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

The Ramsey City Council conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, August 23, 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 Sarah Strommen
Councilmember Jason Tossey
Councilmember Jeffrey Wise

Also Present: Deputy City Administrator Heidi A. Nelson
Finance Officer Diana Lund
Public Works Director Brian Olson
Economic Development/Marketing Director Aaron Backman
Fire Chief Dean Kapler
Police Chief James Way
Parks Supervisor Mark Riverblood
Senior Planner Tim Gladhill
Environmental Coordinator Chris Anderson
City Engineer Tim Himmer
Development Manager Darren Lazan
City Attorney William Goodrich
Planning Intern Patrick Brama
Streets Supervisor Grant Reimer

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. PRESENTATIONS

2.1 Swearing in/Oath of Office for Councilmember Sarah Strommen

City Attorney Goodrich issued the Oath of Office to Councilmember Sarah Strommen.

Former Councilmember Jeffrey congratulated Councilmember Strommen and expressed good wishes.

Councilmember Strommen commented she has big shoes to fill and thanked former Councilmember Jeffrey for his years of service. She thanked the residents of Ward 4 for putting their confidence in her.

2.2 Recognize Police Reserve Sharon Johnson for Years of Service

Police Chief Way introduced Sergeant Tim Frankfurth. Sergeant Frankfurth introduced Sharon Johnson and noted she has 13 years of service with the Reserve program.

Police Captain Tim Dwyer presented Ms. Johnson with a Certificate of Appreciation for her years of service.

Ms. Johnson thanked the Police Chief for the support he has given to the Police Reserves.

2.3 Mayor Ramsey read the Resolution Proclaiming September 27 - 23 as Constitution Week.

Representatives of the Daughters of the American Revolution were present to accept the Proclamation of Constitution Week.

3. CITIZEN INPUT

Eric Zaetsch, 6521 - 154th Lane NW, commented on a memo from Stacy Kvilvang to Deputy City Administrator Nelson. He noted it is in regard to the proposed apartments and the possible funding. He questioned if there is not adequate cash to pay off the outstanding General Obligation TIF bonds, the City can use TIF revenue from Allina and the Veterans Clinic. He said this seems as though the City is dodging a referendum. He suggested the citizens be informed and invited to support the endeavor by having a referendum.

Jenny Brock, 15240 Kangaroo Street NW, Ramsey, stated she asked about the potential traffic flow on Alpine that would result from the new school. She was told Alpine would not be affected. She said her property backs up to this development. It looks like there will be a back door exit out of that school onto Puma. This would increase traffic on Alpine, and she would have a difficult time getting out onto Alpine.

Mayor Ramsey explained there must be two accesses into any type of development. This was not done to plan to increase the traffic on Puma; it was only to offer an alternate route. He added Bunker Lake Boulevard is the primary ingress and egress for that project, and the expectation is that Bunker Lake Boulevard will be the primary traffic route.

Councilmember Backous explained the original plan was to cul-de-sac the road and to not connect it to Puma; the plan did change from the original. It was not incorrect information given to her; it was a change that had to be made.

Councilmember Tossey confirmed the original plan was a cul-de-sac, when staff approached Council and pointed out there was no alternate route. It is a public safety reason to put the alternate route in, to be used, for example, when there is an accident on Highway 10.

Ms. Brock stated he heard on the morning news that the City of Ramsey is going to add on to the parking ramp at a cost of \$14 million dollars. She questioned how the taxpayers would pay for this with the economy as it is.

Mayor Ramsey noted the City received a grant for the expansion. With the train stop coming to Ramsey, the expansion was needed. There is no impact on the tax levy for either of these projects.

Mr. Zaetsch noted County Commissioner Look had given him a written statement indicating a possibly 4-way stop may be installed on Armstrong and Alpine, and possibly one at the Central Park intersection. He urged the Council to consider lights and suggested the Council discuss this item with Commissioner Look.

Mayor Ramsey responded the Council has addressed the intersections mentioned. He noted they have requested the County consider the intersection at Central Park, as this is on a County Road. This intersection did not meet their warrants for a stop sign. He noted the intersection at Alpine and Armstrong may meet the criteria, and this will be the County's decision.

Mayor Ramsey requested the Consent Agenda be acted on prior to the Approval of the Agenda.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Tossey requested Item 4.7 be removed from the Consent Agenda and added to the Agenda as Item 7.07

Councilmember Strommen requested Item 4.15 be removed from the Consent Agenda and added to the Agenda as Item 7.08.

- 4.1 Receive May 2011 Financial Reports - General Fund and Enterprise Funds
- 4.2 Receive June 2011 Financial Reports - General Fund and Enterprise Funds
- 4.3 Approve the following Council and Council Committee Meeting Minutes:
 - a) City Council Special – May 17, 2011
 - b) City Council Work Session – May 17, 2011
 - c) City Council Work Session – June 7, 2011
 - d) City Council Work Session – June 14, 2011
 - e) City Council Regular – June 14, 2011
 - f) City Council Work Session – June 28, 2011
 - g) City Council Regular – June 28, 2011
 - h) City Council Regular – July 12, 2011
 - i) City Council Special – July 19, 2011
 - j) City Council Work Session – July 19, 2011
 - k) City Council Work Session – July 26, 2011

- l) City Council Regular – July 26, 2011
- 4.4 Approve Management of City Hall Lobby Area to The Ramsey Foundation with regard to Displays and Exhibits
 - 4.5 Approve Contract Maintenance Services for The Draw
 - 4.6 Introduce Ordinance to Amend City Code Section 117-117 (E1 Employment District) and Section 117-116 (E2 Employment District).
 - 4.7 ~~Council Dias – bid selection~~
 - 4.8 Approve Extension of Contract for General Legal Services
 - 4.9 Adopt Resolution #11-08-140 Approving Cash Disbursements Made and Authorizing Payment of Accounts Payable Invoicing received during the Period of August 5, 2011 through August 17, 2011
 - 4.10 Adopt Resolution #11-08-141 Proclaiming September 17 - 23, 2011 as Constitution Week
 - 4.11 Adopt Resolution 11-08-142 Authorizing Partial Payment to Omann Brothers Paving Inc for IP 11-22 Rhinestone Commons Parking Lot
 - 4.12 Adopt Resolution 11-08-143 Authorizing Partial Payment to County Line Excavating LLC for IP 09-25 Dysprosium Street Improvements
 - 4.13 Adopt Resolution 11-08-144 Authorizing Partial Payment to Rum River Contracting for IP 10-07 Alpine Drive/Roanoke Street Improvements
 - 4.14 Adopt Resolution #11-08-145 Authorizing Final Payment to Rum River Contracting for IP 08-33 Ute Street Improvements
 - 4.15 ~~Adopt Resolution 11-08-XXX Authorizing Partial Payment to Rum River Contracting for IP 08-34 Bituminous Paving of 151st, 152nd, and Fluorine Street~~
 - 4.16 Adopt Resolution #11-08-146 Authorizing Partial Payment to Douglas-Kerr Underground LLC for IP 11-21 Armstrong and Bunker Lake Blvd Improvements
 - 4.17 Adopt Resolution #11-08-148 Requesting MnDOT Funding for Construction of a Frontage Road on the South Side of Highway 10 (Riverdale Drive Extension to Traprock Street) Through the State Municipal Agreement Program
 - 4.18 Report from the Personnel Committee meeting held on August 9, 2011.
 - 1) Consider a Resolution Ending the Probationary Period of the Senior Planner and Assigning a New Interim Supervisor to the Planning Division – *Ratified the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to approve Resolution 11-08-147 which removes Mr. Tim Gladhill from probation and retains him as the City’s regular full-time Senior Planner, and assigns the Planning Division Supervisory duties to Mr. Gladhill on an interim basis of six months beginning August 24, 2011 to be reviewed in February 2012.*

Motion by Councilmember Backous, seconded by Councilmember Wise to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

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

5. APPROVE AGENDA

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

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

6. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

7. COUNCIL BUSINESS

7.01: Authorization of Resolution #11-08-XXX Authorizing the Sale of \$4,365,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2011 A

Finance Director Lund reviewed the staff report.

Northland Securities representative Paul Donna reviewed the summary of the City's bond and the bond pricing. He said he does not anticipate the need to levy any property taxes.

Motion by Councilmember McGlone, seconded by Councilmember Wise, to Adopt Resolution #11-08-149 authorizing the issuance and awarding the sale of \$4,365,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2011A.

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

7.02: Accept Petition Requesting the Review of Drainage Concerns Around the 149th Lane NW and TH 47 Wetland Complex

City Engineer Himmer reviewed the staff report. He spoke for the applicant who could not be at the meeting. He noted residents have been there 18 years, and they have not experienced this before. He indicated his only request at this time is to have the Council review the situation. He asked the Council to consider whether there might be a long-term solution. He explained the residents had two pumps running 24 hours a day for two weeks. There was very little progress.

Councilmember Wise suggested the structure on Highway 47 mentioned in the staff report might have been installed incorrectly.

City Engineer Himmer replied staff did review that structure. He said they are waiting for calls back from agencies. He said it is a protected wetland, and the elevation cannot be changed.

City Engineer Himmer noted there is a petition with 29 signatures from 28 properties. The signatures have been verified as accurate. He noted staff would look at the water flow, storm sewer and evaluate the water shed.

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Councilmember McGlone, to accept the petition

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

7.03: Consider Final Plat, Site Plan, and Comprehensive Plan/Zoning Amendment Approval of Stoney River; Case of First Phoenix Group and Lord of Life

Senior Planner Gladhill reviewed the staff report.

Phoenix Group representative, David Kiefer, 601 Carlson Parkway, Minneapolis offered to answer questions.

Eric Kellogg, representative with the engineering firm, also stood for questions.

Councilmember Elvig questioned whether it would be feasible to make three lanes to accommodate a fair amount of traffic and most likely peak travel times.

Mr. Kellogg responded he is working with the County and considering these issues. There will be a full right in, right out that is not there today.

City Engineer Himmer indicated this is being discussed in Anoka County in terms of an overlay. There may be a dedicated right in, dedicated through land and dedicated left turn.

Mr. Kiefer gave an overview of Stoney River Apartments. The idea is one can move into Stoney River independent living, and services can be brought to them as needed. There will be memory care units for those that require this level of care. Ebenezer will be managing the unit. He noted there would be a pre-leasing office on the premises of Lord of Life in the fall. He offered his phone number for the public to call with questions. Mr. Kiefer added the groundbreaking will be in the late fall of 2011, and construction will be approximately 12 months. Residents can begin moving in early fall of 2012. The project will bring 70 employees to Ramsey for full and part time jobs, not including the construction of the project.

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Councilmember Wise, to Adopt Resolution #11-08-150 approving the Final Plat of Stoney River, with necessary adjustments allowed to line up the common property line with the shared access; dependant on the City Attorney's review and approval, to approve the site plan for Stoney River, contingent upon final design of a shared access, and adopt Resolution #11-08-151 approving the Comprehensive Plan Amendment to High Density Residential, and to introduce the ordinance to amend the Official Zoning Map to R-3 Residential for the Subject Property.

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

7.04: Adopt Ordinance to Change Civic Center Drive to Veteran's Drive

Senior Planner Gladhill reviewed the staff report.

Motion by Mayor Ramsey, seconded by Councilmember Backous, to waive the Charter requirement to read the ordinance aloud and adopt Ordinance #11-11 to change Civic Center Drive to Veterans Drive.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Motion carried.

7.05: Consider Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Senior Planner Gladhill reviewed the staff report.

Motion by Councilmember Tossey, seconded by Councilmember McGlone, to direct staff to distribute the Comprehensive Plan Amendment to adjacent jurisdictions as required by State Statute and adopt Resolution #11-08-152 to approve the Comprehensive Plan Amendment, subject to final review by the Metropolitan Council.

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

7.06: Site Plan Review for Ramsey Northstar Commuter Rail Station; Case of City of Ramsey

Environmental Coordinator Anderson reviewed the staff report.

Public Works Director Olson stated he spoke with Kimley-Horn and Associates and they will revise the plan to include the topsoil to meet Ramsey's specifications. He reviewed the costs associated with the project. He also presented the project management plan. The agreement identifies the funding sources and commitments and provides this will come before the Council. He said he expected bid documents to be completed in December.

Motion by Councilmember Elvig, seconded by Mayor Ramsey, to approve the site plan for the Ramsey Northstar Commuter Rail Station contingent upon compliance with the City Staff Review Letter dated August 17, 2011.

Further discussion: Mayor Ramsey stated he appreciated all the work County Commissioner Look has put into this. Councilmember Strommen questioned whether bike lockers and racks would be a future item to consider. Environmental Coordinator Anderson replied that it would be.

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

7.07: Request for Council Dias--bid selection

Planning Intern Brama reviewed the staff report. He noted the work to lower the façade of the dais is funded by a balance from QCTV.

Councilmember Tossey stated the money would be spent for a room that is used only five days a month, so he will oppose the request.

Councilmember McGlone indicated he is satisfied with the dais as is, and will oppose the motion.

Motion by Mayor Ramsey, seconded by Councilmember Elvig to select Timber Creek to alter the dais desk.

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

7.08: Adopt Resolution 11-08-XXX Authorizing Partial Payment to Rum River Contracting for IP 08-34 Bituminous Paving of 151st, 152nd, and Fluorine Street

City Engineer Himmer stated this is considered partial payment to Rum River Contracting; this is not a final payment. He explained the City has held back payment since June, and they have not requested extra money on any of the repairs they have done.

Councilmember Strommen explained she pulled this item from the Consent Agenda to make sure the residents understood this is only partial payment. The City is aware there is still work to be done. She asked that the residents help the City, and water to make the turf take hold if there is a dry spell of weather.

Mayor Ramsey asked if there is a plan to finish this project.

City Engineer Himmer explained the plan to finish the project was made and then delayed due to weather. He said they know this project has to be made right before the assessments come due, and the contractor is well aware of the issues.

Motion by Councilmember Wise, seconded by Councilmember McGlone, to adopt Resolution #11-08-153 Authorizing Partial Payment to Rum River Contracting for IP #08-34 Bituminous Paving of 151st, 152nd, and Fluorine Street.

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

8. MAYOR, COUNCIL AND STAFF INPUT

1. There will be a Council Work Session on Tuesday, August 30, beginning at 5:30 p.m.
2. Every Thursday - Farmers Market and Events at The Draw Park
3. City of Ramsey Happy Days Festival - Friday through Sunday, September 16 - 18, 2011
4. The ramp expansion will be starting next week. There is a preconstruction meeting Thursday. Residents will start to see a change in access and signage. The overlay project will start September 19.
5. Senator Jungbauer will be on the roof of Coburn's next week to benefit the Lee Carlson Center. The Lee Carlson Center is a mental health facility.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Tossey, seconded by Councilmember McGlone, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 8:55 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.