

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

May 11, 2017

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 Mike Robertson, City Attorney David Magnuson, Recording Secretary Kathy Laur and Videographer Maureen Anderson were present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Nelson made a motion to approve the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ross and passed unanimously.

Citizen Comments

Julia Hupperts, 7 Sunset Lane: She received a letter about her brush and is concerned about a more proactive brush removal policy. She feels this will affect 100's of families in the city and suggested these changes should be decided by a voter referendum rather than the City Council. She doesn't want to remove two acres of brush and believes the City Council is not being transparent.

Steve Elias, 5 Sunset Lane: He appreciates the woods and the privacy and feels removing brush on his property would be cost prohibitive. He thought Council meetings should be advertised more.

Tim Wolter, 7 Skillman Lane: He questioned why this is an issue now. He wanted to know if NOHOA land was included.

Gerald Hupperts, 7 Sunset Lane wanted to make sure that the part of ordinance 93-03 dealing with brush and refuse is not being changed tonight.

Mayor Egelston explained the City's brush removal policy. He said NOHOA was included. He said that there were no changes planned for the brush ordinance which had not been changed since it was written in 1957. He stated that the City Council always meets on the second Thursday evening of each month.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of April 13, 2017 for approval
2. Minutes of the Natural Resource Commission of April 20, 2017 for approval
3. Minutes of the Regular Planning Commission Meeting of April 27, 2017 for approval
4. Licenses for Approval:
 - Mechanical Contractors:** Air Conditioning Associates; J. Dubs, LLC; Kleve & JC Mechanical, LLC; MSP Plumbing, Heating and Air; Marsh Heating & Air Conditioning
 - Plumbing & Heating**
 - Arborists:** Chip's Trees, LLC; Neighborhood Tree Care, LLC
 - Sewer/Water Installation:**

Approval of Claims: #123367 - #012299

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

Petitions, Requests, & Communication

1. Sheriff Jack Serier

Serier is the 22nd Ramsey County Sheriff and he recently took over for Sheriff Matt Bostrom. Prior to that he was the Chief Deputy. Right now there is a lot of change in the department due to retirements. There are 3 undersheriffs, 7 sergeants, 6 commanders, 11 deputies and 17 correctional officers that have been hired or promoted. Community engagement is important and he will continue with that. The Ramsey County Sheriff's department will begin focusing on mental health issues and best practices for handling that within the community.

2. Lyme Disease Survey Presentation

Tick Task Force Chair Dr. Brooke Moore went through the results of the Lyme Disease Survey that was done in North Oaks. She listed the multiple ways to attack ticks in the community. Councilmember Kingston congratulated Chair Moore on her leadership and noted that a variety of products for fighting ticks are listed on the City's web site.

3. Deputy Mike Burrell

The driver who caused the December car accident that resulted in the deaths of two Mounds View High School students has been charged with vehicular manslaughter. Burrell received call of mail theft on West Pleasant Lake Road. A bystander saw the theft and reported it. An investigation is ongoing. He encouraged residents to get a locking mailbox.

Credit card fraud in North Oaks has been reported. The thieves went shopping with the card. The only people who had access to the home were housekeepers and lawn maintenance.

There have been issues the last month with solicitors at the Village Center. People have been coming in from other places and harassing and disrupting customers. The police were called and the people causing the problems were removed from the property.

Unfinished Business

1. Approve Revised Personnel Policy

Administrator Robertson said he had revised the policy based on direction from the last Council meeting.

Councilmember Nelson made the motion to approve the Personnel Policy Change with a second from Councilmember Long. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Approve Revised Ordinance 93 Governing Garbage & Recycling

Administrator Robertson reviewed the added language and definitions governing recycling.

Councilmember Ross made the motion to approve changes to Ordinance 93 Governing Garbage and Recycling with a second from Councilmember Kingston. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

1. Review of Possible City Survey

Administrator Robertson said that the Morris Leatherman Company had provided a prototype municipal survey of over one hundred questions that would be done by a phone survey. The cost would be \$15,000-25,000 depending on the number of questions. Mayor Egelston asked Council to review the questions and pare the list down to 25-50 questions by June 1st. Councilmember Ross said it would be cheaper to do a self-selected survey. The Mayor said he was afraid that self-selected surveys didn't reach parts of the City. Councilmember Kingston agreed there should be less questions and he would like to work with NOHOA. Robertson was also directed to seek feedback from the Planning Commission and Natural Resources Commission.

2. Approve Deputy Clerk Stephanie Marty Transition to Full-Time Employee

Administrator Robertson said that Deputy Clerk Stephanie Marty's hours had been increasing with the growth of the community and that they had particularly increased since taking over the sewer and water utilities from North Oaks Company.

Councilmember Nelson made the motion to approve the City Administrator's recommendations for Deputy Clerk Stephanie Marty to become a full-time employee as of May 22, 2017, with a second from Councilmember Marty Long. The motion failed with a vote of 1 aye by Nelson and 3 nays by Ross, Long and Kingston.

Robertson was directed to provide more cost justification for having the deputy clerk/treasurer transition to full-time and for the purchase of new financial software.

3. Review Purchase of Banyon Financial Software

Councilmember Nelson made the motion to table the discussion for a month with a second from Councilmember Kingston. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Reports• **Councilmember Katy Ross**

- Planning Commission met and reviewed the Comprehensive Plan.
- Recycling – Councilmember Ross went with Peterson-Waddle Recycling to the Eureka Recycling Center. Two tours of the facility are offered. May 23, at 3:00 pm there are spots available. The May 25 tour is full. There is a waiting list for a possible third tour.

• **Councilmember Marty Long**

- Barr Engineering has been hired by VLAWMO to look at options for improving Wilkinson Lake.
- Councilmember Long took a tour of the St. Paul Water Facility. The facility is 100 years old and is still functional and pretty amazing.
- The NRC is moving ahead with conservation awards and also talked about brush removal and the balance of nature and what that should look like.

• **Councilmember Rick Kingston**

- The presentation given at the Tick Task Force was the same one that was given at the beginning of the City Council meeting by Dr. Brooke Moore

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- A meeting with NOHOA leadership and the League of MN Cities was productive. The City of North Oaks is blazing the trail in this area because no other community like us exists in the state of Minnesota. Concerns over our privacy being maintained are an ongoing issue.
- **Councilmember Gregg Nelson**
 - No report
- **Mayor Michael Egelston's Report**
 - A discussion with NOHOA about governance is ongoing.
 - He talked to County Commissioner Huffman about the roads around our community.
 - He and Councilmember Nelson are in talks with the North Oaks Golf Club about areas they can work together for the benefit of the community.

City Administrator Report

Sign up for brush pickup is way ahead of last spring.

City Attorney Reports

1. Review Revised Rental Ordinance

Attorney Magnuson reviewed a proposed change to the ordinance which would prohibit vacation rental by owner (VRBO) of homes in North Oaks.

Councilmember Long made the motion to adopt the proposed rental ordinance changes with a second from Councilmember Nelson. Motion carried unanimously.

Miscellaneous

Next Natural Resource Commission Meeting is Thursday, May 18, 2017 @ 7:00 pm in the Community Meeting Room

Next Tick Task Force Meeting is Tuesday, May 16, 2017 @ 7:00 pm in the Community Meeting Room

Next Regularly Scheduled Planning Commission Meeting is Thursday, May 25, 2017 @ 7:00 pm in the Community Meeting Room

Next Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting is Thursday, June 8, 2017 @ 7:00 pm in the Community Meeting Room

Adjournment

On motion duly made by Councilmember Long, seconded by Councilmember Nelson and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Attest:

Mayor Michael Egelston

Kathy Laur
Recording Secretary