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

The Ramsey City Council conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, July 12, 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
Associate Planner Timothy Gladhill
City Engineer Tim Himmer
Police Chief James Way
City Attorney William Goodrich
Development Manager Darren Lazan

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 Mayor Ramsey.

2. PRESENTATION

None.

3. CITIZEN INPUT

None.

4. APPROVE AGENDA

City Administrator Ulrich requested Item 7.3 be added: Flaherty & Collins Financing – Third Amendment. He noted it has been approved by the HRA and now needs Council approval. The request is to extend the deadline date.

Motion by Councilmember McGlone, seconded by Councilmember Wise, to approve the agenda as amended.

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

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Elvig expressed concern with item 7.1 Acknowledge Anoka County's Plans and Specs for the 2011 Construction of a Boat Landing and Fishing Platform. He advised the discussion of traffic patterns.

City Administrator Ulrich suggested removing this item from the Consent Agenda and adding the item as item 7.4 Consider Anoka County's Plans for 2011 Construction of Boat Landing.

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

1. Approval for Exemption for a Gambling License for the Anoka County Pheasants Forever at Game Fair.
2. Approve the following Meeting Minutes:
 - 1) City Council - Regular - May 31, 2011
3. Adopt Resolution #11-07-126 Approving Cash Disbursements Made and Authorizing Payment of Accounts Payable Invoicing received during the Period of June 23, 2011 through July 7, 2011
4. Adopt Resolution 11-07-127 Authorizing 2nd Partial Payment to Dryden Excavating for IP 10-24 Wetland 656 W Outlet
5. Adopt Resolution #11-07-128 Authorizing 2nd Partial Payment to Dryden Excavating for IP #10-32 176th Avenue Culvert Replacement
6. Approve Resolution #11-07-129 Applying for Federal Funding for the Mississippi River Trail
7. Report from Public Works (*Ratify the recommendations of the Public Works Committee regarding the use of pavement reinforcement systems on overlay project, the policy on Turf Establishment Related to City Improvement Project, the Policy for Importing Material into the COR and the Review Summary of Proposals for Profession Engineering Services and Development of a Consulting Pool*)

6. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

7. COUNCIL BUSINESS

7.01: Consider Award of Contract for City Improvement Project 10-25; the Bituminous Paving of Chameleon Street

City Engineer Himmer reviewed the staff report.

Motion by Councilmember Backous, seconded by Councilmember Elvig, to award a contract for City Improvements Project #10-25; the Bituminous Paving of Chameleon Street, to Oman Brothers Paving in the amount of \$336,000

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

7.02: Consider Establishment of a Consultant Pool for Overflow Engineering Services

City Engineer Himmer reviewed the staff report. He emphasized he is seeking to create an overall pool of consultants rather than employing consultants in each specific area of expertise.

Mayor Ramsey questioned who the decision maker will be to determine which firm is offered the type of work needed at the time.

City Engineer Himmer explained there is approximately \$31,000 in the budget for consulting. As projects arise where assistance is needed, staff will send emails to all firms and request a quote. If it is more than the budget allows, staff will bring the request to Council.

Councilmember Backous requested there be a review process implemented through Public Works to evaluate the consultant pool.

Public Works Director Olson agreed to the review process.

Motion by Councilmember Elvig seconded by Mayor Ramsey, to authorize staff to create a consultant pool for overflow engineering services, and bring items to the Council for approval as needed, and create a review process in one year

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

7.03: Flaherty & Collins Financing – Third Amendment

Community Development Director Lazan noted the HRA and the Council are parties to this Agreement. There are two key dates: July 15 is the last day Flaherty can opt out. August 15 is the date of closing. The request is to move each date out 30 days. He stated this case is expected to be before the HRA before the end of the month for a fourth amendment.

Councilmember Tossey questioned whether the fourth amendment would be in response to the financing or the key dates.

Community Development Director Lazan answered it would be a revised structured deal, depending on the direction of the HRA and Council.

Mayor Ramsey confirmed this request is a formality.

Community Development Director Lazan confirmed this request is to keep the agreement in place.

Councilmember Elvig stated there are a lot of components to this, and to complete them in 30 days is optimistic. He suggested moving the dates another 30 days out.

Community Development Director Lazan responded this is an aggressive date and it was set in order to keep the item moving. He stated he would be in favor of a longer extension but then it would need to be brought before the HRA for execution. He said the deadline is too close to implement that process

Motion by Councilmember Wise, seconded by Councilmember McGlone to extend the dates of the Agreement 30 days.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Ramsey, Councilmembers Wise, McGlone, Backous, and Elvig. Voting No: Councilmember Tossey.

7.04: Acknowledge Anoka County's Plans and Specs for the 2011 Construction of a Boat Landing and Fishing Platform.

Public Works Director Olson explained the Joint Powers Agreement was approved by the Council. He stated it is the intention to use Traprock until the development of the park is achieved. An entrance from Ramsey Boulevard could be a possibility in the distant future. An open house was held at the Municipal Center, where the Master Plan was discussed and how this boat landing would fit into it. He mentioned the City is loaning the money to the County to be paid back when they apply for funds through Met Council. The request is to approve the plans and specs for the landing and the fishing platform.

Councilmember Elvig expressed concern with the amount of room to navigate in the parking lot. While someone is landing their boat, they could easily be in the way of someone wanting to launch their boat.

Public Works Director Olson explained this is the beginning of the plans for the Landing. Anoka County designed this, and it is their land. He offered to forward the comments to the County.

Discussion took place regarding the size of the lot and potential traffic issues. Further discussion took place on whether the handicap stall is needed and where a boat could be parked to remove weeds from it.

Public Works Director Olson stated due to the expressed concerns, it could be beneficial to have the County attend our next regularly scheduled Council meeting. He also noted the Council is invited to look at the plan anytime at the County offices.

City Administrator Ulrich cautioned that timing is tight. This is a high priority in order to get this started and finished this year. He acknowledged the concerns are valid and they will be passed along to the County.

Motion by Mayor Ramsey, seconded by Councilmember McGlone, to acknowledge Anoka County's Plans and Specs for the 2011 Construction of a Boat Landing and Fishing Platform.

Further discussion: Councilmember Tossey expressed concern in the possibility of adding costs to the project. He raised the issue of snow storage.

Public Works Director Olson noted there is no curb on this plan. The roundabout, or the median, is the infiltration basin which helps to treat the water before it is discharged. Due to their previous experiences, he explained they do not want to have people parking that may block the route of others. He also noted the DNR permits were null and void during the State shut down, which could affect the dates in this project.

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

8. MAYOR, COUNCIL AND STAFF INPUT

Meeting with PCA

City Administrator Ulrich noted the Mayor and Staff met with the staff from the Pollution Control Agency. He stated they discussed the utilization of land in the vicinity of the closed landfill and the future of that area. Discussions took place in the last several years regarding this piece of land. This issue will continue to move forward, and he said he would bring the ideas back to the Council.

Impacts w/re to State Shutdown

City Administrator Ulrich explained the impacts to the City of the State shutdown. The road reconstruction projects are on hold. He said the Alpine and Sunfish project is moving ahead, but Anoka County can continue to move forward with it until the end of July. In terms of City services, the impact has been minimal. The most difficult area is if a project needs State approval, it can run into difficulties.

Update on Storm Clean-up

Public Works Director gave an update on the large storm event in the last week. He said the residents have been given one week to get their tree debris to the curb, and a contractor was hired to help handle the debris. The City did enter a state of emergency. He said one of the most frequently asked questions is whether tree disposal sites that had been used in 2005 could be used. He said it is not a service that will be offered this year. The other frequent question is whether the boulevard trees will be replaced. He stated there is a budget, and some trees can be replaced. The boulevard trees will be replaced when that activity fits within the normal budget. He advised citizens to call the City for a list of contractors. They should make sure the contractors they choose are bonded and licensed.

Fire Chief Kaplar stated the debris can be brought to the City's site and burned, and there is usually a \$25 permit fee. He requested the Council waive that fee for 30 days.

Motion by Councilmember Wise, seconded by Councilmember Elvig, to waive the permit fee for burning debris for a period of 30 days.

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

Fire Chief Kaplar stated a recreational fire is 20 feet. There are no restrictions; however, he noted pine trees create a lot of smoke, and if that smoke is seen by an employee they will respond.

Farmers Market/The Draw Events

City Administrator Ulrich reminded the public that The Draw summer series event continues. The farmers market is open as well.

Soccer Tournament

Councilmember Backous stated the Northern Lights Soccer Club is hosting the boys' tournament. There will be several thousand people will be coming to Ramsey, and volunteers are needed for various positions.

9. ADJOURNMENT

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

The regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurtis G. Ulrich
City Administrator

ATTEST:

Jo Ann M. Thieling
City Clerk

Drafted by Chris Moksnes
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.