

## **5.08: Public Hearing: Consider Ordinance #17-04 Amending Irrigation Requirements (Project #17-104)**

### **Public Hearing**

Chairperson Bauer called the public hearing to order at 8:58 p.m.

### **Presentation**

City Planner Anderson presented the staff report stating during the early part of this year, the Environmental Policy Board (EPB) discussed a potential ordinance amendment regarding irrigation requirements for multi-family and commercial/industrial developments. The intention originally was simply to eliminate the City Code requirement that in-ground irrigation systems be installed in all multi-family and commercial/industrial projects. However, based on information received at their January meeting from a guest speaker, the EPB directed Staff to revise the Ordinance so that it also stipulates that *if* an irrigation system is installed (including single family parcels), it shall be equipped with a rain sensor (per state statute) as well as one or more water efficient technologies. This could include, but would not be limited to, a smart controller, soil moisture sensor(s), and/or an evapotranspiration (ET) sensor(s). This provides enough flexibility so that as future advances in water efficient irrigation technologies are developed, it will not require additional ordinance amendments. Staff reviewed the request further with the Commission and recommended approval.

### **Citizen Input**

Commissioner Nosan asked if a residential homeowner needed a permit to install an irrigation system.

City Planner Anderson stated this was required by the State of Minnesota.

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Surma, to close the public hearing.

Motion Carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Bauer, Commissioners Anderson, Surma, Brauer, Gengler, and Nosan. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioner VanScoy.

Chairperson Bauer closed the public hearing closed at 9:02 p.m.

### **Commission Business**

Motion by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Surma, to recommend that City Council adopt Ordinance #17-04 eliminating the requirement for in-ground irrigation systems in any zoning district and requiring any newly installed irrigation system to have one or more water efficient technologies.

Motion Carried. Voting Yes: Chairperson Bauer, Commissioners Anderson, Surma, Brauer, Gengler, and Nosan. Voting No: None. Absent: Commissioner VanScoy.

DRAFT