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

The Ramsey City Council conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 10, 2012 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 (arrived at 7:19 p.m.)  
Councilmember Jeffrey Wise

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: City Administrator Kurtis Ulrich  
Deputy City Administrator Heidi A. Nelson  
Public Works Director Brian Olson  
Human Resources Representative Lasher  
Parks Supervisor Mark Riverblood  
Senior Planner Timothy Gladhill  
Planning Intern Patrick Brama  
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**

Merlin Hunt, 17860 Nowthen Boulevard NW, voiced his objection to imposing a franchise fee when no benefit is gained. He stated he pays a quarterly fee for street lights but there is not a street light within a quarter mile in either direction of his property and also pays a storm water drainage fee yet the ditches are not kept clean and his property provides drainage for other areas. With regard to the Council's current discussion of a franchise fee to fund road projects, he thought a special assessment was more appropriate because a property benefitting from a new

road should pay some contribution. In addition, he cannot deduct franchise fees from his taxes but can deduct property tax. Mr. Hunt urged the Council not consider a franchise fee that does not benefit the property owner.

John Enstrom, 8702 181<sup>st</sup> Avenue NW, stated he lives on a County road and has drainage easements through his property but is assessed a drainage fee. He noted the south side of 181<sup>st</sup> Avenue is in Ramsey and the north side is in Nowthen. Mr. Enstrom asked whether Nowthen residents contribute towards the street light fee or just receive the benefit, noting that cost should be shared.

#### **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Councilmember Backous, seconded by Councilmember Wise, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda as amended to remove Item 4.08:

- 4.01: Accept Resident Petition to Consider the Installation of Stop Signs and an In-Street Pedestrian Crossing Sign Near 150<sup>th</sup> Lane NW and Ute Street NW
- 4.02: Approve Licenses:
  - Temporary On-Sale Liquor License
  - Church of St Katharine Drexel, 7101 143<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NW ~ Suite G
- 4.03: Approve One-Year Extension of Legal Contract with Randall and Goodrich, P.L.C.
- 4.04: Approve Contractor for Abatement Mowing Services
- 4.05: Adopt Resolution #12-04-046 Approving Cash Disbursements Made and Authorizing Payment of Account Payable Invoicing Received During the Period of March 23, 2012, through April 5, 2012
- 4.06: Adopt Resolution #12-04-047 Proclaiming April 27, 2012, as “Arbor Day” and the Month of May as “Arbor Month”
- 4.07: Adopt Resolution #12-04-048 Appointing City Administrator to Executive Change Control Board – Northstar Ramsey Rail Station
- ~~4.08: Adopt Resolution Revising the City’s Vacation Donation Policy~~ This item postponed to May 8, 2012, to facilitate review by the Personnel Committee
- 4.09: Report from Public Works Committee – Meeting Dated March 20, 2012
  - 1) Consider Storm Sewer Improvements on Sodium Street – A Continuation of Discussions Related to 2011 Flooding Concerns – *Ratify the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to include the proposed drainage enhancement near 16756 Sodium Street (installing a culvert under Sodium Street, regrading the west ditch of Sodium Street, constructing a berm to keep the water in the ditch, and replacing the existing driveway culvert. The ditch would be graded to drain to the south and a culvert would be installed near the south property line to drain the water to the west.) in the 2012 construction season, and perform the work before implementing the Street Maintenance Program (sealcoating)*
  - 2) Consider Storm Sewer Improvements on 163<sup>rd</sup> Lane – A Continuation of Discussions Related to 2011 Flooding Concerns – *Ratify the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to direct staff to implement the proposed drainage enhancements, and to include this work with the previously approved storm sewer projects for completion in 2012.*

- 3) Consider Revisions to the City's Minnesota State Aid (MSA) Street System – *Ratify the recommendation of the Public Works Committee and approve the staff proposed MSA street system revisions and Adopt Resolution #12-04-049 Amending the Municipal State Aid Street System.*
  - 4) Consider Project Scope for Phase 2 of the Alpine Drive Overlay Project – *Ratify the recommendation of the Public Works Committee and eliminate the alternative road base technologies on this project, but rather include that investigation and analysis with the future Riverdale Drive/MRT project, and to include Segment 1 as an add alternative within the scope of the 2012 Alpine Drive overlay.*
- 4.10: Report from the Personnel Committee – Meeting Dated April 3, 2012
- 1) Consider a Resolution to Accept the Resignation of a Part-time Police Technician – *Ratify the recommendation of the Personnel Committee and Adopt Resolution #12-04-050 Accepting the Resignation of a Part-Time Police Technician*
  - 2) Consider a Resolution to Authorize a Recruitment for a Management Analyst – *Informational; this item will be considered on the regular agenda as item 7.01.*

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

## **5. APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Councilmember Backous, seconded by Mayor Ramsey, to approve the agenda as presented.

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

## **6. PUBLIC HEARING**

None.

## **7. COUNCIL BUSINESS**

### **7.01: Consider Resolution #12-04-XXX to Authorize a Recruitment for a Management Analyst**

Human Resources Representative Lasher reviewed the staff report.

Motion by Mayor Ramsey, seconded by Councilmember Wise, to adopt Resolution #12-04-051 to Authorize a Recruitment for a Management Analyst.

Further discussion: Councilmember Strommen stated her intention to not support the motion, not because of the current Planning Intern or being opposed to this position in the future, but because two key economic development positions vacated and she has concerns with how to fill those duties. The Council discussed the motion, noting City Administrator Ulrich had

recommended approval and if things change in the future, the Council can debate whether the economic development positions should be filled.

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

Councilmember Tossey arrived at 7:19 p.m.

Mayor Ramsey announced this is the last Council meeting for Deputy Administrator Nelson who was hired as the Wayzata City Manager. He thanked Ms. Nelson for her great service to the City of Ramsey.

Deputy City Administrator Nelson thanked the Council, businesses, and residents for their support and opportunity to serve the City, stating it had been a great opportunity.

City Administrator Ulrich thanked Deputy City Administrator Nelson and stated Ms. Nelson has done a superb job, been a splendid member of staff, and left Ramsey a better place.

#### **7.02: Introduce Ordinance Amending the City Code Relating to Noise Nuisance / Sound Levels**

City Attorney Goodrich reviewed the staff report.

The Council discussed its concern relating to the low threshold of noise the ordinance would establish as a violation.

City Attorney Goodrich stated if the Council has questions, he would recommend consideration be tabled so Police Chief Way can provide answers.

Motion by Mayor Ramsey, seconded by Councilmember Tossey, to table consideration of an Ordinance amending City Code §30-3 Property Conditions Constituting a Public Nuisance (32)a. Relating to Sound Levels to a Work Session for further discussion.

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

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

The Council announced today's ground breaking of The Residents at The COR and the train station.

City Administrator Ulrich announced upcoming meetings and events.

Mayor Ramsey announced the Mayor's Town Hall meeting will be rescheduled to the third Thursday of the month, 7 p.m., in the Itasca Room.

**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 7:32 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 Carla Wirth  
*TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*