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

The Ramsey City Council conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor Ryan Heineman
Councilmember Kirsten Buscher
Councilmember Eric Peters
Councilmember Chris Riley
Councilmember Dan Specht

Members Absent: Councilmember Michael Olson
Councilmember Shanna Stewart

Also Present: City Administrator Brian Hagen
Police Chief Brad Bluml
Community Development Director Stephanie Hanson
Recreation Coordinator Abby Proulx

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Heineman 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 Heineman.

2. PRESENTATION

2.01: Swearing-in and Pinning Ceremony for Captain Nick Dahlberg

Police Chief Bluml introduced Nick Dahlberg and gave a brief background of his history with the City.

Mayor Heineman swore in Mr. Dahlberg as Police Captain.

2.02: Presentation of 2024 Photo Contest Winners

Recreation Coordinator Proulx reviewed the 2024 photo contest winners, and all submissions received for this year.

Councilmember Specht thanked Staff for their work in reviewing these submissions and for all residents who submitted photos.

Councilmember Buscher thanked Staff for having a space for community members to be involved in the City and it is great to see the number of photos submitted.

3. CITIZEN INPUT

Derek Lind, 15230 Germanium Street NW, came forward and shared that he is a member of the Anoka County Elections Integrity Team. He shared that Anoka County had their vote today on the poll pads which did pass in a 4-3 vote. He added that Commissioners Heinrich and Reinert spoke out in favor of paper poll pads and city autonomy. He noted that the city of Oak Grove passed a resolution stating their intent to go back to using paper poll pads and they will be working with the Council on making this happen.

Jim Benson, 14131 Junkite Street NW, came forward and shared that he has lived in Ramsey for over 37 years. He explained that he has had a septic tank and well the entirety of his time living in the City yet his charges for sewer and water keep going up even though they have never used these services. He asked why he is being charged for these services when he has never used them.

City Administrator Hagen shared that only residents who receive the service will receive utility bills. He said if Mr. Benson has his own private service, then he should not be receiving a water and sewer bill; however, if he is receiving this bill then Staff can look into this. He explained that they did post the updated sewer and water rates per the legal requirement but anyone with private services will not be paying these rates. He added that the new water treatment plant is being paid for only by the users of the City's water and sewer. He shared that all residents are charged for stormwater and street lighting fees.

Councilmember Specht asked why all residents are charged for stormwater and street lighting.

City Administrator Hagen explained that there are stormwater pipes and ditches throughout the City that carry this water to the stormwater pond. He noted that there are regulations around these ponds and as they fill up with sediment over the years they require maintenance. He said they collect this from every property in the City. He added that they also collect street light fees for the lights that are at major intersections where everyone travels through. He explained that there is a second fee charged to neighborhoods that have street lights within the neighborhood.

Roxanne Tersteeg, 6263 Rivlyn Avenue, came forward and asked if they are looking at having permanent generators installed for the sewer system as she is worried that what happened to her home because of a temporary generator could happen again.

City Administrator Hagen shared that this project was ordered last year and he assumes it is done.

Ms. Tersteeg asked if they will be fixing the sewer backup prevention with this project.

City Administrator Hagen suggested reaching out to the City Engineer on this.

Ms. Tersteeg noted that the Highway project turned out great and seems so much safer than it was before. She added that they will be having their mediation with Ames Construction in the coming weeks.

4. APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Peters, seconded by Councilmember Buscher, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Heineman, Councilmembers Peters, Buscher, Riley, and Specht. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmembers Olson and Stewart.

5. APPROVE MINUTES

Motion by Councilmember Peters, seconded by Councilmember Buscher, to approve the following meeting minutes:

- 5.01: City Council Work Session dated, February 11, 2025
- 5.02: City Council Regular Session dated, February 11, 2025

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Heineman, Councilmembers Peters, Buscher, Riley, and Specht. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmembers Olson and Stewart.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 6.01: Receive Cash and Investments for Period Ending January 31, 2025
- 6.02: Approve Business License Applications.
- 6.03: Authorization to Hire a Full-time Fire Inspector / Firefighter.
- 6.04: Adopt Resolution #25-049 Approving Cash Disbursements Made and Authorizing Payment of Accounts Payable Invoicing Received During the Period of February 6, 2025 through February 19, 2025
- 6.05: Adopt Resolution #25-025 Approving Final Payment to Dave Perkins Contracting, Inc. for Improvement Project #24-02, Halls Dover Acres Street Reconstruction.
- 6.06: Adopt Resolution #25-034 Approving Final Payment to Northdale Construction Co. Inc. for Improvement Project #21-08, WTP Trunk Watermain Improvements.
- 6.07: Adopt Resolution #25-036 Approving Final Payment to North Valley, Inc. for Improvement Project #24-01, Barthel's Rum River Acres and White Pines Estates Street Reconstruction.
- 6.08: Adopt Resolution #25-038 Authorizing Final Payment to GMH Asphalt Corporation for Improvement Project 24-55, 2024 Pavement Patching Contracted Services
- 6.09: Adopt Resolution #25-040 Approving Final Payment to Northwest Asphalt, Inc. for Improvement Project #24-11, MSA Alpine Drive Reconstruction.
- 6.10: Adopt Resolution #25-042 Approving Plans and Specifications and Authorizing Advertisement for Bids for High Point Street Reconstructions, Improvement Project #25-05

- 6:11: Adopt Resolution #25-043 Approving Plans and Specifications and Authorizing Advertisement for Bids for Sorteberg’s Street Reconstructions, Improvement Project #25-06
- 6:12: Adopt Resolution #25-044 Ordering Request for Proposals for Topographic Surveys, Geotechnical Evaluations and Utility Testing for 2026 Capital Improvement Program Projects
- 6:13: Adopt Resolution #25-046 Approving Assignment and Assumption Agreement with Oak Terrace Estates
- 6:14: Adopt Resolution #25-047 Authorizing Partial Payment #20 to Magney Construction, Inc. for Improvement project #21-09; Centralized Water Treatment Plant
- 6:15: Adopt Resolution #25-048 Approving the Final Plat for Emerald Estates (Project No. 24-123); Case of Landform Professional Services, LLC

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Heineman, Councilmembers Riley, Peters, Buscher, and Specht. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmembers Olson and Stewart.

7. PUBLIC HEARING

7.01: PUBLIC HEARING: Approve On-Sale, including Sunday Sales, Liquor License for SUR LLC

Presentation

City Administrator Hagen reviewed the Staff report in regard to the liquor license request for SUR LLC.

Public Hearing

Mayor Heineman called the public hearing to order at 7:33 p.m.

Citizen Input

There was none.

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Buscher, to close the public hearing.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Heineman, Councilmembers Riley, Buscher, Peters, and Specht. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmembers Olson and Stewart.

Council Business

Mayor Heineman said this will be a great thing for the City and is excited for the restaurant to open.

Councilmember Specht agreed and shared that there has been a lot of positive feedback about this restaurant.

Councilmember Peters shared his excitement for the restaurant to open.

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Peters, to approve an On-Sale Liquor License, including Sunday Sales, for SUR LLC.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Heineman, Councilmembers Riley, Peters, Buscher, and Specht. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmembers Olson and Stewart.

7.02: PUBLIC HEARING: Adopt Charter Recommended Ordinance #25-02 to Amend Chapter 3 of the Charter

Presentation

City Administrator Hagen reviewed the Staff report concerning the Charter ordinance amendments to Chapter 3. He shared the recommendation to table the vote for the ordinance to the next meeting so all of Council can be present to vote.

Public Hearing

Mayor Heineman called the public hearing to order at 7:37 p.m.

Citizen Input

There was none.

Motion by Councilmember Peters, seconded by Councilmember Specht, to close the public hearing.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Heineman, Councilmembers Peters, Specht, Buscher, and Riley. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmembers Olson and Stewart.

Council Business

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Buscher, to table this item to the next City Council meeting.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Heineman, Councilmembers Riley, Buscher, Peters, and Specht. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmembers Olson and Stewart.

7.03: PUBLIC HEARING: Adopt Charter Recommended Ordinance #25-03 to Amend Chapters 2, 3 and 12 of the Charter.

Presentation

City Administrator Hagen reviewed the Staff report in regard to the Charter ordinance amendments to Chapters 2, 3, and 12. He shared the recommendation to also table the vote for the ordinance to the next meeting so all of Council can be present to vote or stated they could still vote on this item knowing that it did not receive unanimous support from the Council.

Public Hearing

Mayor Heineman called the public hearing to order at 7:41 p.m.

Citizen Input

There was none.

Motion by Councilmember Specht, seconded by Councilmember Buscher, to close the public hearing.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Heineman, Councilmembers Specht, Buscher, Peters, and Riley. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmembers Olson and Stewart.

Council Business

Motion by Councilmember Specht, seconded by Councilmember Riley, to waive the City Charter requirement that the Ordinance be read aloud and Adopt Ordinance #25-03: Amending Chapters 2, 3, and 12 of the Charter.

A roll call vote was performed:

Councilmember Buscher	nay
Councilmember Riley	nay
Councilmember Stewart	absent
Councilmember Olson	absent
Councilmember Specht	nay
Councilmember Peters	nay
Mayor Heineman	nay

Motion failed.

8. COUNCIL BUSINESS

8.01: Adopt Resolution #25-037 Approving Purchase Agreement for Sale of Lot 2, Block 1, Kovar Addition; Case of RM Property Management LLC

Community Development Director Hanson reviewed the Staff report concerning the purchase agreement for Lot 2, Block 1, Kovar Addition with RM Property Management LLC.

Councilmember Specht shared that this is the intent of this process and he is glad that RM Golf Carts will be purchasing this property.

Mayor Heineman agreed and shared that he is glad to hear that Staff will be reaching out to the businesses that are on RALF properties.

Councilmember Buscher thanked RM Golf Carts for making Ramsey their home.

Motion by Councilmember Peters, seconded by Councilmember Buscher, to adopt Resolution #25-037 Approving Purchase Agreement for Sale of Lot 2, Block 1, Kovar Addition to RM Golf Carts, Inc (as presented); subject to City Attorney review.

Further discussion:

Councilmember Riley noted that it will be great to have this property back on the tax rolls and looks forward to having RM Golf Carts improve this property.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Heineman, Councilmembers Peters, Buscher, Specht, and Riley. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmembers Olson and Stewart.

8.02: Adopt Resolution #25-045 Approving Purchase Agreement and Right of Re-Entry Agreement for the Sale of Part of Outlot B, COR FIVE (portions may be closed to the public)

Community Development Director Hanson reviewed the Staff report in regard to the purchase agreement and right of re-entry agreement for a part of Outlot B, COR FIVE to CorTrust Bank. She shared the EDA's recommendation of approval.

Councilmember Buscher thanked the applicant for bringing this back forward to the Council as it shows their dedication to Ramsey.

Councilmember Specht shared that he was originally opposed to this project due to the proposed footprint that would take up prime real estate in the City. He explained that they came to the agreement that the City would retain part of this property so they can make the best use of the space. He shared his appreciation for the applicant working through these concerns with the City.

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Buscher, to adopt Resolution #25-045 Approving Purchase Agreement and Right of Re-Entry Agreement for the Sale of Part of Outlot B, COR FIVE (as presented) Subject to City Attorney Review.

Further discussion:

Mayor Heineman thanked the applicants for their hard work and dedication to coming into Ramsey; however, he will not be supporting this as he believes that the City needs to prioritize restaurants and retail in this area.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Councilmembers Riley, Buscher, Peters, and Specht. Voting No: Mayor Heineman. Absent: Councilmembers Olson and Stewart.

8.03: Adopt Resolution #25-027 Approving the Preliminary Plat for Riverstone South 6th Addition (Project No. 24-127); Case of Development Consulting Services, LLC

Community Development Director Hanson reviewed the Staff report concerning the preliminary plat for Riverstone South 6th Addition.

Councilmember Riley asked if they discussed the cul-de-sac at the Planning Commission meeting and why they were not allowed to have an opening instead of a cul-de-sac.

Community Development Director Hanson shared that they did not want this road to connect to Riverdale Drive due to the curve of the road. She added that there are also many other connections off of Riverdale Drive so they wanted to limit the connections.

Councilmember Peters asked if this connection could be a blind spot on Riverdale Drive.

Community Development Director Hanson said yes.

Councilmember Specht asked if the area with the hundred-year-old trees will not be developed.

Community Development Director Hanson said yes and explained that there will be around ten acres of land that will be preserved with no development.

John Dobbs, Development Consulting Services LLC, came forward and shared that he put in a 50 foot buffer all the way to the Pearson's homestead and this was the leftover outlot.

Motion by Councilmember Peters, seconded by Councilmember Buscher, to adopt Resolution #25-027 approving the Preliminary Plat for Riverstone South 6th Addition.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Heineman, Councilmembers Peters, Buscher, Specht, and Riley. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmembers Olson and Stewart.

9. MAYOR, COUNCIL AND STAFF INPUT

City Administrator Hagen announced upcoming meetings and events.

Councilmember Specht shared that the Anoka Ramsey Athletic Association is partnering with Miss Iz Ice Cream for baseball registrations.

Councilmember Buscher congratulated new Police Captain Dahlberg and thanked Police Chief Bluml for stepping into the Police Chief role.

Mayor Heineman added that Boards and Commissions will still be accepting applications until February 28. He noted that registrations are open for the Ramsey Business Expo and will close on May 3.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Buscher, seconded by Councilmember Peters, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried. Voting Yes: Mayor Heineman, Councilmembers Buscher, Peters, Riley, and Specht. Voting No: None. Absent: Councilmembers Olson and Stewart.

The regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 8:11 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.