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Bronwyn Pope
Public Information Coordinator