

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor O'Brien called the Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Lynn O'Brien; Council Members Tony Donahue, Vic Moen, Mike Nelson, Margie Ritter; City Engineer Jayson Newman; City Clerk Jean Panchyshyn; Representatives from ICTV and Scenic Range Newspaper.

Absent: None.

2. Approval of Minutes

Donahue moved, Nelson seconded, approving the March 19, 2018, Council Meeting minutes. Motion passed 5/0.

3. Consent Agenda

Mayor O'Brien reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda:

- A. Claims for Approval List
- B. Correspondence: 1) MAOSC-March 19; 2) DEED-March 19; 3) MAOSC-March 26; DEED-March 26

Ritter moved, Nelson seconded, approving the Consent Agenda. Motion passed 5/0.

4. Public Forum

Kate Justison with the local Boys and Girls Club requested Council consider a Proclamation declaring April 9-13, 2018 Boys and Girls Club week, to coincide with the National Boys and Girls Club week. She indicated there are about 530 members between Greenway and Grand Rapids, with approximately 100 children at Grand Rapids and 80 at Greenway. They provide homework help, health lifestyle activities, and art and science activities. They have a theme planned for each day next week. They are not looking for monetary donations, but simply a proclamation supporting the organization and bringing awareness to the community.

Terry Taylor, 316 Fuhrman Avenue, presented Engineer Newman with photos of his driveway showing no pooling of water at the end of his driveway when the snow is melting, and asked if his driveway would be just like that with the overlay of the roadway. Newman stated he could show Taylor the detailed design specifications. Taylor noted he sees water and ice at the end of driveways on Park. He expressed that he felt this proposal was unreasonable, considering the cost of the project and that his

taxes have increased. He felt Council has already made up its mind on this project. Mayor O'Brien stated she has not, and that Council will further discuss this item tonight.

5. Additions to Agenda – O'Brien requested adding Boys and Girls Club under New Business, #8B. There were no objections by Council.

6. Reports

a. Maintenance – Council Member Moen indicated he spoke with the city maintenance worker, Bill Hildreth, who said the flagpole needs to be painted. The truck has been repaired at a cost of around \$1700; the truck is scheduled for replacement in 2019. Lawn mowers are in good shape. Donahue noted he also spoke with Hildreth who said he has been looking for a newer used truck, and thought a flatbed would be useful, and a dump box is not needed, which was noted will save some money. O'Brien asked Donahue and Moen to work with Hildreth on the truck specs.

b. Attorney

c. Engineer – Engineer Newman presented the results of the speed study, noting that over half of the vehicles are speeding just a bit over the speed limit, and a significant number traveling at 55-56 mph. Moen asked what Council should do with this data. Newman stated this could be provided to MnDOT to determine what, if any, options to consider for slowing down the traffic. Council is especially concerned about crossings at the intersection across from the gymnasium. Ritter indicated she recalled the public expressed concerns about Highway 2 traffic at a Zoning public hearing, and she felt that this data shows there is a problem. Moen stated the stop light at the north end of the city on Hwy 169 has helped slow traffic speeds and provides safer access. Donahue stated another option might be a blinking sign alerting of crossing traffic, which he has seen in places along Hwy 169. O'Brien stated she and Newman could meet with MnDOT representatives to discuss options. Newman agreed to set up a meeting. Newman also indicated that a request for more enforcement of the speed could be made.

Newman also discussed a handout he provided on Fuhrman Avenue options, which included converting it to a gravel road and a more robust option for reclaiming the roadway. Nelson asked if the estimated cost for overlaying the existing cul-de-sac size was known. Newman said this could be calculated. Ritter stated she had asked Newman to provide the gravel road option, as she had attended a safety loss control meeting many years ago, and at that meeting some cities indicated they were converting streets back to gravel.

Newman also discussed the resolution for Fuhrman Avenue, identified under item #7A on the agenda. He indicated that the next step for Fuhrman is the ordering of the improvement, and this resolution can be adopted within 6 months of the March 19 public hearing date. The scope of the project can be reduced but not enlarged.

d. Mayor – The Board of Appeal and Equalization is scheduled for April 19 at 9:00 a.m.

e. Clerk – Panchyshyn requested feedback from Council on the spring newsletter topics.

f. Council – Donahue indicated he would not be present at the April 16 meeting. Moen stated the Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board requested the city support a list of priorities, which he will forward to Panchyshyn for the April 16 Council meeting.

g. Committees:

Personnel – O’Brien indicated summer help for the youth programs will need to be advertised. Council also discussed the need for a part-time, flexible summer maintenance worker.

Park/Recreation – Donahue noted the committee met last Thursday. The youth program is planned for June 11-July 27. Parents will need to sign agreement letters. He discussed some minor park repairs with Hildreth. O’Brien also added they are looking at separating the youth programs by age groups.

Facilities/Equipment – this was discussed under Maintenance.

Zoning – Ritter indicated the next Zoning Committee meeting is April 11 at 6:00 p.m.

Technology – O’Brien requested the zoning map be placed on website; it was noted the map is on the website and a quick link to it will be provided.

Utilities – None.

GreenSteps – Moen reported the GreenSteps committee met March 13. They discussed creating a garden club to have a raised garden in the park, and possibly making it part of the summer youth program. The committee would like to present this at next park meeting and to request supply funding. They also discussed adding a bookmobile stop in LaPrairie in conjunction with summer youth program. Panchyshyn will contact the library about this. A newsletter article will be included on organizing a community garden club. Panchyshyn will assist with recording activities on the GreenSteps website.

7. Old Business

A. 2018 Fuhrman Avenue Overlay Project

O’Brien indicated if nothing is done to the roadway and five years from now a reclamation is needed, she did not feel it is fair to residents to pay that increased cost, yet understands residents are not in favor of the overlay. Donahue indicated Council has the city as whole to consider in addition to the residents. Ritter indicated if nothing is done now, it is unfair to burden the residents with an additional \$50,000 five years from now. She stated if the residents do not want anything done to the street, another option is to turn it back to gravel. She noted the street will not improve and believes

the overlay option now is timely. Moen indicated he is concerned about how degraded roads impact property values. Senior deferment is an option that has not been discussed. He is concerned about the collapsed culvert. He noted he was not able to turn his truck, which has a large turning radius, around the turnaround without driving on the grass. He stated road improvements are part of the comprehensive plan, which is the city's guiding document for decisions made by Council. Citizens indicated a priority was to maintain roads in the city. It was noted that Fuhrman is a dead-end road, not a drive thru street, which is another consideration. In response to a question by Council, Newman indicated the project would need up to two weeks construction time to complete and could be completed as late as early October. O'Brien stated she would like to get additional feedback from residents and volunteered to talk to Fuhrman residents about the gravel option. **Ritter moved, Nelson seconded, to table this item to a future date, pending feedback from residents. Motion passed 5/0.**

8. New Business

A. 2018 OSHA Safety and Health Training

Moved by Moen, seconded by Donahue, to approve safety and health training for up to four employees (two in maintenance and two youth coordinators). Motion passed 5/0.

B. Boys and Girls Club of America

Donahue moved, Moen seconded, to approve the Proclamation supporting the National Boys and Girls Club Week of April 9-13. Motion passed 5/0.

9. Adjourn

Motion by Ritter, seconded by Nelson, to Adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:02 PM. Motion passed 5/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Panchyshyn, City Clerk-Treasurer

Lynn O'Brien, Mayor