

The Council Meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Mayor John Schaaf at the Community Meeting Room, 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 150, City of North Oaks, Minnesota. Present were Council Members Bruce Ackerman, Mike Egelston, Marty Long, Gregg Nelson, and Mayor John Schaaf. . City Administrator Michael Robertson, City Attorney David Magnuson, Recording Secretary Linda Hanson and Videographer Kevin Scattum were present

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Mayor asked for a moment of silence to remember Dr. Roger Colton who recently passed away.

### **Approval of Agenda**

With minor updates to the Agenda, Council Member Gregg Nelson moved to approve the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Council Member Mike Egelston and passed unanimously.

### **Citizen Comments**

None

### **Consent Agenda**

1. Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of December 9, 2013 for approval
2. Minutes of the Regular Planning Commission Meeting of December 2, 2013 for approval
3. Minutes of the Natural Resource Commission of December 19, 2013 for approval
4. Licenses for Approval:
  - Mechanical Contractors Plumbing & Heating:** Abbott Ferraro Heating, Air Mechanical; Affordable Comfort Mechanical; Associated Mechanical Contractors; Boehm Heating Co.; Bonfe's Plumbing, Heating & Air Services, Inc.; Centraire Heating & Air Conditioning; Condor Fireplace & Stone; Corval Constructors, Inc.; Fireside Hearth & Home; Heating & Cooling Two, Inc; Kath HVAC; Massman Geothermal & Mechanical; Schulties Plumbing, Inc.; Standard Heating & Air Conditioning; Team Mechanical, Inc.; Twin City Fireplace; UMR Geothermal, Inc.; Yale Mechanical
  - Arborists:** Alex's Lawn & Turf; Bartlett Tree Experts; Branch and Bough Tree Service and Landscape Care; Budget Tree Service Inc.; Cameron Tree Services, Inc.; Hugo's Tree Care, Inc; Langer's Tree Service, LL.; Moga Tree Service; Northern Arborists; Ostvig Tree Inc.; Pioneer Tree & Landscape, Inc.; Quality Turf Maintenance Co.; Rainbow Tree Care; Shorewood Tree Service, LLC.; St. Croix Tree Service, Inc.; The Davey Tree Expert Co.,
  - General Contractors:** Kraus-Anderson Construction Company
  - Sewer/Water Installation:**
5. Claims for Approval: Check numbers 10750-10783
6. Approve Shoreview Press and the St. Paul Pioneer Press as Official Newspapers
7. Approve Official 2014 City Calendar

Council Member Marty Long made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda with a second from Council Member Mike Egelston. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Petitions, Requests, & Communications**

#### **1. Sheriff Bostrom's Year in Review**

Sheriff Matt Bostrom presented his annual report to the Council. Seventeen communities are part of Ramsey County and Ramsey County provides seven of these communities with police protection. This includes the City of North Oaks.

The Sheriff's Department provides a number of services for Ramsey County. These include

- All detention services which involves on average 350-450 people a day with an average stay of under five days.
- Court security services and delivery of 12,000 to 15,000 orders signed by judges to be delivered by the deputies often taking three attempts.
- Serve on a variety of State and Federal Joint Task Forces.
- Monitor 23 recreational lakes and 18 miles of the Mississippi River in Ramsey County.

Sheriff Bostrom has been in this position for three years. Since then he has worked on a number of improvements. At any given time, Ramsey County is managing approximately 9,000 warrants. The information is now on line so the public can check to see if a warrant has been issued in his or her name. Also, a safe surrender program will take place in early spring allowing people to come in and resolve the issue. Facebook and Twitter are also being used to make the public more informed.

The Code Red program is up and running and everyone with a hard line is enrolled in this program. Residents can opt out at any time. If someone has a cell phone only, he or she must register. This program is for alerting residents to such things as hazardous spills in the area, missing persons or children and other emergency situations. He would like help in spreading the word about this program and get as many residents involved as possible.

Ramsey County has also made improvements in how they deal with domestic violence and by doing further investigation and taking stronger steps have lowered the violence incidences.

He also stated that they are working smarter today by using the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Crime lab. Deputies have been cross trained so evidence collected is the same and then the BCA does the actual lab work. This alleviates the need for an additional crime lab in Ramsey County.

Heroin is also becoming a problem in the Metro area. They are seeing more overdoses and deaths as heroin appears to be affordable. The pattern seems to involve moving from morphine based drugs or pain killers found in medicine cabinets to heroin which users believe can be used recreationally. The problem is especially difficult as heroin today is now 92% pure. Sheriff Bostrom encourages all residents to dispose of unused prescriptions from 8 to 4 as the patrol station on Hamline and 96 or at the main station downtown at 425 Grove, St. Paul.

Mayor Schaaf mentioned that the City would be willing to promote both Code Red and the Prescription drug program on the cable channel. He also suggested that the Sheriff work with the Shoreview Press as well.

Mayor Schaaf stated that the Sheriff and his deputies do a great job. Sheriff Bostrom closed with stating that the City residents do a great job with National Night Out and do a good job of looking out for each other.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **1. Traffic Control on East Oaks Road**

City Administrator Michael Robertson presented the City Engineer's report on traffic on East Oaks Road. The report included a couple of recommendations. For more control, chevrons could be used. Curve signs are up now and this is what they would recommend in this situation.

Mayor Schaaf stated that the 15 mile speed limit is clearly marked, but that speed related accidents can happen at that curve. He believes since the signs were put up in 1997 or 98 that they could be replaced for better reflectivity.

Council Member Nelson moved to direct the Staff to replace the existing signs with new signs. Council Member Egelston seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **New Business**

#### **1. 2014 Fee Schedule Approval**

City Administrator Robertson explained that the fee schedule is the same as for 2013. No further discussion took place.

Council Member Ackerman made the motion, seconded by Council Member Nelson to approve the 2014 Fee Schedule. It carried unanimously.

#### **2. City Council Committee Assignments**

City Administrator Robertson presented the recommended committee assignments for 2014. These include the Planning Commission, Natural Resource Commission as well as other committees involved with the City.

Council Member Egelston made the motion to approve the 2014 Planning Document establishing committee members. Council Member Mary Long seconded the motion.

Council Member Ackerman expressed his concern with how it is decided who is the liaison for NOHOA and what he or she can report to the City. He would like to see harmony with NOHOA, but he believes the reports to the City are not complete. Council Member Egelston, the current liaison, stated that he does report what he believes is important to the City while still maintaining residents' privacy. Council Member Ackerman stated that in the past more information was shared with the City.

After a review of the committee assignments, the motion to approve the 2014 Planning Document carried unanimously.

### **3. Ramsey County MOU-Cooperative Weed Management Area**

The document presented was an agreement to work together in the future on weed management and the City can opt out if they so desire.

Council Member Ackerman made the motion, seconded by Council Member Nelson to approve the Ramsey County MOU-Cooperative Weed Management Area Document. Motion carried.

### **4. Resolution 1287- Support for TCAAP Road Improvements at 35W/Highway 96/County Road H**

Mr. Robertson presented a request from Ramsey County to seek support for Resolution 1287 seeking state and federal funds for improvements at 35W/Highway 96/County Road H.

Council Member Egelston made the motion to approve Resolution 1287 with a second from Council Member Ackerman. The motion carried unanimously.

A short discussion followed about the work being done. Mounds View High School has concerns about the work being done as it makes it more difficult to bus students with 96 and County Road H closed.

### **5. Well Sampling Report**

City Administrator Robertson reviewed the Well Sampling Report done by Conestoga-Rovers & Associates in October of 2013. . The report shows that the concentrations are similar as in the past. One well was found to be above the recommended limit and a few were approaching this level. The report will be posted on the City website.

Council Member Nelson moved to accept the Well Sampling Report with a second from Council Member Egelston. It carried unanimously.

## **6. Annual Building Report**

City Administrator presented the Annual Building Report. Twenty nine new home permits out of the total 217 Building permits were granted for 2013. The valuation of the building permits was 24 million with two thirds of that based on the 29 new homes. Rapp Farm saw the biggest increase with 19 new homes, the Villas had five, and the remainder were individual lots in other areas. Commercially there was minor remodeling done at the Village Center for a spa and chiropractor office. The most popular building permits other than for new homes were for reroofs, windows and home remodeling.

Council Member Ackerman made the motion, seconded by Council Member Egelston to accept the 2013 Annual Building Report. It passed unanimously.

A final note was made that the average homes being built were in the \$475,000 to \$480,000 range not including the lot.

## **7. Discussion of embedded page on City website**

Council Member Egelston presented a request from NOHOA to put an embedded link to the NOHOA cable program. The current Board is concerned with privacy and prefers to keep their meetings private. The request is to build a hidden link on the City site so that only NOHOA members can access the program.

Council Member Ackerman was concerned that the City is a public place and that either the material on the website should be available to the public or NOHOA should pay to put the program on its own site to keep it private.

City Attorney David Magnusson stated that he believed an embedded link would be permissible. The Right of Privacy requires an effort by the community to keep it private. The City would be allowed to support this privacy.

Council Member Ackerman stated that the \$5,000 to link the meeting on their own site would be a reasonable cost. The Mayor stated that CVT is not interested in having a number of meetings on different sites. He stated it is an accommodation that the City can make. Council Member Nelson stated that the City has an interest in helping NOHOA disseminate information and that the City should do this if it is not a problem. Council Member Egelston stated that it adds a level of security that was not there in the past.

Council Member Long made the motion to direct the Staff to work with CVT and Roseville IT to add the embedded link to the City website. The motion carried with Council Member Ackerman voting no.

## **Council Member Reports**

### **1. Council Member Mike Egelston**

#### **NOHOA**

Council Member Egelston stated that the new West Rec Center design is now complete. A community meeting will be held to review the plans and then the building permits will be pulled sometime late winter or early spring.

The Charley Lake and Moga developments have now reached a tentative agreement to join NOHOA.

### **2. Council Member Bruce Ackerman**

#### **VLAWMO**

Council Member Ackerman attended the VLAWMO meeting but nothing at that meeting concerned the City.

### **3. Council Member Marty Long**

#### **NRC**

Council Member Long reported that the NRC is moving closer to completing the City Forestry Ordinance. It will be reviewed by the City Administrator and Forester and then should be presented to the City Council in a month or two.

#### **Planning Commission**

Council Member Long attended his last meeting and will turn it over to Council Member Nelson. Mr. Long is looking forward to the change and working as the Police Commissioner and working with the Sheriff to keep the City safe.

### **4. Council Member Gregg Nelson**

#### **Lake Johanna Fire Department**

Council Member Nelson reported that there was no meeting this month.

Council Member Nelson did attend a ground water meeting for the North and East Metro area held at the Shoreview Community Center. A plan is being developed to manage the ground water. Many at the meeting were concerned about White Bear Lake and some ideas were presented. The DNR Commissioner was present at this meeting. There is a concern that we are using up the ground water available and it is not being replenished.

## **Mayor John Schaaf's Report**

The Mayor, City Administrator Robertson, former Mayor Tom Watson, and Tim Marion from the DNR had a discussion on the Deer Harvest permit. The process will be the same with a sampling of the deer for Chronic Wasting Disease, a count done soon, and traps set

to contain the number of deer. The DNR monitors this process. The deer meat is donated to the food banks and a volunteer program that supplies deer jerky to US troops.

The Mayor thanked former Mayor Watson for his work.

The Mayor and City Administrator had lunch with Bill Short from White Bear Township and Terry Schwerm, City Manager at Shoreview. The Mayor complimented both as being good neighbors and both great to work with.

The Mayor and City Administrator also went to a meeting with the Mounds View School District to discuss the future situation for the schools. They are pleased to see a number of new homes being built and see it as a good sign that people are continuing to invest in the area.

The Mayor asked David Grant the Mayor of Arden Hills to visit the Council to update Council Members on the progress of TCAAP (Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant). He stated he would be honored to visit in March or April. The Master Plan consists of parks, commercial, and 1,500 new homes as well as new road infrastructure. Hazardous materials are being remediated and all other materials are being reclaimed or recycled where possible. The soil will be cleaned up as well.

This area will provide a substantial increase in the tax base and help both the County and schools with additional funding.

The Mayor also mentioned that any Council Member can call Arden Hills to arrange a tour of the area.

### **Administrative Report**

#### 1. Deer Permit

City Administrator Robertson stated that Mercer Englund did pick up the deer permit and tags and will be ready to go once the count is done.

The Mayor concluded the meeting with acknowledging City Administrative Assistant Maureen Geier who is leaving the City to take a job in Stillwater. He stated she has a great personality and will be missed. He wished her well.

### **City Attorney Reports**

1. No report for the Council. The Council was asked to go into Executive Session to discuss a private matter.

**Miscellaneous**

**Next Natural Resource Commission Meeting January 16, 2014 @ 7:00 pm in the Community Meeting Room**

**Next Regularly Scheduled Planning Commission Meeting January 23, 2014 @ 7:00 pm in the Community Meeting Room**

**Next Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting February 13, 2013 @ 7:00 pm in the Community Meeting Room**

Mr. Robertson announced that the Charley Lake Developer was having a ground breaking ceremony at 10:00 AM on Friday January 10<sup>th</sup> and all Council Members were invited. Also the City was informed that the process is starting to build a senior residential development on the Kozlak site.

**Adjournment**

On motion duly make by Council Member Nelson, seconded by Council Member Egelston and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 pm.

Attest:

Respectfully Submitted

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Mayor John Schaaf

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Linda M. Hanson  
Recording Secretary