



**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
March 6, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm.

Present: Mayor: Randy Gilbert; Council: Sam Rettinger, Ben Goodwin, Jim Benson

Staff Present: City Administrator: Steve Stahmer; Finance Director: Terry Post; City Engineer: Dan Boxrud, Jay Murzyn; City Attorney: Joel Jamnik; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

Absent: Council: Sharon Henderson (with prior notice)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE AGENDA

A motion was made by Benson, seconded by Goodwin, to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: all.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of:

- A. Approve Minutes of February 19, 2008 City Council Meeting
- B. Approve Minutes of February 19, 2008 City Council Work Session
- C. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll

A motion was made by Benson, seconded by Rettinger, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ayes: all.

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

Bob Hardin, 238 Greenhill Lane, discussed the benefits of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and commented on the facility's fantastic educational program. Mr. Hardin offered copies of information pieces on the Arboretum for any interested.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Schedule Assessment Hearing, 2008 Street Improvement Project

Stahmer stated that in July 2007 the City Council ordered a Feasibility Study to be conducted by the City Engineer. The report investigated the feasibility of reconstructing Inglewood Street south of Grand Avenue, and Neilson Avenue, including some utility improvements. The project has an estimated cost of \$1,283,000. Of that total, approximately \$247,000 is estimated to come from special assessments with the remainder divided between the Water Fund, the Storm Water Fund and the General Fund. Staff has estimated that a bond of approximately \$700,000 is likely to be needed, depending upon final bids and prepaid assessment amounts which are yet to be determined.

Staff recommends that an assessment hearing be set for April 15, 2008. Individual notices will be mailed to affected property owners, specifying the proposed maximum assessment amount for the respective properties. Assessments will be based upon the City's adopted assessment policy/formula and the engineer's estimate of probable cost.

It is anticipated that bids will be received near the end of April 2008, with the contract to be awarded in May. If the low bid were to come in higher than the engineer's estimate, property owners would still only be responsible to pay the maximum assessment amount as specified on the assessment roll. In that event, the difference would be paid from other sources.

A motion was made by Benson, seconded by Goodwin, to approve Resolution No. 2008-18 calling for an assessment hearing for the improvements of the portion of Inglewood Street south of Grand Avenue and Neilson Avenue. Ayes: all.

NOTE: THE ORDER OF DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS 7 AND 8 WAS REVERSED BY MISTAKE.

Wayzata Boulevard Landscaping

Stahmer distributed copies of a revised landscaping concept plan for the Wayzata Boulevard corridor, as prepared by the consultant. Changes from the most recent plan included a reduction in the number of street lights, and the addition of more low level lighting. The consultant has estimated the project cost at \$150,240 plus a project contingency, for a total of \$175,076.

Mayor Gilbert stated he and Council member Goodwin had met and discussed the proposal. They both agreed they would like to see all street lights out and only low level lighting incorporated in the plan. Mayor Gilbert also indicated he would prefer use of fieldstone versus limestone on planters, but does not want a planter feature included in the Long Lake entry sign. He would like to see a final plan presented at the next Council meeting or the first meeting in April.

Stahmer suggested a work session be held to go through the plan in detail, with the public meeting to be the first meeting in April.

Mayor Gilbert asked that the work session be scheduled for March 18.

Council member Goodwin expressed his disappointment that Xcel Energy had placed transformers directly in front of where the City's entry sign will be. He stated he would like to see those transformers moved. Mayor Gilbert concurred.

Schedule Joint Meeting to Discuss Sign Ordinance

Stahmer said that since the Planning Commission does not have any applications for review at their March 11 meeting, staff recommended holding a joint work session between the Commission and City Council to discuss signage. City Planner Abel has been researching this topic and would have substantial information for a packet if the work session were ordered.

Mayor Gilbert asked that the work session begin at 6:30 pm.

OTHER BUSINESS

Trees on Watertown – Goodwin noted that the large dead oak or maple trees on Watertown had been removed. He suggested that maybe a neighborhood group could plant saplings in the area.

New Businesses – Mayor Gilbert welcomed new businesses Snap Fitness and Pilgrim Cleaners to the community.

Mayor's Coffee Meeting – Mayor Gilbert stated he had scheduled his next coffee meeting for Saturday, March 22 at the Red Rooster. He thanked Council member Benson for hosting the last get together in his absence.

Compost Facility – Stahmer stated that staff is recommending the arrangement for use of Wayzata's compost facility not be renewed for 2008. The Plymouth yard waste site accepts both hard and soft compost at a lesser rate for the City. Moeller reviewed the permit process for the Wayzata facility and discussed how many had been issued over the past two years. Mayor Gilbert stated he would recommend offering the Plymouth site only in the coming year, with future decisions taking into account any resident input received.

Bond Documents – Post said that along with the proposed street project, he would be working with the City's financial counsel to put together a bond document for GO improvement bonds.

Arboretum Passes – Bob Hardin commented that he had free passes for the Arboretum and would be happy to pass them out. Mayor Gilbert replied that he would like one.

ADJOURN

Hearing no objection, Mayor Gilbert adjourned the meeting by general consent at 6:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Moeller
City Clerk