

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. CALL TO ORDER ..... 2

2. PRESENTATION..... 2

3. CITIZEN INPUT ..... 2

4. APPROVE AGENDA ..... 2

5. CONSENT AGENDA ..... 3

6. PUBLIC HEARING ..... 4

7. COUNCIL BUSINESS..... 4

    7.01: Consideration of Final Approval of Ramsey RLF Loan to Wells Catering, Inc., and SAC/WAC Fee Assistance to Ramsey Retail Rental, LLC ..... 4

    7.02: Receive Economic Development Authority Recommendation in Regards to Name of Azurite Street in the Sunfish Lake Business Park ..... 5

    7.03: Consider design revisions for City project 11-21; intersection signalization at Armstrong and Bunker Lake Boulevards, and associated infrastructure improvements to serve the Legacy Christian Academy development ..... 5

    7.04: Consider a Resolution to Appoint Board and Commission Members ..... 6

    7.05: Consider Support of Running Aces Harness Park Gaming Expansion ..... 8

    7.06: Consider Resolution in Support of Recommendations for Refurbishment of Coon Rapids Dam ..... 8

8. MAYOR, COUNCIL AND STAFF INPUT ..... 9

9. ADJOURNMENT ..... 10

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

The Ramsey City Council conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 8, 2011, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

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

Members Absent:     Mayor Bob Ramsey

Also Present:        Deputy City Administrator Heidi A. Nelson  
                          Public Works Director Brian Olson  
                          City Engineer Tim Himmer  
                          Senior Planner Tim Gladhill  
                          City Attorney William Goodrich  
                          Coleen Lasher, Human Resources Representative

**1.     CALL TO ORDER**

Acting Mayor Wise called the regular meeting of the Ramsey City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2.     PRESENTATION**

None.

**3.     CITIZEN INPUT**

None.

**4.     APPROVE AGENDA**

Deputy City Administrator Nelson stated the last item on the Work Session agenda, Schedule Meeting and Review Agenda for Joint Meetings with Adjacent Cities and City Commissions, is moved to Item 7 on this meeting's agenda.

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Councilmember Backous, to approve the agenda as amended.

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

## 5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 5.01 Receive Cash & Investments Report for Period Ending February 28, 2011
- 5.02 Receive Cash & Investments Report for Period Ending January 31, 2011
- 5.03 Approve the following City Council and Committee Meeting Minutes
  - City Council Regular Meeting – January 25, 2011
  - City Council Work Session – February 8, 2011
  - City Council Regular Meeting – February 8, 2011
- 5.04 Authorize Agreement for Fare Reimbursements
- 5.05 Adopt Resolution #11-03-060 Approving Cash Disbursements made and Authorizing Payment of Accounts Payable Invoicing Received During the Period of February 17, 2011 through March 2, 2011
- 5.06 Adopt Resolution #11-03-061 Approving State of MN Joint Powers Agreements with City of Ramsey on Behalf of its City Attorney and Police Department
- 5.07 Adopt Resolution #11-03-062 through #11-03-067 accepting the feasibility study and call the public hearing for the 2011 Street Maintenance Program; City projects #11-01 through 11-06
- 5.08 Report from the Personnel Committee Meeting held on 02-22-11
  - 1) Consider a Resolution Accepting the Resignation of a Patrol Officer and Authorization to Recruit a Replacement Patrol Officer - *Ratify the recommendation of the Personnel Committee and adopt Resolution #11-03-068 to accept Officer Erdman's resignation and to authorize staff to begin a recruitment process to fill the vacancy.*
- 5.09 Report from the Finance Committee of February 22, 2011
  - 1) Consider Contract for Agent of Record for Property, Casualty, and Workers Compensation Insurance – *Ratify the recommendation of the Finance Committee and authorize the agent of records contract for two years in the amounts of \$6,000 for 2012 and \$6,200 in 2013.*
  - 2) Credit Card Analysis – *Ratify the recommendation of the Finance Committee to schedule a worksession on March 22, 2011 to discuss credit cards with eligible vendors and the city's utility billing company.*
- 5.10 Report from Public Works
  - 1) Overview of the Utility Department SCADA System – *Information purposes only.*
  - 2) Overview of the 2011 Street Maintenance Program – *Ratify the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to recommend that the City Council direct staff to prepare feasibility study for the 2011 Street Maintenance Program and schedule a public open house.*
  - 3) Consider Change Order for City Improvement Project #10-32; 176th Avenue Culvert – *Ratify the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to approve*

*the change order for Improvement Project #10-24; 176th Avenue culvert replacement, in the amount of \$20,395.56.*

- 4) Consider Engineering Services Request for Proposals – *Ratify the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to authorize staff to distribute an RFP for engineering services in an effort to build a specialized pool of three to five consultants for a term of three years to utilize, as necessary, for overflow work and to include language stating the information would be owned by the City and presented in a format the City can use and manipulate.*
- 5) Consider Roadway Modifications at TH10 & Feldspar Street NW – *Ratify the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to request that MnDOT advance the project sooner with State funding and no City funding.*
- 6) Update on Retro Fitting of Public Works Lighting – *Ratify the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to table this item until the next Public Works Committee meeting.*

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

## **6. PUBLIC HEARING**

There were no public hearings.

## **7. COUNCIL BUSINESS**

### **7.01: Consideration of Final Approval of Ramsey RLF Loan to Wells Catering, Inc., and SAC/WAC Fee Assistance to Ramsey Retail Rental, LLC**

Development/Marketing Manager Backman reviewed the staff report.

Councilmember Jeffrey asked if this has been approved once.

Development/Marketing Manager Backman replied it has been approved, though it has been revised since then to include a full-service, sit-down restaurant.

Motion by Councilmember Jeffrey, seconded by Councilmember Elvig, to approve a \$68,000 RLF loan with a term of 10 years at one percent over prime (4.25%) to Wells Catering for The Falls Cafe project, and secured by a first position on \$165,000 of equipment; and approve zero interest, forgivable loans totaling \$55,000 to Ramsey Retail Rental to offset SAC/WAC fees associated with a new full-service restaurant at The Ramsey Office Plaza building in The COR.

Further Discussion: Councilmember Elvig pointed out if the SAC fees are reduced, the City should reduce its contribution. Development/Marketing Manager Backman suggested the Council approve a loan up to \$55,000 and staff will make all efforts to lower the fees with the Met Council, thereby reducing the City's contribution. He explained the terms of the RLF loan has not changed, even though this is now a larger project. The SAC/WAC fees have changed due to it being a larger project. The capacity is 140 seats. Councilmember McGlone noted he

was the only opposing vote at the EDA meeting, and he will still oppose. He stated the City is considering a subsidy for two competing interests. He said he thought there was a conflict of interest between the Boards. Councilmember Tossey stated he is prepared to approve the loan. He commented he agreed with Councilmember McGlone in that there are two Commissions competing. He added he is not willing to allow taxpayers to subsidize a project that will be competing. Mr. Kruger put his plan in front of the Council first, and Councilmember Tossey said he would support this project. Deputy City Administrator Nelson explained the Flaherty space is for 3,000 square feet of retail space. There is no formal agreement in place to indicate a restaurant will be included in that project. Discussion took place regarding the history of the Flaherty Collins project. Councilmember Backous noted the City has the first position on \$165,000 worth of equipment on this project. There is no collateral on the other potential project. Councilmember McGlone went on record noting the total value of the project is over \$800,000 and he didn't think this \$55,000 would make or break the project. He added the subsidy stays with the building owner if it fails and he felt the City was working against itself. Councilmember Elvig pointed out the EDA has a mission to bring jobs into the City with a formula. The City has already helped to fund one restaurant, which means it is competing against itself with any other restaurant. However, this would bring jobs. He asked that the EDA consider putting a policy in place in their next discussion.

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

**7.02: Receive Economic Development Authority Recommendation in Regard to Name of Azurite Street in the Sunfish Lake Business Park**

Senior Planner Gladhill reviewed the staff report.

Acting Mayor Wise stated he attended the meeting where this was discussed. He said he did not find anything that would support the position that changing the name of the street would change response time for police and fire.

Motion by Councilmember Backous, seconded by Councilmember Elvig, to make no change to the segment of Azurite Street in the Sunfish Lake Business Park

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

**7.03: Consider Design Revisions for City Project 11-21; Intersection Signalization at Armstrong and Bunker Lake Boulevards, and Associated Infrastructure Improvements to Serve the Legacy Christian Academy Development**

Public Works Director Olson reviewed the staff report.

Acting Mayor Wise asked if there is a way to do this on a smaller scale.

Public Works Director Olson answered the amount of line that is buried can be reduced. This would be capitalizing on the relocation benefits, since they have to relocate anyway. He noted this is the time to bury the lines because of the construction. The total cost is \$152,000 with the savings.

Councilmember Elvig questioned whether this would have to be untrenched or handled again if an overpass goes through.

Mr. Olson responded he didn't think it would because there would be no reason to relocate the lines.

Councilmember Elvig inquired if there are any other conduits that should be put in the ground while the lines are being buried.

Public Works Director Olson explained Sunwood Drive has a large differential in elevation for the overpass, so any other conduit can be added as needed. He noted there is a difference in the cost to bury conduits. A resolution from the TIF would have to be granted to extend the budget. He said staff can research whether there is a conduit to put in on the east side while they are burying. He added there already is sewer underneath the other side of Armstrong Boulevard that will be extended to the north to Legacy Academy. There will be sewer on both sides of Armstrong Boulevard.

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Councilmember Jeffrey, to Adopt Resolution #11-03-069 Approving the terms of an up to \$175,000 interfund loan (from PIR fund) in connection with Tax Increment Financing District #14 with the funds to be used to bury the existing private utilities in coordination with City project #11-21.

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

#### **7.04: Consider a Resolution to Appoint Board and Commission Members**

Human Resources Representative Lasher reviewed the staff report.

Motion by Councilmember McGlone, seconded by Councilmember Tossey, to table this item to the next regularly scheduled Council meeting.

Further discussion: Councilmember Elvig suggested making a motion to authorize the appointments with the exception of leaving discussion open for a new EDA member. Councilmember McGlone stated he may want to change some positions on the list, and he thought the Mayor should be available for the discussion. Councilmember Jeffrey raised the issue that the Mayor wasn't able to attend the interviews, and it may not be necessary to wait for him for further discussion. Discussion took place on whether further discussion should wait until Mayor Ramsey can attend, and whether Mayor Ramsey would need to vote on the interviewees.

Motion failed. Voting Yes: Councilmember McGlone. Voting No: Acting Mayor Wise, Councilmembers Backous, Elvig, Jeffrey, McGlone, and Tossey. Absent: Mayor Ramsey.

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Councilmember Jeffrey, to Adopt Resolution #11-03-010 to appoint the following board and commission members and to table the appointment to the EDA to the next regularly scheduled Council meeting:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Board or Commission</u>	<u>Term Dates</u>	<u>Length</u>
Jim Bendtsen	Board of Admin. Hearings	April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2015	4 Years
Based on disc.	Economic Dev. Authority	April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2017	6 Years
Jennifer Carlson	Environmental Policy Board	April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2015	4 Years
Trent Hassett	Environmental Policy Board	April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2015	4 Years
Michael Max	Environmental Policy Board	April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2015	4 Years
Bridgett Barr	Park and Rec. Commission	April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2015	4 Years
Andrew Fyten	Park and Rec. Commission	April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2015	4 Years
David Minke	Park and Rec. Commission	April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2015	4 Years
Richard Chubb	Park and Rec. Commission	April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012	1 Year
Ralph Brauer	Planning/Bd. of Adj.	April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2015	4 Years
Joseph Field	Planning/Bd. of Adj.	April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2015	4 Years
Rob Schiller	Planning/Bd. of Adj.	April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012	1 Year
Randy Bauer	Planning/Bd. of Adj.	April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2014	3 Years

Further discussion: Deputy City Administrator Nelson informed this item will be presented to Council on March 22, 2011. She said there are significant vacancies and starting orientation with newly elected officials will be helpful. Councilmember McGlone stated he has concerns with the rest of it and would like to make changes. City Attorney Goodrich noted the motion was moved by a majority, which prevails. Discussion took place regarding the candidates and how they were chosen.

Councilmember Elvig called the question to stop debate.

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

Councilmember Elvig called the question for the motion.

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

Motion by Councilmember Jeffrey, seconded to Councilmember Backous, to appoint Mr. Chris Riley to the EDA.

Motion failed. Voting Yes: Councilmembers Jeffrey, Backous, Elvig. Voting No: Acting Mayor Wise, Councilmembers McGlone, and Tossey. Absent: Mayor Ramsey.

Mr. Riley stated he considered himself to be a force to try to help businesses and retain business as well as attract new businesses and jobs. He apologized if he stepped on toes and requested support to be appointed to the EDA Committee.

#### **7.05: Consider Support of Running Aces Harness Park Gaming Expansion**

Deputy City Administrator Nelson reviewed the staff report.

Motion by Acting Mayor Wise, seconded by Councilmember Elvig, to Adopt Resolution #11-03-071 Supporting Running Aces Harness Park and Its Request to Permit Electronic Gaming Machines at its State Licensed and Regulated Gaming Facility.

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

#### **7.06: Consider Resolution in Support of Recommendations for Refurbishment of Coon Rapids Dam**

Deputy City Administrator Nelson reviewed the staff report.

Acting Mayor Wise asked if this resolution is to benefit a shared resource.

Deputy City Administrator Nelson responded the City does benefit from the Coon Rapids Dam and the recreational pool. The City residents who live on the river can access those resources. The City does benefit directly by the dam being restored and maintained.

Motion by Councilmember Jeffrey, seconded by Councilmember Elvig to Adopt Resolution #11-03-072 in Support of the Recommendations for Refurbishment of the Coon Rapids Dam.

Further discussion: Councilmember Elvig stated the benefit for Ramsey is extreme. The benefit now is that the dam functions as a great barrier for the carp. Councilmember Backous agreed.

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

## **7.07 Schedule Meeting and Review Agenda for Joint Meetings with Adjacent Cities and City Commissions (from Work Session)**

Deputy City Administrator Nelson provided a brief overview. She asked the Councilmembers to identify items they would like on the agenda for joint City meetings.

Acting Mayor Wise questioned what progress has been made in working with other cities.

Public Works Director Olson responded the cities of Andover, Anoka, Nowthen and Anoka County collectively have been meeting with Ramsey. The City Administrators have met with the highway departments. A cost share policy has been discussed and how that relates to transportation issues. Another meeting is set up for this week Friday to discuss access spacing guidelines and how to move forward with a change in those policies.

Acting Mayor Wise asked if Ramsey has done any lobbying with State representatives on MnDOT and asked about their scoring.

Public Works Director Olson stated it is difficult to anticipate the scoring methodology from one solicitation to the next. Solicitation for Federal funds is through the Met Council and Transportation Advisory Board and Transportation Advisory Council. He noted different boards conduct the scoring.

Councilmember Tossey noted an item to bring up is the need for police services. Neighboring cities may not have a contract with nearby cities, which should be discussed.

Councilmember McGlone stated he was at a League of Minnesota Cities training last week and one of the Councilmembers for Nowthen expressed interest in exploring transportation solutions with Ramsey. They have some of the same issues.

Councilmember Elvig suggested long-term fresh water may be an issue. He proposed the Met Council should take this up as their issue, and since they haven't, the City should take it up regionally.

Deputy City Administrator Nelson asked if there were any issues regarding other Commissions that should be discussed.

Acting Mayor Wise noted communication between the HRA and EDC should happen regularly and all Boards should know how to work together with others.

## **8. MAYOR, COUNCIL AND STAFF INPUT**

### Home Improvement Show

Deputy City Administrator Nelson noted Saturday, March 19, 2011, is the annual Home Improvement Show from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Andover Community Center.

Mayors Prayer Breakfast

Deputy City Administrator Nelson stated the next Mayors' Breakfast is Friday, April 1, 2011, from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at Constance Evangelical Free Church in Andover.

Business & Environmental Expo

Deputy City Administrator Nelson noted the Business and Environmental Expo is on April 30, 2011, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Environmental Expo will be held at the Ramsey Municipal Center.

Ramsey Rotary Wine Tasting Fundraiser

Deputy City Administrator Nelson stated the Annual Fundraising Wine Tasting Event by the Rotary Club will be held on Thursday, March 24, 2011, from 6:00 to 9:00 at the Links at Northfork.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councilmember Jeffrey, seconded by Acting Mayor Wise, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kurtis G. Ulrich  
City Administrator

ATTEST:

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Jo Ann M. Thieling  
City Clerk

Drafted by Chris Moksnes  
*TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*