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**CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The Ramsey City Council conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 14, 2011, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor Bob Ramsey
Councilmember Randy Backous
Councilmember David Elvig
Councilmember Colin McGlone
Councilmember Jason Tossey
Councilmember Jeffrey Wise

Members Absent: None – Council Vacancy

Also Present: City Administrator Kurtis Ulrich
Deputy City Administrator Heidi A. Nelson
Fire Chief Dean Kapler
Public Works Director Brian Olson
Senior Planner Timothy Gladhill
City Engineer Tim Himmer
Police Chief James Way
Parks Supervisor Mark Riverblood
Finance Officer Diana Lund
City Attorney William Goodrich
Economic Development/Marketing Manager Aaron Backman
Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Chris Anderson

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ramsey called the regular meeting of the Ramsey City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by City employee Len Linton and his sons.

2. PRESENTATION

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ramsey Civil Engineer II Len Linton and two of his sons. It was noted that Mr. Linton and all five of his sons, Jeff, Jason, Jeremy, Jacob and Jared, have earned the highest honor of Eagle Scout.

Patrol Officer Kyle Hemmerich was administered the oath of office by City Attorney Goodrich.

Aaron Nielson of Malloy, Montague, Karnowski, Radosevich & Company, the City's auditing firm, presented the City's 2010 Audit Report.

Councilmember Backous said the Council discussed this report during its Work Session and complimented the firm on a very thorough audit.

City Administrator Ulrich commended staff for their work during the audit, especially Finance Officer Diana Lund and staffmember Denelle McAlpine.

Finance Officer Lund stated Ms. McAlpine took a major portion of audit and CAFR this year, adding they will be receiving certification of financial reporting for the 17th year in a row.

Mayor Ramsey asked staff to read a statement in response to a recent literature piece being distributed regarding The COR.

Deputy City Administrator Nelson read a statement regarding The COR, the development team, and The Residences at the COR. She said the statement is an effort to clarify the HRA's role and outline facts, including history and price, with regard to Landform Developmental Services.

Eric Hauge, 6521 - 154th Lane NW, expressed his concerns regarding a lack of shops or restaurants in Ramsey and the proposed Flaherty and Collins financing package. He said the HRA didn't bond because they spent down reserves, adding the purchase price was too much. Mr. Hauge expressed concerns about Cronk and McGreavy's fiduciary duty and disclosure of subordinates of Landform, including Senator Jungbauer.

Margaret Connelly, 16235 Camelot Street NW, expressed her concerns as well. She asked if the City plans on adding to the parking ramp.

Mayor Ramsey stated that topic has been scheduled for the next meeting agenda.

Ms. Connelly expressed concern about first rights and suggested waiting for the economy to return.

Mayor Ramsey said the City is trying to finish development of The COR so a developer is interested in purchasing it.

Ms. Connelly stated she is concerned about the amount of money being invested and asked for more information on the proposals. She asked that Work Sessions be televised and encouraged the Council to get input from residents.

Mayor Ramsey encouraged her to attend his regular Town Hall meetings on the third Thursday of each month. He said the City has been working very hard on The COR and keeping residents involved. Mayor Ramsey said the majority of citizens are satisfied with the progress but encouraged people to call for more information and not listen to misinformation.

Councilmember Backous said the literature circulated included a lot of misinformation that only hurts the City and taxpayers by deteriorating this investment. He encouraged anyone who has proof of any accusations to bring it forward to the County Attorney. Councilmember Backous stated the City works very hard to share information with residents through all available avenues,

including the webpage, FaceBook, Twitter, televised HRA meetings, and being available. He encouraged people to contact the Council and become involved.

Mayor Ramsey clarified that Mr. Cronk is not an employee of Landform. He is a real estate agent, is not involved in any negotiations with a relationship with Flaherty, and is receiving no compensation on any transactions.

Councilmember Wise said there has been an enormous amount of staff time wasted on these accusations, including Council. He said the amount of information is overwhelming and it would be impossible to inform everyone of every step in the process. Councilmember Wise said it is fine to oppose the plans but asked people to become educated on the process.

Councilmember Tossey said he has not seen improprieties with the process and believes this and prior Councils' intentions have always been in the right place. He encouraged the public to state if they don't agree with something, adding the topic of how much money will be spent is a valid concern.

Councilmember Backous said if he thought anything was illegal he would have addressed it before this letter. He agreed with Councilmember Tossey about all wanting the same thing. He said the City did the right thing in repackaging and rebranding The COR to clear the way for development, and he is proud of where we are at.

Councilmember McGlone said adversity is an opportunity and this has resulted in people asking questions and getting the real facts.

Councilmember Backous stated The COR is separate from the Ramsey Town Center and we need to move towards the future.

2.01 Bio of Len Linton and Sons

City Administrator Ulrich reviewed the biographies.

3. CITIZEN INPUT

Citizen Input was received under Item 2.

4. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Councilmember Tossey, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Ramsey, Councilmembers Elvig, Tossey, Backous, McGlone, and Wise. Voting No: None.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Wise stated he will be abstaining from Consent Agenda Item 5.10 and asked that it be moved to Item 7.07.

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Councilmember McGlone, to approve the following remaining items on the Consent Agenda:

- 5.01 Receive Cash & Investments for Period Ending May 31, 2011
- 5.02 Receive April 2011 Financial Reports - General Fund and Enterprise Funds
- 5.03 Receive 2010 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)
- 5.04 Note the following Commission and Boards meeting minutes:
 - a) Environmental Policy Board meeting minutes dated May 3, 2011
 - b) Planning Commission meeting minutes dated May 5, 2011
 - c) Economic Development Authority meeting minutes dated May 12, 2011
 - d) Special Planning Commission meeting minutes dated May 19, 2011
- 5.05 Introduce Ordinance to Amend to Chapter 117 of City Code Relating to Required Depth of Topsoil; Case of City of Ramsey
- 5.06 Approval of Business Subsidy Agreement with Ramsey Retail Rental for SAC/WAC Assistance
- 5.07 Consider Registered Land Survey Related to Bunker Lake Boulevard Project
- 5.08 Consider Ordering City Improvement Projects #11-01 through 11-06; 2011 Street Maintenance Program
- 5.09 Accept Plans and Specifications, and Authorization to Bid City Improvement Project #10-25; Chameleon Street Paving
- ~~5.10 Approve Off Sale Intoxicating Liquor, Off Sale 3.2% Liquor, On Sale Intoxicating Liquor, Beer, Sunday Sales, and Optional 2:00 a.m. Closing~~ **Moved to Item 7.07.**
- 5.11 Adopt Resolution #11-06-108 Approving Cash Disbursements Made and Authorizing Payment of Accounts Payable Invoicing Received during the Period of May 26, 2011 through June 8, 2011
- 5.12 Adopt Resolution #11-06-109 Supporting the Concept of Cooperation and Collaboration to Promoting Greater Efficiency in the Use of Public Resources
- 5.13 Adopt Resolution #11-06-110 in Support of 2011 State Bond Funding for the Repair and Renovation of the Coon Rapids Dam as an Invasive Fish Barrier
- 5.14 Authorize Resolution #11-06-111 Resolution Establishing Procedures Relating to Compliance with Reimbursement Bond Regulations Under the Internal Revenue Code
- 5.15 Report from the Finance Committee of May 31, 2011
 - 1) Consider Collection Procedure for Delinquent Escrow Accounts – *Ratify the recommendation of the Finance Committee to draft an escrow policy with the terms as outlined for future Council consideration*
 - 2) City Financial Dashboard – *Ratify the recommendation of the Finance Committee and to update the financial dashboard with additional information related to the cash flow section and to place it on the City's web site*
- 5.16 Report from the Personnel Committee meeting held on May 31, 2011

- 1) Consider a Resolution to Consider Authorizing Staff to Recruit and Hire a Temporary IT Intern – *Ratify the recommendation of the Personnel Committee and adopt Resolution 11-06-112 to Recruit and Hire a Temporary IT Intern*

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Ramsey, Councilmembers Elvig, McGlone, Backous, Tossey, and Wise. Voting No: None.

6. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

7. COUNCIL BUSINESS

7.01: Request for Selection of a Towing Vendor for the City of Ramsey

Police Chief Way reviewed the staff report, adding this item had been reviewed at the earlier work session.

Mayor Ramsey said bids reviewed during the Work Session were very close between Champlin Towing and First Choice. He said Champlin Towing did a good job last year, but the Council had some questions regarding First Choice's impound lot and storage. He said if First Choice had clarified these unknowns it would have made their bid more attractive.

Councilmember Wise said he was concerned about First Choice being a home occupation instead of being located in a commercial area.

Scott Grams, First Choice, 1645 Nowthen Boulevard, stated they are very close to an agreement for a commercial lot in Ramsey which would address the impound lot and storage. He said of the four bids received he is the only Ramsey resident, adding that 50% of his staff are citizens as well.

Councilmember Tossey commended Mr. Grams for hiring Ramsey citizens but said the City is prohibited to take that into consideration. He said that while they try to hire Ramsey residents the bidder still has to be the lowest qualified. He encouraged Mr. Grams rebid again in future.

Motion by Councilmember Wise, seconded by Councilmember Elvig to select Champlin Towing for a two-year contract.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Ramsey, Councilmembers Wise, Elvig, Backous, McGlone, and Tossey. Voting No: None.

7.02: Consider Receiving Petition for Feasibility Study to Install Subdivision Street Lights on Sunfish Lake Boulevard between Highway #10 and Bunker Lake Boulevard

Public Works Director Olson reviewed the staff report.

City Attorney Goodrich advised the petition was not properly signed by the fee owners, which is a technicality, but there was also not 35% on the petition. He said in order to approve a project, the Council must approve on a 4/5 vote. He explained this petition doesn't qualify for 35% but does acknowledge that residents want the project and suggested staff conduct a feasibility study.

City Engineer Himmer shared a map from D&G Properties, noting signatures were for both properties. He said the residents want a subdivision street light and would pay for it.

Councilmember McGlone asked if Council could approve the request conditioned upon staff receiving a proper petition.

City Attorney Goodrich suggested adopting the proposed resolution asking for a proper petition, although it is not essential because they could have a majority vote instead of 4/5 vote without a petition.

Councilmember Elvig asked if there is a need for lighting.

City Engineer Himmer said they would meet with Connexus about costs and likelihood of future road construction first, adding the residents will probably want more lights at the building façades. He said staff will get clarification from them first.

Councilmember Elvig suggested rejecting the petition but then follow up with a plan for the residents on how this can be accomplished.

Councilmember Wise left the dais at 8:04 p.m.

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Councilmember Backous, declaring insufficient signatures on a petition for a public improvement consistent of street lighting along a part of Sunfish Lake Boulevard.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Ramsey, Councilmembers Elvig Backous, McGlone, and Tossey. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmember Wise.

Councilmember Wise returned to the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

7.03: Consider Revised Full-Service Restaurant Subsidy Policy

Economic Development/Marketing Manager Backman reviewed the staff report.

Motion by Councilmember McGlone, seconded by Councilmember Wise, to accept the revised policy by the EDA.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Ramsey, Councilmembers McGlone, Wise, Backous, Elvig, and Tossey. Voting No: None.

Councilmember Elvig said this policy is both good and bad but is willing to consider it when it fits. He stated it will push a lot of energy into the marketplace. Councilmember Elvig noted there are two restaurants in the City that were not here before, and the two-year sunset will be critical. He asked how this subsidy will be marketed.

Councilmember Backous stated this is a good problem to have and that is how it should be marketed.

Councilmember McGlone said marketing should include the understanding of subject to funds availability, which is a sales tool.

7.04: Consider Approval of Environmental Policy Board Work Plan

Councilmember Elvig left the dais at 8:10 p.m.

Associate Planner/Environmental Coordinator Anderson reviewed the staff report.

Motion by Councilmember McGlone, seconded by Councilmember Wise, to adopt Resolution #11-06-113 approving the Environmental Policy Board's annual work plan.

Further discussion: Mayor Ramsey stated this is a good plan and thanked the Boards and Commissions for sharing their advice and assistance.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Ramsey, Councilmembers McGlone, Wise, Backous, and Tossey. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmember Elvig.

Councilmember Elvig returned at 8:14 p.m.

7.05: Adopt Ordinance to Amend Section 117-90 "Map" of Chapter 117 of the Ramsey City Code Related to the 2030 Comprehensive Plan.

Senior Planner Gladhill reviewed the staff report.

Motion by Councilmember McGlone, seconded by Mayor Ramsey, to waive the Charter requirement to read the ordinance aloud and adopt Ordinance #11-07 to amend Section 117-90 "Map" of Chapter 117 of the Ramsey City Code related to the 2030 Comprehensive Plan.

A roll call vote was performed by the Recording Secretary:

Councilmember Tossey	aye
Councilmember Backous	aye
Councilmember Wise	aye
Councilmember McGlone	aye
Councilmember Elvig	aye
Mayor Ramsey	aye

Motion carried.

7.06: Adopt Ordinance to Amend City Code Section 117-349 (Accessory Uses and Buildings)

Senior Planner Gladhill reviewed the staff report.

Motion by Councilmember McGlone, seconded by Councilmember Elvig, to waive the Charter requirement to read the ordinance aloud and adopt Ordinance #11-08 Amending Section 117-349 (Accessory Uses and Buildings) of the Ramsey City Code.

Further discussion: Councilmember McGlone asked staff to clarify rural development requirements and the MUSA. He stated this new ordinance is less restrictive and more beneficial to those who want to store more items. Senior Planner Gladhill explained this ordinance would allow for more square footage of storage, allow more administrative privileges, and add more character. Councilmember McGlone asked if this ordinance will allow more space for hobby items. Senior Planner Gladhill said this would allow processing as a conditional use permit so overages will be processed better and allow additional storage. Councilmember Elvig said when the City abates a property for clutter this will allow for a property owner to store their items. He said this is a good response to that concern and will allow new building materials and other options for making the area architecturally expressive. Mayor Ramsey said Council used to approve every conditional use permit so this action will help streamline that process. Councilmember Elvig clarified this does not apply to small businesses, which will still require a license.

A roll call vote was performed by the Recording Secretary:

Councilmember Elvig	aye
Councilmember McGlone	aye
Councilmember Wise	aye
Councilmember Backous	aye
Councilmember Tossey	aye
Mayor Ramsey	aye

Motion carried.

Mayor Ramsey noted the ordinance will take effect in 30 days.

7.07: Approve Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor, Off-Sale 3.2% Liquor, On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor, Beer, Sunday Sales, and Optional 2:00 a.m. Closing

City Administrator Ulrich reviewed the staff report.

Mayor Ramsey clarified this item was removed from the Consent Agenda because Councilmember Wise is abstaining from the vote.

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Councilmember Backous, to Approve Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor, Off-Sale 3.2% Liquor, On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor, Beer, Sunday Sales, and Optional 2:00 a.m. Closing.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Ramsey, Councilmembers Elvig, Backous, McGlone, and Tossey. Voting No: None. Abstain: Councilmember Wise.

8. MAYOR, COUNCIL AND STAFF INPUT

Meetings

City Administrator Ulrich noted the Council recently held a joint meeting with Anoka and announced two upcoming meetings:

- 1) Mayors Town Hall Meeting - Thursday, June 16 - 7:00 p.m. - Lake Itasca Room
- 2) Joint Meeting with Nowthen City Council - Thursday, June 23 - Lake Itasca Room **9**.

The Draw Park Events

Deputy City Administrator Nelson announced the upcoming Music in the Park concert on Thursday, June 23, adding the Farmers Market will be returning on Thursdays.

David Jeffrey Benefit Update

Councilmember Backous said the benefit for former Councilmember Dave Jeffrey was a huge success with over 500 people attending and it raised a lot of money.

Congrats to Boys Soccer Team

Councilmember Elvig congratulated the U12 Boys Soccer Team on winning their division in Waterloo, Iowa. He added Waterloo's soccer fields were very nice and asked Council and staff to review the City's facilities for possible improvements.

Special Election

Deputy City Administrator Nelson stated a special election for Ward 4 Councilmember will be held on Tuesday, August 16. She stated candidate filing will be open from June 10 to June 24, and absentee voting will be available beginning July 15.

Improvements

Mayor Ramsey noted the former Holiday station has been demolished and the pylon sign will be rehabbed for The COR marquee.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Backous, seconded by Councilmember Wise, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurtis G. Ulrich
City Administrator

ATTEST:

Jo Ann M. Thieling
City Clerk

Drafted by Cathy Sorensen
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.