

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Long moved to approve the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ross and passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments

None.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of March 9, 2017 for approval
2. Minutes of the Natural Resource Commission of March 16, 2017 for approval
3. Minutes of the Regular Planning Commission Meeting of March 30, 2017 for approval
4. Licenses for Approval:

Mechanical Contractors: Air Mechanical; Binder Heating & Air, Inc; Condor Fireplace; Flare Heating & Air Conditioning; Gallagher Heating; Kline Corporation dba Practical Systems; Master Gas Fitters, Inc; Pelco Construction, LLC; Pronto Heating and Air Conditioning; Swift Mechanical, Inc; Vogel Mechanical, Inc; Woodland Way, Inc. dba Woodland Stoves and Fireplaces

5. Claims for Approval: #12231 - 12266

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

Petitions, Requests, & Communication

1. Phil Anderson – New GM of the North Oaks Golf Club

Anderson introduced himself, stating that the North Oaks Golf Course is an important part of the community. Anderson is a PGA professional with many years in the golf field and is very happy to be here.

2. Public Hearing – St. Odilia Conduit Bond

City Attorney, Magnuson found all the paperwork to be in order. The building will take place in the non-religious part of the facility. The City will be paid a fee of \$4,000 but the obligations are between St. Odilia School and the lending bank not North Oaks.

Councilmember Nelson made the motion to approve Resolution 1327 approving the Conduit Bond sale. Councilmember Kingston seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

1. Approve Revised Ordinance 93 Governing Garbage

Administrator Robertson reviewed the changes in the ordinance. Residents will now be

able to put carts out the evening before pickup, but they must be brought back in by the end of the day of pickup. Robertson was directed to add language to the ordinance governing recycling.

2. Email Communication to Residents

Kathy Laur reviewed her research into various communication systems. Councilmember Ross suggested that this be tabled in light of the conversations Mayor Egelston and NOHOA board president Kathie Emmons were having regarding working closer together.

New Business

1. Review NYFS Yearly Grant

Administrator Robertson reviewed the City's donation over the last few years, noting that it increased based on the rate of inflation. Mayor Egelston noted that the City has used more resources than it's donated and he supported increasing the contribution.

Councilmember Nelson made the motion to increase the city's annual donation to \$9000 with a second from Councilmember Ross. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Deputy Mike Burrell Report

He said there's a new fraud going around that one of our residents has experienced. People receive phone calls saying they missed jury duty and have to pay a fine or be jailed. North Oaks residents have not lost money on this scam but other people have. Call the general sheriff's number at 651-266-7300 if you receive a call saying you owe money to Ramsey County.

Mail theft is still an issue with the post office on Centerville Road in Vadnais Heights. There are dozens of victims of mail theft from this location. To report suspicious activity call 911. One of the two females that were picked up for mail theft at Christmas is in prison. Residents are encouraged to get a locked mailbox

With the warmer weather there have been numerous reports of fishing on North Oaks lakes. Fishing is not allowed in North Oaks. The majority of these fishermen have not been residents of North Oaks. The sheriff will ticket individuals for fishing and trespassing.

Speed is an issue with the warmer weather. Tickets have been written. Please keep speeds down. The speed limit is 30mph.

3. Approve Proposed Zoning Ordinance Changes

Administrator Robertson noted that the Planning Commission held a public hearing and that a few small revisions were recommended for the Zoning Ordinance.

- In every other part of the Zoning Ordinance, parking stalls are 10 X 20ft except one area where they were 9 X 18 ft. The Planning Commission recommended approval of changing this area to 10 X 20 FT.
- The Planning Commission recommended approving changes in the Southpointe and Wildflower neighborhoods regarding the process to increase the size of garages to bring them in line with the rest of the Zoning Ordinance.

- The Planning Commission recommended a change in language in the section governing security deposits to replace “performance or security bond with local bank letter of credit, cash deposit or other acceptable financial instrument.

Councilmember Nelson made the motion to approve the proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance with a second from Councilmember Kingston. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Approve Community Fair Fireworks

Kathy Laur reviewed the plans for the City to provide fireworks the evening of the Community Fair at the West Recreation Center on June 3, 2017. The NOHOA board approved our request to hold them there.

Councilmember Nelson made the motion to approve fireworks at the West Recreation Center with a second from Councilmember Kingston. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Approve Revised Brush Removal Policy

Administrator Robertson presented a revised brush policy. Mayor Egelston said that this is a way to help reduce Lyme disease in our city and to help real estate values. This is not about wanting our community to look like other cities. Councilmember Long said he would like to refer this to the Natural Resources Commission. Councilmember Kingston said he would like enforcement focused on piles of brush and downed trees with their roots in the air.

Councilmember Nelson made the motion to send a letter to the worse properties after the City Administrator has reviewed them with a second from Councilmember Ross. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Resolution 1328 Recognizing National Police Week

This resolution is to recognize National Police Week 2017 and to honor the service and sacrifice of those law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty while protecting our communities and safeguarding our democracy.

Councilmember Nelson made the motion to approve Resolution 1328 recognizing national police week with a second from Councilmember Kingston. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Approve Revision to Personnel Policy

Councilmember Nelson expressed concern that there is no cap on tuition reimbursement within the personnel policy.

Councilmember Nelson made the motion to revise the personnel policy to institute a yearly cap of \$1,000 per employee with a second from Councilmember Ross. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Reports

- **Councilmember Katy Ross**

The Planning Commission reviewed the Comprehensive Plan park section and

discussed a community survey. The Commission also reviewed the regulations governing the height of homes and whether this works for the whole community. The commission will revisit the issue.

Recycling carts are still being delivered to homes whose residents have been gone for the winter.

Two tours of the Eureka Recycling Plant have been scheduled for May 23, at 8:30 am and May 25, at 1:00 pm.

Two speed humps will be put in on Evergreen Lane in an effort to slow down speeders. She met with NOHOA board member Bill McNee, Administrator Robertson and residents on that street.

- **Councilmember Marty Long**

The Natural Resource Committee has met a couple of times in addition to its regular meeting to discuss the North Oaks Conservation Award.

There is a VLAWMO meeting later in the month. They will go on a tour of St. Paul Water Authority.

May 13th is the garden club sale. Information on all NRC items will be available.

- **Councilmember Rick Kingston**

He attended the Fire Board meeting. An update on the sale of fire station one was discussed. The Fire Department is switching from Blue Cross Blue Shield to Health Partners. One of the firetrucks is for sale and a fire department in Oklahoma purchased it.

The Tick Task Force meeting is on Tuesday April 18th. They will be going over the survey responses. A formal presentation will be given to The Council next month. A follow-up meeting with the deer management people was successful.

Work with Mayor Egelston and NOHOA regarding collaboration is going well.

- **Councilmember Gregg Nelson**

No activity with the Cable Commission. The Finance Committee met on Monday.

- **Mayor Michael Egelston's Report**

The Mayor has been meeting with NOHOA. He is looking for ways to reduce confusion of who does what in North Oaks and saving on overlapping costs. He wants the governance of our city to be simpler and will keep everyone updated.

He has received complaints regarding illegal turns out of Charley Lake Preserve.

Charley Lake Preserve has two exits. One exit goes north only. Residents who go south from that exit will be ticketed.

He is meeting with County Commissioner Blake Huffman on improvements to Centerville Road and County Road J. He'd also like to see a stoplight at Wildflower and Hodgson Road.

City Administrator Report

1. Discussion of a Community Survey

Administrator Robertson said that the Planning Commission was in the process of updating information in the Comprehensive Plan. Part of that information was a 1994 survey on park and recreation needs. They asked if the Council would be willing to do another survey.

Robertson said Morris Leatherman is a top company for doing random surveys and he contacted them to get an estimated cost. It turns out they actually did the 1994 survey. A random survey on park & recreation issues would cost in the \$10-15,000 range. Some Councilmembers indicated an interest in asking questions on other services such as police and fire. Robertson said that type of survey would probably exceed \$20,000. Mayor Egelston asked Robertson to obtain some representative questions from Morris-Leatherman and asked the Council to think about what topics they wanted to survey. This item will be on May's Council agenda.

City Attorney Reports

None.

Miscellaneous

Next Tick Task Force Meeting is Tuesday, April 18, 2017 @ 7:00 pm in the Community Meeting Room.

Next Natural Resource Commission Meeting is Thursday, April 20, 2017 @ 7:00 pm in the Community Meeting Room.

Next Regularly Scheduled Planning Commission Meeting is Thursday, April 27, 2017 @ 7:00 pm in the Community Meeting Room.

Next Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting is Thursday, May 11, 2017 @ 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 9:13 pm.

Attest:

Respectfully Submitted

Mayor Michael Egelston

Kathy Laur
Recording Secretary