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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 27, 2019, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present:     Acting Mayor Chris Riley  
                            Councilmember Nadine Heinrich  
                            Councilmember Mark Kuzma  
                            Councilmember Jeff Menth  
                            Councilmember Debra Musgrove

Members Absent:     Mayor John LeTourneau

Also Present:         City Administrator Kurtis Ulrich  
                            Police Captain Brad Bluml  
                            Administrative Services Director Colleen Lasher  
                            Community Development Director Timothy Gladhill  
                            City Engineer Bruce Westby  
                            City Planner Chloe McGuire Brigl  
                            Communications and Event Coordinator Megan Thorstad  
                            Administrative Intern Jay Elmquist

**1.     CALL TO ORDER**

Acting Mayor Riley called the regular meeting of the Ramsey City Council to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Acting Mayor Riley.

**2.     PRESENTATION**

**2.01:   Swearing-In Ceremony for Councilmember Jeff Menth**

Administrative Services Director Lasher administered the oath of office to Councilmember Jeff Menth.

**2.02:   Public Safety Educational Exhibit Appreciation**

Police Captain Brad Bluml provided background information on a personal injury accident, which occurred on April 6, 2018 in which speed, alcohol, distracting driving and no seat belt were factors related to the crash. Ramsey Police and Fire Departments, Allina Paramedics, the Minnesota State Patrol, Anoka County Sheriff's Office, and the Anoka Police Department all responded to the incident. The driver's father contacted the Ramsey Police Department expressing interest in using the crashed car to help make others aware of these types of incidents

and the importance of driving sober, not speeding, not driving distracted and wearing your seat belt. Ramsey business M & G Trailer generously donated the trailer which will be used to transport the vehicle to different locations; Anoka business North Star Towing generously donated their time and the equipment to permanently attach the vehicle to the trailer for safe transporting; Wade Anderson and the Anderson family generously donated the vehicle, a 2007 silver BMW; and Carrie Dubbelde, a family member of the driver, created the safety banners which will be on display around the vehicle as well as the plaques of recognition. The ability to use this vehicle as an exhibit will be extremely valuable as a public safety educational tool, allowing first responders to convey the importance of traffic laws and real dangers of operating vehicles to citizens. He presented plaques of recognition to the above-mentioned parties.

### **2.03: 2019 Happy Days Festival Update**

Administrative Intern Jay Elmquist provided an update on the coordination and planning efforts for the City of Ramsey's annual Happy Days Festival including a schedule of events, new activities, and opportunities for involvement.

### **3. CITIZEN INPUT**

None.

### **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- 4.01: Receive July 2019 Financial Reports – General Fund and Enterprise Funds
- 4.02: Receive Cash and Investments for Period Ending July 31, 2019
- 4.03: Approve Licenses
- 4.04: Accept Donations of Public Safety Educational Exhibit
- 4.05: Adopt Resolution #19-207 Approving Cash Disbursements Made and Authorizing Payment of Accounts Payable Invoicing Received During the Period of August 8, 2019 through August 21, 2019
- 4.06: Adopt Resolution #19-200 Authorizing Partial Payment #1 to Northern Lines Contracting, Inc. for Improvement Project #18-09, COR Infiltration Basin Improvements
- 4.07: Adopt Resolution #19-201 Appointing a Member to the Economic Development Authority
- 4.08: Adopt Resolution #19-202 Authorizing Final Payment to Kuechle Underground, Inc. for Improvement Project #18-14, Riverdale Drive Trunk Utility Improvements
- 4.09: Adopt Resolution #19-203 Authorizing Partial Payment #2 to Asphalt Surface Technologies (ASTECH) for Improvement Project #19-01, Ford Brook Estates Street Reconstructions
- 4.10: Adopt Resolution #19-206 Approving a Development Agreement and Snow Storage Easement Agreement for Ramsey Storage Center (Project No. 19-119); Case of Ramsey Storage Center, LLC
- 4.11: Adopt Resolution #19-208 Proclaiming Women's Suffrage Ratification Centennial Day

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

## **5. APPROVE AGENDA**

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

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

## **6. PUBLIC HEARING**

None.

## **7. COUNCIL BUSINESS**

### **7.01: Presentation of Housing Study by Maxfield Research and Consulting, LLC**

City Planner McGuire Brigl introduced Matt Mullins from Maxfield Research and Consulting.

Matt Mullins provided background information and reviewed the results of the housing study his firm completed at the request of the City. He reviewed information on population trends, household incomes, employment, and growth in housing. He reported that there are low vacancy rates in rental housing in Ramsey and noted that roughly 44 percent of the rental market in Ramsey is composed of townhomes. He provided information on the senior housing inventory, noting that while Ramsey currently does not have a large stock of this housing type there are projects underway that will contribute to that stock. He also reviewed information on the for-sale market, specifically new construction, and the development pipeline. He stated that over the next decade they see a need for 2,300 units and provided specific information on rentals, senior housing, and single-family housing. He summarized the key takeaways from the study and noted that the final report will be issued soon.

Acting Mayor Riley thanked Mr. Mullin for his presentation.

Community Development Director Gladhill stated that this study was requested by the Council because of the product type changes being asked for by developers. He explained that just because there is a demand for a certain housing type, the City does not necessarily have to plan for it. He thanked the Anoka County HRA, which is providing the funding for this study.

Acting Mayor Riley stated that the comment in the past has been to continue with market rates and market driven housing products. He stated that he looks forward to continuing the conversation to determine how this information fits Ramsey.

## **7.02: Receive Update on Metropolitan Council Brownfield Cleanup Grant Award and Discuss Fair Housing Policy Requirement**

Community Development Director Gladhill reviewed the staff report and stated that staff is seeking broad policy direction and is not providing a specific recommendation. However, staff reiterates that this policy is not required or otherwise mandated but is necessary if the City desires to access the cleanup grant dollars recently awarded to the City for the River Walk Village development project. The policy is not a requirement for all Livable Communities Grants, from which the City has received nearly \$6,000,000 in the past 20 years.

Acting Mayor Riley stated that it seems that if the City wants to accept the award of \$900,000, the City would be required to have this policy in place.

Community Development Director Gladhill confirmed that to be true.

Councilmember Heinrich asked and received confirmation that the Fair Housing Officer position would be deferred to an existing staff member. She asked for information on the training that would be required.

Community Development Director Gladhill stated that it is his understanding that the training is more about Ramsey staff training other Ramsey staff to ensure that the calls are being directed to the Fair Housing Officer.

Councilmember Heinrich asked if the requirements would be things that current staff could handle.

Community Development Director Gladhill confirmed that these elements do not seem to place a burden on staff. He explained that staff is already doing these things; this would just place it under a new lens.

Councilmember Kuzma stated that he was pleased to see the grant award, noting that this property has been a problem for years, and therefore he would support this policy.

Acting Mayor Riley stated that he understands that a policy needs to be drafted and adopted and would like to see the policy as “City friendly” and least restrictive as possible.

Councilmember Musgrove referenced the bullet points; specifically the item which states the City does not restrict the number of people in a dwelling unit and asked for information related to the Fire Code.

Community Development Director Gladhill stated that it more related to college atmospheres where there are a number of unrelated individuals living in a home, which can overload. He stated that case law states that the City can restrict the number of unrelated individuals living in a dwelling unit, but the City currently does not have such a limit.

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

City Administrator Ulrich announced upcoming meetings and events.

**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 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kurtis G. Ulrich  
City Administrator

ATTEST:

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Katie M. Schmidt  
Administrative Assistant

Drafted by Amanda Staple  
*TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*