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

The Ramsey City Council conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 2018, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor Sarah Strommen
Councilmember Jill Johns
Councilmember Mark Kuzma
Councilmember John LeTourneau
Councilmember Chris Riley
Councilmember Melody Shryock

Members Absent: None

Also Present: City Administrator Kurtis Ulrich
Fire Chief Matt Kohner
Police Chief Jeff Katers
Parks and Assistant Public Works Superintendent Mark Riverblood
Civil Engineer IV Leonard Linton
Human Resources Manager Colleen Lasher
Community Development Director Timothy Gladhill
Asst. City Administrator/Economic Development Manager Patrick Brama
Public Information and Event Specialist Nichole Wenberg

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Strommen 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 Strommen.

2. PRESENTATION

2.01: 2018 State of the City

- **Introduction of Recruit Firefighters**
- ***Heart Safe Award***
- **Resilient Communities Partnership Update**
- **State of the City Mayor's Address**

Mayor Strommen presented the 2018 State of the City Address. She stated that in addition to the Mayor's address tonight, there will be three special presentations which will highlight how Ramsey is ready for future opportunities and continues to provide high quality service that will help to responsibly grow the community. She recognized that improvements and achievements

of the Fire Department have helped to provide a cost savings through insurance costs and the ability to provide high-quality services. She reported that there are six recruits that have completed the necessary training to become certified firefighters.

Fire Chief Kohner reported that these recruits have finished their one year of probation, completed the academy, have been certified by the State of Minnesota as firefighters, and have been certified as emergency responders. He commended the dedication of the recruits to complete all the steps necessary to become paid on-call firefighters. He introduced the six new recruits and welcomed them to the City of Ramsey.

Mayor Strommen recognized the Heart Safe program, which began in the City of Ramsey in 2015 through the efforts of resident Tim Hoffman. She reported that by 2017, more than 1,400 people have been trained in CPR and there have been 65 AED devices installed at public locations throughout the City. She provided a recent example of when this training of residents and the availability of an AED device helped to save a life at a local Ramsey business. She invited the individuals who were a part of that event to come forward for the presentation.

Police Chief Katers presented a Citizen Lifesaving Award to Amy Miller and noted that the other resident that assisted, Jacob was unable to attend but expressed his appreciation. He recognized the other members present including the survivor, Mike Miller; the members of the Lions Club, who donated the AED equipment; and Tim Hoffman, who started the program in Ramsey.

Mayor Strommen stated that in 2017, Ramsey was selected as a community partner for the Resilient Communities Partners program, which connects University of Minnesota students and faculty with communities. She reviewed the different categories on which the students have been working with staff. She stated that she has appreciated the ability to partner with students that have brought fresh eyes and ideas while still maintaining the values of Ramsey.

Community Development Director Gladhill reported that this has been a successful partnership, noting that the process is only halfway through. He stated that this has provided a fresh approach to assist with City projects and provides cost-effective supplementary support for staff. He noted that the data collection and tool kit that the students are putting together will help the City to continue to provide high level service to the community in a cost-efficient manner. He thanked the program manager that has been a great help and thanked him for the opportunity to participate in the program.

Mayor Strommen noted that these presentations help to show that Ramsey is ready for the future. She stated that the Strategic Plan continues to provide goals for the community to work towards. She highlighted achievements from 2017 towards the Strategic Plan goals of financial stability, providing a connected community, having a smart citizen focused government, and building and maintaining an effective organization. She stated that 2017 was a year of great achievement for the City and because of those successes, the City is ready for the future. She thanked the other members of the Council and City staff for their continued contributions.

3. CITIZEN INPUT

None.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember LeTourneau, seconded by Councilmember Kuzma, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- 4.01: Approve the following Meeting Minutes:
 - 1) City Council Work Session dated January 9, 2018
 - 2) City Council Regular dated January 9, 2018
- 4.02: Adopt Resolution #18-021 Approving Cash Disbursements Made and Authorizing Payment of Accounts Payable Invoicing Received During the Period of January 4, 2018 through January 17, 2018
- 4.03: Adopt Resolution #18-020 Authorizing Final Payment to Sauter and Sons for Demolition of Former Sunfish Lake Gas Station
- 4.04: Adopt Resolution #18-025 Approving Partial Payment to Douglas-Kerr Underground, LLC for IP #17-10, Puma Street Utility Improvements
- 4.05: Adopt Resolution #18-026 Approving Partial Payment to North Valley, Inc. for IP #14-27, Mississippi River Trail Phase II
- 4.06: Adopt Resolution #18-017 Directing Staff to Submit the 2018 Pay Equity Report
- 4.07: Adopt Resolution #18-030 to Accept the City Administrator's Annual Performance Evaluation and Professional Development Plan
- 4.08: Adopt Resolution #18-031 to Hire a Part-Time Engineering Administrative Assistant

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Strommen, Councilmembers LeTourneau, Kuzma, Johns, Riley, and Shryock. Voting No: None.

5. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Johns, seconded by Councilmember Shryock, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Strommen, Councilmembers Johns, Shryock, Kuzma, LeTourneau, and Riley. Voting No: None.

6. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

7. COUNCIL BUSINESS

- 7.01: Consider Adopting Resolution #18-027 Approving Plans and Specifications and Authorizing Advertisement for Bids for 2018 Crackseal and Sealcoat Improvements, Improvement Project #18-04**

Civil Engineer IV Linton reviewed the staff report and recommendation to adopt Resolution #18-027 approving plans and specifications and authorizing advertisement for bids for 2018 Crackseal and Sealcoat Improvements, Improvement Project #18-04. He noted that the Public Works Committee reviewed the proposed project on January 16th and recommended approval of the plans and specifications.

Councilmember Kuzma asked for additional details on the difference between the budgeted amount and engineer's estimate.

Civil Engineer IV Linton replied that staff uses the bids from the previous year to provide the estimate for the next year's project. He explained that often the bids come in lower than the estimated amount and therefore there are carryover funds available in the budget. He noted that staff attempts to maximize the investment in the roads in a fiscally responsible manner.

Councilmember LeTourneau asked how the assessment policy would, or would not, apply in this instance.

Civil Engineer IV Linton replied that sealcoating is not an assessed item and is funded strictly through the City budget.

Councilmember Riley stated that the Public Works Committee discussed this item and there was discussion on the alternatives which will provide the flexibility to reach the budgeted amounts most closely.

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Riley, to Adopt Resolution #18-027 Approving Plans and Specifications and Authorizing Advertisement for Bids for 2018 Crackseal and Sealcoat Improvement, Improvement Project #18-04.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Strommen, Councilmembers Kuzma, Riley, Johns, LeTourneau, and Shryock. Voting No: None.

7.02: Consider Introducing Ordinance #18-06 Vacating Drainage and Utility Easements and Trail Easement within Outlot A Brookfield Second Addition; Case of Brookfield Land, LLC

Community Development Director Gladhill reviewed the staff report and recommendation to introduce Ordinance #18-06 to vacate the existing, underlying drainage and utility easements on the recorded plats of Brookfield First Addition and Brookfield Second Addition, which lie within Outlot A, Brookfield Second Addition, along with the temporary trail easement within Outlot A, Brookfield Second Addition, created in Document Numbers 2013477.002 and 2013477.003.

Motion by Councilmember LeTourneau, seconded by Councilmember Johns, to introduce Ordinance #18-06 vacating drainage and utility easements and trail easement within Outlot A Brookfield Second Addition.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Strommen, Councilmembers LeTourneau, Johns, Kuzma, Riley, and Shryock. Voting No: None.

7.03: Consider Affinity Apartment Project: Public Infrastructure Memorandum of Understanding

Asst. City Administrator/Economic Development Manager Brama reviewed the staff report and noted that the MOU is generally consistent with the past direction provided by the City Council and the EDA via the purchase agreement. He stated that the MOU is also consistent with the previous staff input to the Council and EDA, that TIF District #14 would be staff's targeted funding source for the City's share of infrastructure. He stated that the agreement identifies the specific financing arrangement with the development funding 100 percent upfront and then repayment of only the City's portion of the costs via TIF District #14, over the course of eight years. He stated that both the City Attorney and Ehlers recommended/preferred the financing arrangement outlined in the MOU, versus other methods of funding.

Councilmember Riley asked for input from the consultant.

Jason Aarsvold, Ehlers, reviewed the options that could have been considered but were not preferred for this project. He stated that the project is essentially paying for needed infrastructure improvements. He noted that the City's portion will be paid back through the TIF funds over the eight-year timeframe. He provided additional details on the TIF note that covers the City's portion of the infrastructure expense.

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember LeTourneau, to approve the public infrastructure MOU with CAP Acquisitions.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Strommen, Councilmembers Kuzma, LeTourneau, Johns, Riley, and Shryock. Voting No: None.

7.04: Consider Adoption of Resolution #18-029 Approving Participation in Metropolitan Council Water Efficiency Potential Project

City Administrator Ulrich reviewed the staff report and stated that based on the response received from the Metropolitan Council confirming that the study results will not adversely impact the City of Ramsey, and the potential for the study to result in future cost savings for water supply infrastructure, staff recommends adopting Resolution #18-029 approving the City of Ramsey's participation in the Metropolitan Council Water Efficiency Potential Project.

Councilmember Riley noted that Andover is listed as number one on the list and asked if Andover will be participating.

City Administrator Ulrich stated that he is not aware whether that community is going to participate but noted that he can attempt to find out that decision.

Councilmember Riley stated that he has voted against participation in this program. He stated that usage has continued to decrease even while the City's population receiving City services has increased, which shows that the community is already conserving water. He suggested that the City not participate.

Councilmember LeTourneau stated that he appreciates the comments from Councilmember Riley. He asked if the results of the study would share with other communities the successes the community has had with water conservation.

City Administrator Ulrich agreed that water conservation efforts the City has implemented could be used as benchmarks throughout the program, and therefore the City could be used as a role model. He stated that if there is data from other communities, those results could be applicable to Ramsey.

Councilmember LeTourneau stated that everyone shares the same aquifer and if the City is showing ways to conserve but yet grow, that could be helpful for other communities. He stated that a larger study, such as this, could have regional benefits.

City Administrator Ulrich agreed that regional water supply has been an issue and communities on the fringe of the aquifer are somewhat constrained. He stated that it would make sense to look at conservation in those areas but agreed that there would have to be a regional solution because of the shared resource.

Mayor Strommen stated that in looking back ten years ago, the City was instructed to think about surface water use rather than groundwater use. She noted that it had been frustrating as the City was told they were on their own and therefore she is happy to see the change in attitude to see this as a regional problem and solution. She stated that if there are ways to obtain costs savings or participate in shared solutions, that will provide a service to the community. She noted that this study will provide the City with necessary information and the City can ensure that Ramsey is treated equitable and that the solution is applied equally across all communities.

Motion by Councilmember Johns, seconded by Councilmember Kuzma, to Adopt Resolution #18-029 Approving Participation in Metropolitan Council Water Efficiency Potential Project.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Strommen, Councilmembers Johns, Kuzma, LeTourneau, and Shryock. Voting No: Councilmember Riley.

8. MAYOR, COUNCIL AND STAFF INPUT

Mayor Strommen welcomed Troy Olson, the City's representative from the North Metro Mayors Association.

Troy Olson thanked Mayor Strommen for welcoming him tonight. He stated that he is at the legislature emphasizing the north metro area to ensure that the area is well represented.

City Administrator Ulrich announced upcoming meetings and events.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Shryock, seconded by Councilmember Johns, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurtis G. Ulrich
City Administrator

ATTEST:

Jo Ann M. Thieling
City Clerk

Drafted by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.