

**City of Columbus
Regular City Council Meeting
06.13.18**

The 06.13.18 meeting of the City of Columbus City Council was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Mayor Dave Povolny at the City Hall. Present were Council Members Bill Krebs, Jeff Duraine, Mark Daly, and Denny Peterson; City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko, City Attorney Bill Griffith, City Engineer Dennis Postler, and Public Communications Coordinator Jessica Hughes.

Also in attendance were: Laurie King, Dennis Wiler, Joe & Deb Pribyl, Dina Denne, Tom Look, Kris King, Paul Peskar, and Julia Parent (Forest Lake Times).

A. CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

- 1. Call to Order - Regular Meeting – 7:01 P.M.**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**

B. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Motion – Approval of the 04.25.18 City Council Meeting Minutes**
- 2. Motion – Agenda Approval with Additions**
- 3. Motion – Pay Bills as Posted**
- 4. Motion – Anoka County Election Equipment Lease Agreement**

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda by Krebs. Seconded by Daly. Motion carried unanimously

C. PRESENTATIONS

5. Presentation 2017 Audit

David Mol from Redpath and Company presented the 2017 Audit Report to the Council. He discussed three (3) reports that were produced.

The first report is a financial statement showing the work auditors did, how they did it, and what the result was. The City received a clean opinion for 2017. Mol noted that in 2017 building permits and developer reimbursable fees increased the City's revenue and expenditures. Mursko added that land rental with Shafer Contracting also helped increase revenue. Mol finished by saying the City saw an end of year increase in fund balance of \$140,000.

The second report was on internal controls, detailing where there may be risk for the City. Mol reported that the only concern is a lack of segregation of duties.

The final report was on legal compliance. Mol said the City has complied fully, and did not have any findings for 2017 in this report.

The last topic which did not fit into the three (3) above reports was communication with those charged with government. Redpath and Company reported no difficulties or disagreements with management. They did want to remind the City that the bond issued debt service fund is 50-55% special deferred assessments from Green Acres and Senior Hardship Deferrals.

Motion by Duraine to accept the 2017 Audit Report from Redpath and Company. Seconded by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Planning Commission Report

The Planning Commission report was presented by Jim Watson.

5341 190th Lane NE – Variance Request

Watson reported on a variance request for 5341 190th Lane NE, just west of Lexington Avenue on Coon Lake. The resident, Mr. Tom Look, is requesting a variance that would allow him to build a deck within 13.5 feet of the Ordinary High Water Line (OHWL). The standard setback rule from the OHWL is a minimum of 75 feet. Look received a variance last year for building his home within 45 feet of the OHWL as well. Watson added that Jason Spiegel from the DNR and Becky Wozney from the Anoka Conservation District went on site, inspected the property, and are not offering comments on the variance at this time. The Planning Commission unanimously recommended the variance to the Council for approval.

Motion by Peterson to approve the variance request for 5341 190th Lane, to place a new deck 13.5 feet from the OHWL. Seconded by Krebs. Motion carried unanimously.

Amendment to Chapter 7A – Lot Dimension Ordinance

The next topic Watson reported on is an amendment to City Code Chapter 7A, which would redefine how the City measures certain lot dimensions. The change pertains to residentially-zoned platted lots, and would allow the inclusion of any adjacent platted or deeded right-of-way up to 0.17 acres for the purpose of determining allowed accessory structures and animals. The Planning Commission is bringing this forward for discussion because the Public Hearing is set for the next planning commission meeting.

Motion by Krebs to move the Amendment to Chapter 7A, Lot Dimension Ordinance to a Public Hearing at the next Planning Commission meeting on 06.20.18. Seconded by Peterson. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Public Open Forum

Laurie King and Roger Wismer – 9650 Howard Lake Drive

King came forward to discuss the closure of the Howard Lake Drive Park. She lives next door to the park and would like to understand why it was removed. She reported that her family and neighbors have used the park regularly for as long as she can remember. Daly replied that the park was closed because of a number of concerns; ADA compliance, lack of parking, and lack of use.

King asked if it would be possible for her to purchase the land and put a swing set on it for the neighborhood to use? Griffith said that the property's covenant for park use expired after 30

years so the property could be available for purchase if the Council would like to sell it. That would involve going through a notice and bidding process so that anyone interested can bid on the property. The Council agreed that they would like to put the property up for sale. Mayor Povolny said that if King bought the property she could put a swing set there for whomever to use.

Mayor Povolny continued by asking what would happen with the crosswalk and sign? Public Works Superintendent Jim Windingstad said that the intent was to remove both after the park was abandoned.

The Council asked if there was any other City owned land which could also be put up for sale? Mursko replied that there is another property off Kettle River Blvd which also has an expired park covenant on it and could be put up for sale.

Motion by Daly to start the process of selling the city property off Kettle River Blvd and Howard Lake Drive (Pin #s 12-32-22-32-0001, 12-32-22-44-0014, and 12-32-22-44-0015). Seconded by Duraine. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Discussion – Pribyl Letter

Deb and Joe Pribyl came forward to discuss their business and inquire about the possibility of locating in Columbus. They recently moved out of their previous facility, and are looking for locations to build new. To meet their requirements, they are in search of a large property which could hold a 100,000 square foot building. The Pribyls are interested in property for sale east of I-35, and would like to start building this year.

The property they are considering purchasing is currently zoned Commercial Showroom, and will have a Light Industrial land use when Columbus' 2040 Comprehensive Plan is complete. The Pribyl's business needs are immediate, as they would like to begin construction this fall. Their business is a small distribution operation, which they claim is very clean and quiet. They are requesting that the City Council make a Text Amendment adding "distribution" to the list of permitted uses in the Commercial Showroom district so they can operate on this property.

Mursko noted that a discussion will have to be had about design standards after the Comprehensive Plan is approved, because boundaries for the Light Industrial district are changing. Mayor Povolny asked the Pribyls what type of building they were planning to build? Joe Pribyl responded that they were considering both steel and concrete, but noted there is a considerable cost difference between the two. Mursko said that under current design standards the building may have up to 50% steel on the portions of the building which face the right-of-way. Mayor Povolny said that a concrete tip up building would be the better choice if they want to complete construction this year.

Mursko asked the Council if they believed this business would be a Conditional Use or a permitted use? Mayor Povolny replied that he is thinking it should be a Conditional Use. Mursko said in that case, she could run the Text Amendment, Subdivision, and Conditional Use permits concurrently to speed up the process. Griffith noted that getting those permits through would be a 60-day process. He added that he will be preparing a Text Amendment allowing

distribution in the Commercial Showroom district as long as design standards are met.

9. Discussion – Senior Center Letter Building Maintenance

Mursko presented a letter from the Senior Center to the Council. The letter indicates a number of concerns the Center has regarding the state of cleaning that was contracted by the City, and indicates that they would withhold annual rent until the items in the letter are addressed. Griffith commented that the Senior Center's lease says it is the landlord's responsibility to maintain major equipment, while regular maintenance and cleaning of personal property (such as appliances) is the responsibility of tenants. He added that they are not legally able to withhold the rent payment. Griffith finished by saying that the ultimate question is whether the Council would like to go above what is required in the lease to address the items which are laid out in the letter.

Daly said that he would be willing to donate his time to fix switchplates in the Center. He added that he recalled discussing fixing window blinds at a previous meeting, and believed the Council should follow through with repairing them. Mayor Povolny agreed, saying the minimum should be done to make the blinds functional. Griffith added that it will be the Center's responsibility to ensure that the blinds and switchplates are maintained in working condition.

Mursko continued to report on an inspection of the Center which was completed by a food inspector. During this inspection it was brought to the Senior Center's attention that the hood over the kitchen stove should have had a specific sticker put on it if it had been professionally cleaned. Mayor Povolny said that he was not aware of the sticker requirement.

Mursko continued to say that the food inspector asked if the Fire Marshall had inspected the oven hood, because a specific type of inspection needs to be completed for it. She continued to say that she will contact Fire Chief Al Newman to ask what inspection requirements are for the hood.

The Senior Center also indicated there is a leaky gasket on the hand sink, and it was their understanding that the City would be fixing their doors. The Council replied that they would be willing to consider minimal repairs of their doors. Mayor Povolny said that a group had previously gone in to do repairs on the door, and they said that they did as much as they could without redoing the stoop. To fix the door further, the stoop would have to be redone, and once work begins repairing the stoop the rest of the building must become fully compliant with ADA requirements. That would require a number of upgrades like adding handicap parking spots and fixing the grade on the wheelchair entrance.

D. STAFF AND CONSULTANT REPORTS

10. Engineer Report

I-35 and Hwy 97 Project

City Engineer Dennis Postler presented his report on the I-35 and Hwy 97 bridge project. He showed a map of what the future Hornsby Street intersection will look like after completion.

The map shows four (4) lanes at the intersection, which will be reduced to three (3) north of Hwy 97.

Next, Postler had a small update regarding ponding on City property in the southwest I-35 quadrant. MnDOT originally had plans to put a pond on that property, but its likely that it will not be needed anymore.

Postler continued by giving an update on funding. The bonding bill passed the legislature which will be instrumental in funding the bridge project. In addition, the City has LRIP money to help fund the Hornsby Street realignment. The LRIP funds will also be paired with grant money that the City received a few years ago to pay for the Hornsby Street intersection. Lastly, MnDOT will be contributing another \$100,000 to the City, which will nearly cover all costs for Hornsby Street and Hwy 97 updates.

Daly asked if there are plans to increase the number of lanes on Hwy 97 east of Hornsby Street? Postler replied that that project was listed as an option in the State's Corridors of Commerce program, but it did not receive funding. He added that there are a lot of wetlands near that stretch of road, so he does not see Anoka County adding lanes to that road for some time.

Lake Drive Roundabout and CSAH 54 Realignment Projects

Postler reported that it is likely that Anoka County will be splitting the Lake Drive roundabout and the CSAH 54 realignment into two (2) different projects. This will allow the County to get the roundabout built this year, as final plans have already been submitted for review. In order to complete the roundabout project by the end of 2018, the northern bypass lane will be built in August or September.

Postler continued by reporting on ponding for the roundabout project. The County is considering increasing the size of the pond to be located on the southwest quadrant of the roundabout. If the pond and stormsewer can be resized, it should be able to take stormwater from City owned land on the southeast quadrant which would eliminate the need for a pond on that parcel.

11. Attorney Report

No report.

12. Mayor and Council Members Report

Council Member Krebs

Krebs reported that he is concerned that Zaczkowski Trucking did not complete the shrouding or screening plan conditions associated with their CUP. The deadline to install trees was 06.01.18, and Kate Zaczkowski is now asking for a three (3) month extension to complete the screening plan. All Council members agreed that a letter should be sent to Zaczkowski Trucking stating that they have 30 days to complete the shrouding and screening plan.

Next, Krebs wanted to address the situation with Forest Lake Contracting. Mursko noted that

their hauling agreement with the City will expire on 06.24.18. Krebs asked what will happen next? Griffith replied that City Staff met with Forest Lake Contracting several months ago, and they said they will be working on a reclamation plan. The options for subdividing were also discussed at that meeting, and Forest Lake Contracting is confident a least a few homes can be developed on the site. Griffith added that their agreement states that they can still haul for reclamation purposes, and that restoration of the site needs to be completed within a certain time frame. Mursko added that they were not able to haul out as much sand as was originally anticipated, so a new plan has to be created to move forward.

Mayor Povolny asked Postler if there has been an inspection of the site completed recently? Postler replied that there has not. Mayor Povolny asked that he perform an inspection of the site to ensure they meet their deadlines.

Council Member Peterson

No report.

Council Member Daly

Council Member Daly reported that he attended the most recent Fire Board meeting. He said that the recently hired fire inspectors are out doing their work in Columbus, and are quite a bit ahead of schedule. Lastly, he reported that some of the old firetrucks have a cracked frame, and the Board is determining whether they would like to have them fixed or if they would like to purchase new ones.

Mayor Povolny

No report.

Council Member Duraine

Council Member Duraine reported on the most recent Cable Commission meeting that he attended. Scandia will be officially leaving the commission on June 20, and the attorney from Forest Lake will be creating a Joint Powers Agreement with them.

Duraine added that in June work will begin on the Columbus Council Chambers' audio/visual updates.

13. Public Works Report

No report.

14. Public Communications Coordinator Report

Public Communications Coordinator Jessica Hughes posed a question to the Council relating to a complaint that was received. The complaint was about noise from a dirt bike track in Columbus. The last time this was an issue in the City a neighborhood meeting was called, and as a result of

that meeting an agreement was drawn up detailing specific days and times that dirt bikes on that property could be ridden. Hughes is wondering if the Council would like to her to take the same approach for this dirt bike noise complaint? The Council agreed that a neighborhood meeting would be their desired approach.

15. City Administrator's Report

Treasurer's Report

Receipts:	\$	0.00
Disbursements:	\$	142,757.86
Balance:		\$4,221,585.64

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

16. Calendar of Meetings.

The next Planning Commission meeting is on 06.20.18.

F. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Daly to adjourn. Seconded by Krebs. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jessica Hughes, Public Communications Coordinator