



**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 1, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm.

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

Staff Present: City Administrator: Steve Stahmer; Fire Chief: Steve Becker; City Engineer: Jay Murzyn; City Attorney: Joel Jamnik; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Gilbert invited outgoing Fire Chief Steve Becker to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVE AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of:

- A. Approve Minutes of March 18, 2008 City Council Work Session
- B. Approve Minutes of March 18, 2008 City Council Meeting
- C. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll
- D. Approve Issuance of a Residential Kennel Permit to Lisa Golle, 1735 Watertown Road

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

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

Cindy Borgert, 570-1/2 Brown Road N

Ms. Borgert stated that the City of Orono is sponsoring a climate awareness community event on April 20 at the Orono Middle School auditorium, with speakers at the event to include Paul Douglas. She asked if it would be possible to post notification of the event on the City website.

Lisa Golle, 1735 Watertown Road

Ms. Golle thanked the Council for their approval of her Residential Kennel Permit application. She had received a letter informing her of the code violation on February 19, shortly after her divorce was final. She commented that for a number of years three dogs had been living at her property, and were not licensed nor was a kennel permit obtained. During that time both Council members and Planning Commissioners had been to her home but no comment or request for compliance had ever been made. She stated that recognizing code enforcement is conducted on a complaint basis, she had talked to her neighbors and at least 14 had dogs, with only two of them being licensed. She asked the Council to consider the question "when is a complaint valid?".

BUSINESS ITEMS

Recognition of Outgoing Fire Chief, Steve Becker

On behalf of the City, Council and staff, Mayor Gilbert thanked Steve Becker for his service as Fire Chief and for his assistance in the position's recent transition to full-time employment versus paid volunteer.

Mayor presented Mr. Becker with a Certificate of Appreciation that read as follows:

"This Certificate of Appreciation is presented to

STEVE BECKER
Long Lake Fire Chief
May 2006 - March 2008

in sincere appreciation for your leadership, outstanding service, and ongoing dedication to the Long Lake Fire Department. On behalf of the citizens of Long Lake, thank you for your commitment to the Department, the City, and to the safety of our community. Your example has made a difference."

Glenmoor Lane Watermain Loop and Lake Street Gate Valve Replacement Projects – Accept Plans and Specifications, Advertise for Bids

Stahmer stated that at the December 3, 2007 City Council meeting, the Council voted to direct the preparation of plans and specifications for the Glenmoor Lane Water Main Loop and Lake Street/Highway 12 Gate Valve projects.

The Public Works Department, City Engineer and the City's water infrastructure plan have long identified the need for creation of a loop of an existing watermain crossing the new Highway 12 corridor east of Wolf Pointe Trail. Staff recommends moving ahead with the watermain loop project at this time. The creation of the new watermain loop was not previously feasible due to the existence of railroad easements; however, the acquisition of these easements by Mn/DOT as part of the Highway 12 project has made the watermain loop project viable. The Public Works Department has ranked this a high priority project because of the benefits of better serving water customers in the eastern portion of the city.

In addition to the water main loop project, staff recommends that the City complete the gate valve replacement project, which would involve replacement and relocation of the existing gate valves at the intersection of Lake Street and Highway 12. The age and condition of the valves calls for their replacement. The current situation also causes a major safety hazard for Public Works staff because the valves must be accessed in the drive lane of Highway 12.

City Engineer Murzyn stated that the plans are about 95% complete, to be finalized after a meeting with Public Works Director Wurzer taking place the following day. On all the projects bid this year, the engineers have been seeing really good prices as high as 30% lower than the previous year. The projects would be going out to bid in a really good market.

A motion was made by Henderson, seconded by Goodwin, to accept the plans and specifications for the Glenmoor Lane Watermain Loop and Gate Valve Replacement projects and to authorize advertisement for bids. Ayes: all.

2008 Street Reconstruction Project – Accept Plans and Specifications, Advertise for Bids

Stahmer reported 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 Nielson Avenue, to include water and storm water improvements.

A public improvement hearing was held on February 7, 2008. At that time, the City Council ordered the improvements and the preparation of plans and specifications. SEH has completed the project plans and specifications and the project is ready to proceed to the bidding stage.

The original total cost estimate of \$1,283,000 remains in effect following the preparation of plans and specifications. Of that total project cost, 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 recommends the City advertise the project for bid at this time. An assessment hearing has been scheduled for April 15, 2008. To date staff has received one verbal complaint and one written challenge. Stahmer confirmed the proposed assessment notices had been mailed out to residents soon after the hearing was set.

A motion was made by Benson, seconded by Henderson, to accept the plans and specifications for the 2008 Street Reconstruction Project and to authorize advertisement for bids. Ayes: all.

Water Resource Management Plan Update

Stahmer stated that the City is required to update its Comprehensive Plan and submit it to the Metropolitan Council for review by September 2008. Upon the recent completion of the draft update, staff forwarded a copy of the plan to five surrounding agencies for their review and comment before submitting it to the Met Council. The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District responded with concerns regarding the City's Water Resources Management Plan.

In 2002 SEH produced a Water Resources Management Plan for the City in conjunction with the Mn/DOT Highway 12 bypass project. Within the past year, the MCWD updated their Comprehensive Resources Management Plan. Cities in the MCWD's jurisdiction have two years from the time the MCWD adopted the new rules within which to update their Water Resources Management Plans, meaning that Long Lake is required to do so by late 2009. However, given the timing of the Comprehensive Plan update and the deadline for submittals, the Water Resources Management Plan must be updated prior to submission to the Metropolitan Council. The most cost effective way in which to meet the requirements of both the MCWD and the Met Council is to complete the planning effort as a single document in 2008.

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the proposal from SEH to draft the City's Water Resource Management Plan. Much of the time and effort involved will be in communicating and meeting with MCWD staff in order to produce an acceptable plan. This is an unbudgeted 2008 expense and, if approved, would be paid by the Storm Water Management Fund.

Council and staff discussed whether the City's pending stormwater improvements in the downtown area would affect the MCWD's approval of the plan, and whether another engineering firm could draft the revised plan for a lesser fee.

City Engineer Murzyn clarified that the majority of their fee was attributable to communication back and forth between involved parties to make sure the City's plan will be consistent with updated requirements.

A motion was made by Benson, seconded by Henderson, to approve the agreement with SEH for professional services related to the 2008 Water Resources Management Plan Update and to authorize its execution by the City Administrator. Ayes: all.

OTHER BUSINESS

Virginia Avenue Land – Council member Goodwin requested a work session be scheduled to discuss the Virginia Avenue property and proactive marketing efforts.

Fire Relief Pancake Breakfast – Mayor Gilbert issued a reminder that the Long Lake Fire Relief Association annual pancake breakfast would be held April 20, 2008.

Tonka Report – Mayor Gilbert informed the Council that the Lake Minnetonka Communications Commission had asked him to be the permanent host of the Tonka Report program. He appreciated the LMCC's invitation and looked forward to the opportunity to showcase Long Lake more.

Newsletter – Mayor Gilbert complimented staff on their efforts in producing the latest City newsletter.

Dog Droppings – Mayor Gilbert asked that people remember to pick up their dog droppings, especially along trails.

Meeting with MCWD – Mayor Gilbert stated that the recent meeting with the MCWD had been productive. The City's revised plan for stormwater improvements had been well received, as it emphasizes filtering rather than expanding ponds. The MCWD also informed Mayor and staff that Long Lake will be listed as an impaired lake in the year 2010. The listing will prompt agencies to work to get the lake off the impaired waters list. Currently there are a number of impaired lakes around the metro area.

Wayzata Boulevard Landscaping Project – Stahmer reported that the City's engineering consultant was currently working to prepare the bid package for the project; however, survey work had been slowed down by the recent snowfall. The final plan is scheduled to appear before the Council at the April 15 meeting.

Nelson Lakeside Beach Improvements – Stahmer commented that the Public Works staff had been successful in putting a new sand blanket down at the beach. Residents will be seeing a new and improved beach for the upcoming swimming season.

ADJOURN

Hearing no objection, Mayor Gilbert adjourned the meeting by general consent at 7:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Moeller
City Clerk