



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
August 4, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm.

Present: Mayor: Randy Gilbert; Council: Sam Rettinger, Sharon Henderson, Brian Carpenter, and Liz Olson

Staff Present: City Administrator: Terrance Post; Public Works Director: Marv Wurzer; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Gilbert invited audience member Alice Szeliga to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ms. Szeliga is an Orono High School student currently attending a summer school program in government.

APPROVE AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of:

- A. Approve Minutes of July 21, 2009 City Council Work Session
- B. Approve Minutes of July 21, 2009 City Council Meeting
- C. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll
- D. Approve Application for Payment No. 1 to Sunram Construction for 2009 Downtown Stormwater Improvements Project
- E. Approve Installation of Stop Signs and Pedestrian Crossing Striping at the Lake Street and Symes Street Intersection, and Extension of Existing Sidewalk on Lake Street
- F. Authorize Execution of the Letter Providing "Prospective Consent to Briggs and Morgan's Representation of Xcel Energy and Its Affiliates"

A motion was made by Carpenter, seconded by Henderson, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Council member Olson questioned how the public would be informed of the new stop sign proposed at the Lake Street and Symes Street intersection.

Wurzer indicated the stop sign would be very visible once installed.

Mayor Gilbert made an announcement about the new stop signage to be installed for the benefit of the viewing public.

Ayes: all.

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

No one was in attendance to address the City Council during Open Correspondence.

BUSINESS ITEMS

CenterPoint Energy Gas Franchise Ordinance

Post reported that the City's former gas franchise agreement with CenterPoint Energy expired on December 31, 2008. A public hearing notice was published in the City's official newspaper as well as posted at City Hall and the Post Office calling for a public hearing on the adoption of a new Gas Franchise Ordinance. Post highlighted that the proposed franchise agreement was resultant from substantial involvement by the City Attorney's law firm of Campbell Knutson in arriving at this negotiated model with CenterPoint for six of their municipal clients; a shortened term of ten years, and modifications for the removal of abandoned facilities and rights of way notice and restoration. Costs associated with the publication of the ordinance if adopted will be billed back to CenterPoint Energy.

Mayor Gilbert opened the public hearing at 6:37 pm.

Hearing no comment, Mayor Gilbert closed the public hearing at 6:37 pm.

A motion was made by Olson, seconded by Henderson, to adopt attached Ordinance No. 2009-03 entitled "Gas Franchise Ordinance – CenterPoint Energy" to be effective upon an August 15, 2009 publication date of an Ordinance summary. Ayes: all.

OTHER BUSINESS

Wayzata Boulevard Landscaping Project – Council member Carpenter questioned the status of the seeding in the Wayzata Boulevard Landscaping Project area. Post replied that the contractor had tried spot seeding but as the seed had not taken very well, they would need to come back and hydroseed the area in the fall. Council member Carpenter suggested that the performance bond for the project should be extended. Council members generally expressed disappointment with the lack of progress.

Lake Association for Long Lake – Council member Carpenter stated that the newly forming lake association for Long Lake would be having their first organizational meeting at 5:00 pm on August 20 at the Red Rooster restaurant. The group consists of approximately 15 members thus far and the association's purpose will be to serve as activists on behalf of the lake. Individuals interested in participating in the lake association would be welcome to attend the meeting.

Plantings in Nelson Lakeside Park – Council member Olson indicated she had contacted the MCWD to discuss how plantings and fencing in Nelson Lakeside Park might be modified with a goal of increasing views of the lake. The MCWD had responded and indicated there may be some options available and the primary purpose of the fencing is to keep people from walking through the plantings. Council member Olson discussed inviting the MCWD to an upcoming Park Board meeting.

Work Session Scheduling – Post questioned when Council members would be available for a work session the following week to discuss the 2010 budget and other topics. It was the consensus of the Council that a work session be scheduled for August 12 beginning at 5:30 pm.

2009 Sealcoating Project – Wurzer indicated that sealcoating would take place on Thursday of the current week for streets on the east end of the City, including Symes Street, Mill Street, and the Nelson Lakeside Park parking lot.

Chamber Task Force Meeting – Mayor Gilbert had attended a recent Chamber of Commerce Task Force group meeting and a representative from CEL made a presentation on branding ideas. The meeting was attended by members of the Chamber of Commerce, representatives of the Orono School District, the City of Orono, and Long Lake. Cindy from CEL would be putting together a proposal for the group to review.

ADJOURN

Hearing no objection, Mayor Gilbert adjourned the meeting by general consent at 6:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Moeller
City Clerk