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

The Ramsey City Council conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, October 22, 2024, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor Mark Kuzma
Councilmember Chelsee Howell
Councilmember Debra Musgrove
Councilmember Chris Riley
Councilmember Dan Specht
Councilmember Matt Woestehoff

Members Absent: Councilmember Michael Olson

Also Present: City Administrator Brian Hagen
City Attorney Fritz Knaak

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kuzma 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 Kuzma.

2. PRESENTATION

None.

3. CITIZEN INPUT

Roxanne Tersteeg, 6263 Rivlyn Avenue, came forward and gave an update on the sewage that leaked into her home during the County Road project. She shared that Aims Construction set up a meeting with her at her home and they are still at odds on reaching a reasonable settlement. She stated she has been paying the expenses as they have come about with the idea that they would bill Aims later; however, these bills were not getting paid by Aims. She said they are still in negotiations, and she will likely not have to take photos of all of her belongings that were ruined to take an inventory to send to Aims. She added that there is still a lot of stress surrounding this experience.

Mayor Kuzma shared that they met with the County to discuss this.

City Administrator Hagen explained that they discussed with the County what the next step is in this process as there are Ramsey residents who are continuing to come to the Council with concerns of things not being done. He noted that the County held a Transportation Committee meeting yesterday with Aims representatives. He shared that the representatives echoed the sentiment that

they want to do what is right by these property owners. He added that Aims shared that they have paid \$500,000 towards these six homes. He explained that when some bills are submitted to be paid by Aims, there are some delays as some of the bills are just estimates and not invoices. He noted that Aims needs all the correct information in order to move forward. He shared that Aims' goal is to have settlements done in the next four weeks or so.

Mayor Kuzma shared that he and Councilmember Howell attended the meeting yesterday and they felt it went well.

Councilmember Howell stated that Mayor Kuzma emphasized in this meeting that the settlements offered by Aims need to be fair offers. She added that one of the County Commissioners expressed concerns about the health issues that this has caused and encouraged Aims to keep this in mind with the settlements. She noted that another County Commissioner last shared concerns that only six homes were affected, and it has still not been handled in four months. She said the message from the City and the County was very clear to Aims. She shared that she is hoping this will result in positive movement forward.

4. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Woestehoff, seconded by Councilmember Howell, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Kuzma, Councilmembers Woestehoff, Howell, Musgrove, Riley, and Specht. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmember Olson.

5. APPROVE MINUTES

Councilmember Musgrove noted that in the Work Session minutes on page 3, paragraph 8, there is a correction needed to the second to last sentence to change 'auditor's account' to 'auditor's report'.

Motion by Councilmember Howell, seconded by Councilmember Musgrove, to approve the following meeting minutes as amended:

- 5.01: City Council Work Session dated, October 8, 2024
- 5.02: City Council Regular Session dated, October 8, 2024

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Kuzma, Councilmembers Howell, Musgrove, Riley, Specht, and Woestehoff. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmember Olson.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Howell, seconded by Councilmember Musgrove, to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- 6.01: Approve Request to Declare Surplus Property

- 6.02: Adopt Resolution #24-304 Approving Cash Disbursements Made and Authorizing Payment of Accounts Payable Invoicing Received During the Period of October 3, 2024 through October 16, 2024.
- 6.03: Adopt Resolution #24-268 Approving Final Payment to Corrective Asphalt Materials, LLC. for Improvement Project #24-09, 2024 Pavement Rejuvenation Improvements.
- 6.04: Adopt Resolution #24-287 Authorizing Partial Payment No. 2 to Kurilla Contracting Co. for Improvement Project #24-54; The Waterfront Improvement.
- 6.05: Adopt Resolution #24-288 Approving Final Payment to Douglas-Kerr Underground, LLC for Improvement Project #23-05, Barthel's Rum River Acres 2nd Street Reconstruction.
- 6.06: Adopt Resolution #24-290 Approving Change Order No. 26 for Improvement Project #20-11, Ramsey Gateway Highway 10 Improvements
- 6.07: Adopt Resolution #24-292 Approving Partial Payment to Twin Cities Utilities LLC. for Improvement Project #24-04; Ford Brook Estates Drainage Improvements.
- 6.08: Adopt Resolution #24-293 Approving Partial Payment to Northwest Asphalt, Inc. for Improvement Project #24-05, MSA Xkimo Street Reconstruction.
- 6.09: Adopt Resolution #24-294 Approving Partial Payment to Dave Perkins Contracting, Inc. for Improvement Project #24-02, Halls Dover Acres Street Reconstruction.
- 6.10: Adopt Resolution #24-295 Accepting Proposals and Awarding a Contract for Topographic Survey for 2025 Neighborhood Pavement Overlay Improvements, Improvement Project #25-07 and Sunwood Drive Concrete Pedestrian Crossing Replacements, Improvement Project #25-08.
- 6.11: Adopt Resolution #24-297 Approving Partial Payment to GMH Asphalt Corporation for Improvement Project #24-03, 2024 NE Ramsey Street Reconstruction.
- 6.12: Adopt Resolution #24-298 Approving Partial Payment to Northdale Construction Co. Inc. for Improvement Project #21-08, WTP Trunk Watermain Improvements.
- 6.13: Adopt Resolution #24-299 Approving Partial Payment to North Valley, Inc. for Improvement Project #24-07, 2024 Neighborhood Pavement Overlay Improvements.
- 6.14: Adopt Resolution #24-300 Authorizing Partial Payment No. 16 to Magney Construction, Inc. for Improvement Project #21-09; Centralized Water Treatment Plant.
- 6.15: Adopt Resolution #24-301 Approving Partial Payment to Douglas-Kerr Underground, LLC. for Improvement Project #23-19, The COR Infrastructure Improvements.
- 6.16: Adopt Resolution #24-302 Amending the Design Services Proposal from Bolton & Menk, Inc. for Dickenson's Mississippi Estates Street Reconstructions, Improvement Project #25-04

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Kuzma, Councilmembers Howell, Musgrove, Riley, Specht, and Woestehoff. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmember Olson.

7. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

8. COUNCIL BUSINESS

8.01: Adopt Ordinance #24-13 Amending Section 106-105, Definition of Manufacturing

City Administrator Hagen reviewed the Staff report in regard to amending the City Code and the definition of Manufacturing to include State-regulated cannabis cultivation.

Motion by Councilmember Woestehoff, seconded by Councilmember Howell, to waive the City Charter requirement to read the ordinance aloud and adopt Ordinance #24-13 amending Section 106-105 Zoning Code Definitions.

A roll call vote was performed:

Councilmember Musgrove	nay
Councilmember Riley	aye
Councilmember Howell	aye
Councilmember Specht	aye
Councilmember Woestehoff	aye
Mayor Kuzma	aye

Motion carried.

8.02: Introduce Ordinance #24-12 Regulate Cannabis Businesses

City Administrator Hagen reviewed the Staff report concerning an ordinance to regulate cannabis businesses.

Councilmember Howell asked what would happen if this ordinance does not pass this evening.

City Attorney Knaak explained it is mandated that cities allow these businesses by the beginning of 2025. He said if this did not pass then the City would have no regulation for these businesses. He stated this ordinance would act as the City’s manner of self-defense from the State statute. He explained this ordinance would protect the citizens.

Councilmember Musgrove shared her appreciation for Staff for working on this and bringing it forward. She noted that she is very torn on this manner. She asked if there is any way that they can add something with regard to daycares that are in residential homes.

City Attorney Knaak explained that they are limited to what the ordinance allows them to do.

City Administrator Hagen shared that they would regulate cannabis retail and are only allowed in certain business districts. He said if someone wanted to sell cannabis out of their home in a residential zoning district, that would not be allowed.

Councilmember Howell stated she sees this as a vote in the positive under duress because they are effectively being neutered at the local level by the State.

Councilmember Musgrove agreed.

Councilmember Specht agreed. He stated he would like to continue with the moratorium; however, that cannot happen, and they need to pass something for regulation.

Motion by Councilmember Woestehoff, seconded by Councilmember Specht, to waive the City Charter requirement to read the ordinance aloud and introduce Ordinance #24-12 to regulate cannabis businesses, amending the draft Ordinance, Section 26-888(e) to read ‘the City of Ramsey shall limit the number of cannabis retail businesses to no more than one registration for every 12,500 residents within the City limits.’

A roll call vote was performed:

Councilmember Musgrove	aye
Councilmember Riley	aye
Councilmember Howell	aye
Councilmember Specht	aye
Councilmember Woestehoff	aye
Mayor Kuzma	aye

Motion carried.

9. MAYOR, COUNCIL AND STAFF INPUT

City Administrator Hagen announced upcoming meetings and events.

Councilmember Musgrove shared that residents may have received a flier in the mail this weekend and noted that she honorably served as the Public Works Committee Chair and shared her appreciation for the Committee giving her this honor and respect. She asked if absentee ballots are kept at the City or the County level.

City Administrator Hagen said he is not sure. He noted that he does know that the absentee ballots are secured every night and are handled very responsibly.

Councilmember Musgrove asked if the direct balloting machines are kept at City Hall until election day.

City Administrator Hagen explained that the absentee ballots that are mailed in are mailed directly to the County. He added that the direct balloting process does occur at City Hall. He noted the same security parameters are in place.

Councilmember Musgrove said she can connect with City Clerk Schmidt to get further answers to her election questions.

10. ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Kuzma, Councilmembers Howell, Musgrove, Olson, Riley, Specht, and Woestehoff. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmember Olson.

The regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian S. Hagen
City Administrator

ATTEST:

Katie M. Schmidt
City Clerk

Drafted by Ava Major
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.

A recording of this meeting is available for viewing online at www.qctv.org
<<http://www.qctv.org>>. Recordings are available for 36 months after the date of the meeting.