

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. CALL TO ORDER 2

2. PRESENTATION..... 2

 2.01: Board and Commission Member Oath of Office..... 2

3. CITIZEN INPUT 2

4. CONSENT AGENDA 2

5. APPROVE AGENDA 3

6. PUBLIC HEARING 3

7. COUNCIL BUSINESS..... 3

 7.01: Request Permission to Cancel Pact Charter School Lease Agreement at 6701 Highway
 10 3

 7.02: Consider Purchase of Property Located at 8175 Riverdale Drive, Ramsey, MN..... 4

 7.03: Adopt Resolution #19-088 to Hire a Public Works Streets Maintenance Worker 5

 7.04: Introduce Ordinance #19-07 Authorizing the City of Ramsey to Sell One (1) Parcel of
 Real Property 6

8. MAYOR, COUNCIL AND STAFF INPUT 7

9. ADJOURNMENT 7

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

The Ramsey City Council conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 9, 2019, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor John LeTourneau
Councilmember Nadine Heinrich
Councilmember Mark Kuzma
Councilmember Debra Musgrove
Councilmember Chris Riley
Councilmember Melody Shryock

Members Absent: None

Also Present: City Administrator Kurtis Ulrich
Police Chief Jeff Katers
Public Works Superintendent Grant Riemer
Administrative Services Director Colleen Lasher
City Engineer Bruce Westby
Economic Development Manager Sean Sullivan

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor LeTourneau 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 LeTourneau.

2. PRESENTATION

2.01: Board and Commission Member Oath of Office

Mayor LeTourneau administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Eric Peters who will be joining the Planning Commission and to Mr. Nathan Barten and Ms. Trixy Barnes, who will be joining the Park and Recreation Commission.

3. CITIZEN INPUT

None.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 4.01: Approve the following Meeting Minutes:
 - 1) City Council Work Session dated March 26, 2019
 - 2) City Council Regular dated March 26, 2019
- 4.02: Approve Licenses
- 4.03: Adopt Resolution #19-086 Approving Cash Disbursements Made and Authorizing Payment of Accounts Payable Invoicing Received During the Period of March 21, 2019 through April 3, 2019
- 4.04: Adopt Resolution #19-084 Proclaiming April 26, 2019 as Arbor Day and the Month of May as Arbor Month
- 4.05: Adopt Resolution #19-087 for Final Plat, Development Agreement and Introduce Ordinance #19-08 to Vacate Easements for Harvest Estates 2nd Addition
- 4.06: Adopt Resolution #19-089 Approving Change Orders 1 and 2 for Riverdale Drive Trunk Utility Improvements, Improvement Project #18-14
- 4.07: Adopt Resolution #19-090 to Hire Temporary Non-Benefit Eligible AFSCME Public Works Maintenance Workers
- 4.08: Report from the Public Works Committee Meeting dated March 19, 2019:
 - 1) Committee Business – *There was none.*
 - 2) Committee/Staff Input – *Public Information Meeting on Wellhead Protection Plan Part 1 Amendment: No action taken.*

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

5. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Musgrove, seconded by Councilmember Heinrich, to approve the agenda as presented.

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

6. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

7. COUNCIL BUSINESS

7.01: Request Permission to Cancel Pact Charter School Lease Agreement at 6701 Highway 10

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed the staff report and recommendation to terminate the lease with Pact Charter School at 6701 Highway 10 and use the space for additional equipment storage for the City of Ramsey Public Works Department.

Councilmember Riley stated that the Council discussed this item at the worksession earlier tonight. He stated that this is City owned property and the City has a use for the property. He noted that staff has spoken with PACT Charter School to ensure that this will not cause a problem and therefore he believes this to be a good idea.

Councilmember Heinrich stated that she feels that public works has been very creative in its use of space but that is not efficient or conducive for the workers and this added square footage will help the department.

Mayor LeTourneau asked if this change would cause an undue hardship for PACT Charter School next school season.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer replied that the buses are housed in Mounds View so there would be additional drive time for those drivers. He was unsure if the school would find another housing location in the community.

Mayor LeTourneau stated that he is unsure that the public is aware of the hardships public works is facing right now and asked staff to provide an update.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer provided an update on the public works space off Jasper and stated that the public works office has operated out of a doublewide trailer since 2003 and the department is severely lacking space. He noted that the department currently has about half the space that it needs.

Mayor LeTourneau stated that the growth of the community has put pressure on this department, which is one of the core functions of the City.

Motion by Councilmember Heinrich, seconded by Councilmember Riley, to accept the staff recommendation and terminate the lease with Pact Charter School at 6701 Highway 10 and use the space for additional equipment storage for the City of Ramsey Public Works Department.

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

7.02: Consider Purchase of Property Located at 8175 Riverdale Drive, Ramsey, MN

Public Works Superintendent Riemer reviewed the staff report and recommendation to purchase the property located at 8175 Riverdale Drive, for housing the City of Ramsey Utilities Department, until the new public works facility is constructed.

City Administrator Ulrich noted that the action tonight would simply provide direction to begin negotiations with Anoka County and a purchase would need to come back before the Council.

Councilmember Riley stated that these are interim options for public works, as the department currently does not have enough space, which provides additional time to find financing for the new public works facility.

Councilmember Kuzma stated that he has hesitations about purchasing this building that he voiced earlier during the worksession. He stated there is a need for the new public works facility and felt that this interim option would only increase the cost of the new facility and prolong that process. He stated that he will not support this option.

Mayor LeTourneau stated that he can see both sides of the argument tonight. He understands the need for additional space for public works and additional information is needed for financing of the new public works facility. He also shared concern with the cost for this interim option versus moving forward with the new public works facility. He stated that he supports investigating all options and would support moving forward with negotiations but would not want to commit to purchasing the property at this time.

Councilmember Shryock agreed that it would be important to move forward with negotiations to determine what the price would be for this option. She stated that if this property is purchased and not needed in the future, there is an option to recoup a good portion of the cost by reselling the property.

Motion by Councilmember Musgrove, seconded by Councilmember Heinrich, to authorize staff to enter into negotiations with Anoka County for the purchase of the property located at 8175 Riverdale Drive.

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

7.03: Adopt Resolution #19-088 to Hire a Public Works Streets Maintenance Worker

Administrative Services Director Lasher reviewed the staff report and recommendation to hire Mr. Vaughn Ihkre as a full-time Public Works Streets Maintenance Worker, effective on or near April 24, 2019, at step 1 of the 2019 wage scale.

Councilmember Heinrich asked for additional information on where the department is falling short, noting that two temporary employees were approved on the consent agenda tonight.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer replied that this position would be responsible for street maintenance and reviewed those duties. He stated that currently the department is down one person from an extended medical leave, and that person will be out for at least two additional months. He stated that this is a needed position.

Councilmember Heinrich asked if the City has considered a temporary worker because the other position is on leave.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer stated that has not been a consideration as this position was agreed to be added prior to the medical leave issue. He explained the difficulty in hiring a temporary worker for street maintenance in the current employment climate.

Councilmember Riley stated that he originally voted against the budget that included this position but the residents have been very vocal about street maintenance and the needs, therefore he will support this addition.

Mayor LeTourneau stated that the need for this type of worker is not decreasing and is not temporary, but will instead continue to escalate.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer agreed that the need is not going away as the goal of road maintenance includes temporary road maintenance.

Councilmember Heinrich asked the length of time that the department has had four street maintenance workers.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer estimated that the department has had four street maintenance workers for about the past four or five years.

Councilmember Kuzma asked the miles of roads that have been added in the last four years.

Public Works Superintendent Riemer estimated that ten to 12 miles of roads have been added. He explained that the new roads are not the problem; the problem lies with the existing roads that need maintenance.

Motion by Councilmember Kuzma, seconded by Councilmember Musgrove, to Adopt Resolution #19-088 to Hire a Public Works Streets Maintenance Worker.

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

7.04: Introduce Ordinance #19-07 Authorizing the City of Ramsey to Sell One (1) Parcel of Real Property

Economic Development Manager Sullivan reviewed the staff report and recommendation to adopt Ordinance #19-07 authorizing the City of Ramsey to sell one parcel of real property.

Councilmember Riley stated that this is a formality as there is an intent to sell the land.

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Kuzma, to introduce Ordinance #19-07, authorizing the City of Ramsey to sell one (1) parcel of real property no longer needed for current or future City functions.

Further discussion: Councilmember Musgrove stated that she attended the Planning Commission meeting where this case was discussed. She stated that the small yellow plot of land not included was an old cemetery and that is why it is not included.

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

8. MAYOR, COUNCIL AND STAFF INPUT

City Administrator Ulrich announced upcoming meetings and events.

Councilmember Heinrich referenced the Mayors Prayer Breakfast at Bunker Hills Friday and encouraged others to attend.

Mayor LeTourneau recognized the student groups present tonight and invited the groups to come forward and introduce themselves. Students from the University of Minnesota introduced themselves, noting that they are present for a project management course. Students from Elk River High School also introduced themselves, noting they are present for a government course.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Musgrove, seconded by Councilmember Heinrich, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurtis G. Ulrich
City Administrator

ATTEST:

Katie M. Schmidt
Administrative Assistant

Drafted by Amanda Staple
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.