

City of Columbus
Regular City Council Meeting
May 25, 2016

The May 25, 2016 meeting of the City of Columbus City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Dave Povolny at City Hall. Present were Povolny, Council Members Denny Peterson, Mark Daly, Jeff Duraine and Bill Krebs; City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko; Attorney Bill Griffith; Engineer Dennis Postler; and Public Information Coordinator Bronwyn Pope.

Absent: None.

Also in attendance were: Brian Fuerst (Anoka County Sheriff's Office), Jim Watson (Planning Commission), Kris King, Paul Peskar, Dan Graff, Todd Olson, Pam Olson, Jim Hoffman, Pat Preiner, Jody Krebs, and Terri Hodges (Forest Lake Cable Commission).

CONSENT AGENDA

- Motion - Approval of the City Council Meeting Minutes 05/11/16
- Motion – Agenda Approval with Additions
- Motion - Pay Bills as Posted

Motion by Krebs to approve the consent agenda. Motion seconded by Daly. Votes as follows: Peterson – aye; Daly – aye; Duraine – aye; Krebs – aye; Povolny – aye. Motion carries.

Anoka County Sheriff's Office Report – Bryan Fuerst

The Anoka County Sheriff's Office has some personnel changes including early retirements which were offered to some senior officers, and a shortage of CSOs due to many of the previous group being hired as officers. Current Commander Kevin Helwig will be appointed as Chief Deputy in July. They are working to hire more CSOs, Columbus currently has a backlog of issues that are waiting to be addressed once there are regularly scheduled CSOs available again. Fuerst provided some raw police data which he pulled from the new system. Since Jan. 2016 the system listed 390 calls but some may have been double counted so it was likely more like 300 incidents. Of these a fair amount were accidents, including 10 deer vs. car and one hit and run on Camp Three Road with no injuries. There was also a house fire with no injuries. Povolny asked about theft reports, particularly on Lake Drive, but those incidents appear to be down. Council asked if they were keeping track of the Level 3 sec offender and Fuerst reported they have had no complaints.

PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

Watson thanked the Council for participating in a joint meeting with the Planning Commission to review projects and asked if the Council had any additional input. Council recommended the Planning Commission continue to look at the chicken zoning, including proper housing requirements. Watson mentioned two upcoming Anoka County Veterans Memorial Day service events.

PUBLIC OPEN FORUM - No one for public open forum.

Olson Subdivision Access

Pamela Olson, 6550 145th Ave., has a twenty acre property. She is looking to sell the back 10 acres to her brother Todd and has applied for a subdivision. The application has been deemed incomplete for some time because it needs wetland mitigation. There are large wetlands on the property and some will have to be filled to put in a driveway for the second home. The City has an ordinance that allows two houses of an unimproved roadway, but there is now a disagreement regarding who owns the existing driveway access. The Olsons feel they have proper documentation for access off the roadway, the other property owner, Jim Hoffman, 6554 145th stated that the Olsons do not have access. The question is whether or not the driveway easement which runs along Hoffman's property to the Olson's is a public or private easement. Both parties supplied documentation supporting their assertion. Council consensus was to approve City Attorney looking further into the issue to determine the current status of the driveway easement.

13957 Lake Drive CUP

Dan Graff, president of Graffco, 13957 Lake Drive, came before the Council to discuss amendments to his CUP. Graff currently rents space on the property to All Phase Contracting and 11th Hour Recovery. All Phase Construction is not currently operating within the conditions of the property's CUP as it relates to screening and outside storage. All Phase will continue with the application to amend the CUP to meet their business needs and determine what changes they need to make to come into compliance. 11th Hour Recovery is a towing, repossession and emergency roadside service company. They are using outside storage at the location as well as a storage building on site. They are currently storing approximately 55 vehicles outside and 10 inside the accessory building. The issues discussed included use of the unimproved accessory building as an office, which is not allowed under City code, and outside storage as a primary use of a business, which is also not currently allowed. At the May 11, 2016 City Council meeting the Council voted not to change City zoning to include businesses like impound lots. Council direction was for City staff to look into the current zoning restrictions and see what options they might have. Council did not express interest in adding outside storage as a primary use.

Northeast Metro Water Summit Meeting

The next Northeast Metro Water Summit Meeting will be June 23 at 6:30 p.m. at Hugo City Hall.

ENGINEER REPORT

MNDNR North & East Metro GWMA

Postler represents the City on the MNDNR North & East Metro GWMA Advisory Team and attends the twice yearly meetings. The most recent meeting was on Friday, May 13, and the next meeting will be Nov. 18, 2016. Postler had previously reported on the DNR's proposed legislative funding request of \$3.48M for more detailed study of augmenting White Bear Lake

with water from Vadnais Lake. The proposed bill failed so the funding request is now back to the original amount of \$1.78M.

MNDNR Water Supply & Conservation Mtg. Update

Postler attended the May 17, 2016 MNDNR Water Supply Planning & Conservation Meeting, part of the White Bear Lake (WBL) Area Water Supply Planning Group which includes 13 cities in the WBL lawsuit settlement. So far in 2016 White Bear Lake water levels have qualified as normal.

Anoka County Park Trail & Roundabout Update

Anoka County asked the Council for feedback regarding preferences for a trail and roundabout options for the CSAH 23/CSAH 54 realignment project. Trail options included a trail on one or both sides and the road, and 8 or 10 feet wide. Council consensus was to have an 8 foot trail along one side of the entire length of the project. Council asked that Anoka County chose the side of the road which would be the least expensive to add a trail. The City may be able to apply for a Regional Park Trail grant to offset the City's portion of the trail costs. There are a variety of roundabout options for this project. Council consensus was to focus on options that would most benefit access to the existing Holiday gas station and ensure the other parcels in surrounding the project have available access for future development. Council would like the project to include a two-land roundabout at CSAH 23/Realigned CSAH 54, and a single-lane roundabout 1/8 mile south on realigned CSAH 54. City staff will continue to encourage Anoka County to consider these options.

Motion PWE01200 by Povolny to recommend that the CSAH 23/CSAH 54 realignment design include an 8th foot trail on the least expensive side of the road for the entire length of the project, and start the process to designate this a Regional Trail. Motion seconded by Krebs. Votes as follows: Peterson – aye; Daly – aye; Duraine – aye; Krebs – aye; Povolny – aye. Motion carries.

Motion PWE01200 by Krebs to recommend for the CSAH 23/CSAH 54 realignment designs Anoka County include a roundabout at the intersection of CSAH 23 and realigned CSAH 54, and a single-lane roundabout 1/8 mile south on realigned CSAH 54 to provide full access to Holiday and other undeveloped parcels. Motion seconded by Peterson. Votes as follows: Peterson – aye; Daly – aye; Duraine – aye; Krebs – aye; Povolny – aye. Motion carries.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Excavation & Mining Ordinance 16-07 and Resolution 16-08

Council reviewed an interim **Ordinance 16-07** establishing a moratorium on the establishment of excavation, mining and filling uses within the City of Columbus while the City conducts a study **Resolution 16-08** on the existing zoning controls and potential amendments to mitigate potential impacts and effects of excavation, mining, and filling uses on the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens and the community. During the moratorium a waiver could be applied for in certain circumstances.

Motion ADM 05000 by Peterson to approve **Ordinance 16-07** to establish a moratorium on the establishment of excavation, mining and filling uses within the City of Columbus. Motion seconded by Krebs. Votes as follows: Peterson – aye; Daly – aye; Duraine – aye; Krebs – aye; Povolny – aye. Motion carries.

Motion ADM 05000 by Krebs to accept **Resolution 16-08** to order the City Planning Commission and staff to conduct a study of the City’s existing zoning controls and potential amendments to mitigate potential impacts and effects of excavation, mining, and filling uses on the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens and the community. Motion seconded by Duraine. Votes as follows: Peterson – aye; Daly – aye; Duraine – aye; Krebs – aye; Povolny – aye. Motion carries.

Legislative Update

The current Legislative session ended without passage of the Bonding Bill which included funding for the CSAH 23/TH 97 bridge project at I35. The Governor is considering terms for a special session. If there is a special session it is likely that this funding would stay in the bill, otherwise it would be in a conference committee bill next session otherwise. Council encouraged residents to contact the Governor’s office to ask for a special session to consider the bonding bill.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Forest Lake Cable Commission Meeting June 9, 2016

Mursko provided the Council with a handout of Forest Lake Cable Commission materials to review in preparation for the June 9, 2016 meeting at 7 p.m. in Forest Lake City Hall to consider the future of the Cable Commission. Scandia has said they are likely pulling out, and if two of the three cities pull out the group would automatically disband. If disbanded City would still collect franchise fees but not the cable access fees, both of which are paid by residents who subscribe to cable services.

Public Works Advisory Update

The Public Works Advisory Committee met May 19. Peterson reported that Columbus and the City of Wyoming are no longer sharing equipment. This means that the City will need to purchase some equipment, including a hot box to fill potholes and a wobble wheel roller. The group also talked about providing blacktop in some larger sections of the City, where a group of roads would be done all at the same time to lower costs. The committee suggests the City pursue these larger projects but continue with the current process for property owner input. Mursko pointed out that when road improvement costs have been high they are usually not approved, but when the City can get the costs down lower it is more likely property owners will sign on. Council consensus was to go ahead and look at these kind of larger cost effective projects.

The City website currently says 75% of property owners along a potential road improvement project have to be interested in meeting for the project to go forward. But once they meet, only a majority need to agree for the project to be approved. Peterson suggested that both parts of the process should simply require a majority. Council also discussed how calculate the share of

costs and consensus was to use buildable lots. Staff will bring these documents back to Council to be officially amended.

Personnel Committee Report

The City has currently only received seven applications for the open Public Information Coordinator Position. Staff interviewed one candidate which they would like to pass along to the Personnel Committee. Murkso asked for Council approval to make an offer to this candidate if the Personnel Committee agrees.

Motion HRS 03300 by Peterson to give the Personnel Committee the authority to approve a Public Information Coordinator candidate if they so choose, or to throw out the pool if they do not find any candidates to be qualified. Motion seconded by Duraine. Votes as follows: Peterson – aye; Daly – aye; Duraine – aye; Krebs – aye; Povolny – aye. Motion carries.

Council Member Daly – Provided an update from the Fall Fest committee meeting. There are no big changes although there might be a beer garden this year. The Anoka County Sheriff’s Office will not bring their search and rescue drone. They may bring the SWAT Team for a demonstration and may bring a canine. Council asked if the group has looked into having music but the group is not planning on it for this year. Also looking for more volunteers for the Fall Fest committee. The next meeting is in one month.

Council Member Duraine – No report.

Council Member Krebs – Provided an update on a meeting earlier this week with the owner of a problem property. They now have 30 days to stop running a business from the property and remove the excess vehicles. Krebs also provided updates about media coverage received by the Running Aces Trout Pond.

Council Member Peterson – No report.

Mayor – No report.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT - No report.

PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR REPORT – No report.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

TREASURER REPORT

Receipts: \$1,202.04

Disburse: \$126,366.74

Balance: \$1,855,847.89

Jennings St. Internet Meeting

Residents in the area of Jennings St. have been invited to a neighborhood meeting on June 15 at 6 p.m. at City Hall, prior to the Planning Commission meeting, to here options from Midco for providing internet services to their properties.

Perry Wagamon Letter

Council consensus was to add the letter to the existing file.

Hotel Study Update

The City has received the preliminary report of the hotel study. The City staff reviewed the report, found no issues and approved creation of the final report. The preliminary report was provided to Running Aces which has requested an addendum to the study. Griffith explained Council could recommend Running Aces engage their own study, or the City can request the addendum which Running Aces would then pay for. The final report will be public when accepted by the City Council.

9:39 p.m. Povolny closed the meeting.

9:56 p.m. Povolny reopened the City Council meeting.

Land Development

Peterson recently asked Mursko to look into Black Bear diner as a potential restaurant for Columbus. Mursko talked with the franchise group and a potentially interested local owner, but Black Bear will only consider franchisees with extensive restaurant experience.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

Planning Commission Meeting 06/01/16.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Daly to adjourn. Seconded by Peterson. Meeting adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Bronwyn Pope, Public Information Coordinator