

The Council Meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Mayor Michael Egelston at the Community Meeting Room, 100 Village Center Drive, Suite 150, City of North Oaks, Minnesota. Present were Councilmembers Gregg Nelson, Katy Ross, Rick Kingston and Mayor Michael Egelston. Council Member Marty Long was absent. City Administrator Michael Robertson, City Attorney David Magnuson, Recording Secretary Linda Hanson and Videographer Maureen Anderson were present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Michael Egelston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizen Comments

Xuwei (Wayne) Wang, 14 Raven Road, asked the Council for clarification on storing a recreational vehicle in his driveway. He stated that he uses it regularly and wants to comply with the ordinance. The Council agreed that the current Ordinance is a little vague but the intent is that a recreational vehicle should not be stored in a driveway for more than 30 days a year. City Attorney Magnuson stated that it is difficult to regulate outdoor storage and that this ordinance should be reviewed to make it more clear. Councilmember Ross stated that the City is in process of reviewing ordinances and that this one should be moved closer to the top.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Ross moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nelson and passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of February 3, 2015 for approval
2. Minutes of the Natural Resource Commission of February 19, 2015 for approval
3. Minutes of the Regular Planning Commission Meeting of January 29, 2015 for approval
4. Minutes of the Regular Planning Commission Meeting of February 26, 2015 for approval
5. Licenses for Approval:
 - Mechanical Contractors Plumbing & Heating:** Assured Comfort LLC; Boehm Heating Company; Excel Air, LLC; Freedom Mechanical, Inc.; G & H Heating & Air; Genz-Ryan Plumbing & Heating; Hoffman Corner Heating & Air Conditioning; Horizon Contractors, Inc.; Standard Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.; TLT Enterprises Inc.;
 - Arborists:** Mark Primeau Tree & Lawn Service, LLC; Morgan's Tree Service; Nature's Trees Inc DBA St. Croix Savatree; Pioneer Tree & Landscape Inc.
 - General Contractors:**
 - Sewer/Water Installation:** A Plus Outdoor Services/JD Excavating; Arne's Excavating
6. Approval of Claims #11295-11338

Councilmember Nelson made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda with a second from Councilmember Kingston. The motion carried unanimously.

Petitions, Requests, & Communication

1. Jerry Hromatka, Northeast Youth & Family Services

Mr. Hromatka reviewed the accomplishments of Northeast Youth & Family Services. This organization began in 1978 and serves all ages with the primary focus on ages 5 through 21. They offer mental health services, day treatment programs, diversion

programs as well as help for seniors wanting to stay in their homes. They currently have a staff of 42 and many volunteers and have a \$3.2 million dollar budget. The City of North Oaks contributed \$6,078 to the organization in 2014. Mr. Hromatka reviewed the services provided to North Oaks residents in 2014, noting that the value was over one hundred thousand dollars. This includes mental health, educational and therapeutic services and a senior chore program. Mr. Hromatka was commended for having a well-run organization that the City appreciates. Additional information can be found at www.nyfs.org.

2. Dale Heiden-HRA Update

Mayor Egelston asked Dale Heiden, 9 Dove Lane and Jim Nancekivell, 5 Hawk Lane, to look into what the City might be able to do to revitalize the “older” part of North Oaks. The intent would be to improve dated homes and lots, increase home values, community image and tax base. Council Member Kingston asked what similar communities such as Wayzata and Edina had done. Mr. Heiden said he has been talking to those communities to find out what they have done that was successful. Council Member Ross stated that the North Oaks residents feel strongly about this. Mr. Heiden stated that he is looking for support from the Council to create a group of interested residents to set up a plan on what to do and how to support the actions.

Councilmember Ross made a motion seconded by Councilmember Kingston to approve creation of a study group to evaluate what might be done and report back to the City Council. The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

1. Variance 14-18, 2 West Bay Lane-Allow Play Structure in 30 Foot Side Yard Setback

Variance 14-18 was withdrawn by the homeowner.

2. Council Committee Assignments

The final committee assignments were completed. Councilmember Kingston will represent the City on the Lake Johanna Fire Department Relief Fund with a back-up from Councilmember Ross. Mr. Kingston will also serve as an alternate for Councilmember Nelson on the North Suburban Cable Commission Committee and Councilmember Nelson will be the alternate for Councilmember Long on the VLAWMO Committee.

Mayor Egelston made the motion to approve the final committee appointments for 2015 with a second from Councilmember Kingston. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

1. Zoning Ordinance Amendment 15-02, 111-893 Village Center Drive, North Oaks Village Center LLC, Amending Ordinance to allow Therapeutic Massage in a Commercial District

Administrator Robertson said that an application from Mary McNellis to add therapeutic massage to the list of allowed uses in the Village Center was reviewed at the

Planning Commission. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the request but also recommended that an ordinance be approved to regulate it. The recommendation was that the zoning change and ordinance be approved at the same time. A committee headed by Councilmember Ross was set up to draft an ordinance. Councilmember Ross stated that the ordinance will be ready for a public hearing at the Planning Commission on March 26, 2015. Council Member Ross stated that most cities require a background check and some kind of license. She stated that Shoreview currently has a good ordinance, so North Oaks may end up with a similar one.

2. **Conditional Use Permit 15-01, 23 Phoebe Lane, Garage Addition, Accent Homes**
Accent Homes has requested a Conditional Use Permit to allow a larger than allowed garage at 23 Phoebe Lane. The purpose of this garage is to house a recreational vehicle. The Planning Commission and staff report states that it meets the conditions for a CUP and recommends that the Council give approval.

Councilmember Ross made the motion to approve the Conditional Use Permit 15-01 at 23 Phoebe Lane for a larger garage with the following conditions:

1. **That the garage be constructed per the submitted plans.**
2. **That the garage shall be used for only private residential non-commercial use.**

The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kingston and passed unanimously.

3. **Revision of Joint Powers Agreement-North Suburban Cable Commission**
Councilmember Nelson attended the North Suburban Cable Commission meeting where they worked on the joint powers agreement to make it more streamlined. Administrator Robertson said that a formal structure involving the area City Managers to work with the Commission on their budget was added. By-laws changes were recommended due to the City of Shoreview leaving the Commission. City Attorney Magnuson stated that he thought the new Joint Powers Agreement was an improvement.
Councilmember Nelson moved to approve the revised Joint Powers Agreement with the North Suburban Cable Commission. Councilmember Ross seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

4. **Approve Resolution 1295: A Resolution Allowing Transfers between Various City Funds**

Administrator Robertson reported that the preliminary audit is complete and he had recommendations to transfer funds at this time. He suggested the City keep the 70% reserve in the General Fund Budget Reserve account, but make the additional transfers:

- Transfer \$125,000 into the Fire Equipment Fund as new fire engines will be purchased in 2017, 2021, and 2022.
- Establish a Special Projects Fund to account for items like the Culvert Replacement Project and Hodgson Sidewalk. He would recommend a transfer of \$125,000 to this account.
- Transfer \$50,000 into the Municipal Utilities Fund to pay for unexpected repairs or maintenance.

Councilmember Nelson made the motion with a second from Councilmember Kingston to approve Resolution 1295 allowing transfers into the three funds listed above. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Set Joint Meetings with the Planning Commission and Natural Resource Commission

A recommendation to schedule joint meetings with the Planning Commission and Natural Resource Commission was discussed. The Council will meet at 6:15 PM on April 30th with the Planning Commission before the regularly scheduled meeting. The Council will also attend the regularly scheduled May 21st Natural Resource Commission meeting.

Mayor Egelston asked Administrator Robertson to schedule a meeting with NOHOA sometime in June if possible.

Councilmember Reports

Councilmember Katy Ross

Councilmember Ross attended the Lake Johanna Fire Department Relief Fund meeting where she met new Councilmembers from Shoreview and Arden Hills. Ms. Ross also met with the City Administrator and NOHOA to look at recycling issues. Ms. Ross has agreed to work with NOHOA Board member Phil Brown and is looking for a few other volunteers for a group to address recycling issues. She also reminded the Council that the Home Improvement Fair is on March 22, 2015 and the City will have a table at this event. Mayor Egelston said he would be there as well. Councilmember Ross mentioned that she asked Administrative Assistant Kathy Laur to put together a list of valuable phone numbers for the residents to hand out at this event.

Councilmember Marty Long

No report due to his absence.

Councilmember Rick Kingston

Councilmember Kingston reported that he has been learning a lot over the past month. He was involved in resolving a request for a variance, but feels that the ordinance is another one that should be reviewed for clarity. Mayor Egelston asked that Councilmember Kingston bring that ordinance to Administrator Robertson.

Councilmember Gregg Nelson

1. North Suburban Cable Commission

Councilmember Nelson attended two meetings with the Cable Commission. He stated that Century Link is hoping to come into the area to compete with Comcast. An agreement with Century Link will come before the Commission in the next few months

2. Finance Committee

Mr. Nelson attended the Finance Committee meeting where road improvements were discussed. He noted that the Highway 96 bridges on both 35W and 35E will be under

construction this year. The Finance Committee also began discussion of the Sewer and Water Study and the Personnel Handbook.

Mayor Michael Egelston's Report

Mayor Egelston attended a number of meetings in the past month. He first mentioned that he wanted to acknowledge the importance of the Lake Johanna Fire Department with their quick response that may have saved a resident's life. He stated that the money budgeted on the Fire Department is money well spent.

Mayor Egelston met with other area mayors and he also wanted to share some of the bad news about road construction in the area. Both ends of Highway 96 on 35E and 35W will be worked on this summer so traffic will be affected. 35E will also be affected south of Highway 96 with the reconstruction of the bridge over Goose Lake Road.

Mayor Egelston met with Amy Blahosky and Kathy Evans from the NOHOA Board to discuss some ideas of how to best market North Oaks with a focus on the recreational activities offered in North Oaks. He also met with Dale Heiden and Jim Nancekivell about similar issues.

Administrative Report

Administrator Robertson said the Community Fair is May 30th, 2015. The City made the decision to not have a bonfire and fireworks celebration this year as the Golf Club is currently booked. Councilmember Ross reported that they would like to reserve the Club for June 4th, 2016 but a down payment is needed.

Councilmember Ross made the motion to approve making a down payment to the North Oaks Golf Club to reserve June 4th, 2016 for the bonfire and dance.

Councilmember Kingston seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Administrator Robertson said that Friday afternoons were pretty dead in the summer and asked the Council to consider summer hours which would include opening earlier on Monday through Thursday and closing at noon on Fridays. Mayor Egelston stated he does this in his own business. Robertson said that other cities often do this as well. It was agreed that Robertson would bring a recommendation to the next meeting.

City Attorney Reports

No report

Miscellaneous

Next Natural Resource Commission Meeting, April 16, 2015 @ 7:00 pm in the Community Meeting Room

Next Regularly Scheduled Planning Commission Meeting, March 26, 2015 @ 7:00 pm in the Community Meeting Room

Next Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting, April 9, 2015 @ 7:00 pm in the Community Meeting Room

Adjournment

On motion duly made by Councilmember Ross, seconded by Councilmember Nelson and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Attest:

Respectfully Submitted

Mayor Michael Egelston

Linda M. Hanson
Recording Secretary