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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 26, 2025, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor Ryan Heineman
Councilmember Kirsten Buscher
Councilmember Michael Olson
Councilmember Eric Peters
Councilmember Chris Riley
Councilmember Dan Specht
Councilmember Shanna Stewart

Members Absent: None

Also Present: City Administrator Brian Hagen
Police Chief Brad Bluml
Economic Development Manager Sean Sullivan
City Attorney Fritz Knaak

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. APPROVE AGENDA

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

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

3. PRESENTATIONS

None.

4. CITIZEN INPUT

Derek Lind, a member of the Anoka County Elections Integrity Team (ACEIT), came forward and shared that the County has been making moves recently to take power away from individual cities. He shared that he sent videos to the Council via text and email concerning the changes that the County is making and the concerns with it. He gave the Council a packet with some more

information on what is happening. He explained that electronic poll pads are not mandated by the State. He shared that ACEIT believes that one of the key components of election integrity is local control and cautioned them against giving all of their power to the County. He noted that Ramsey has already cancelled their poll pad agreement. He shared that Oak Grove also cancelled their poll pad agreement with the County and is currently in a fight with the County in regard to this.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

5.01: Approve the Following Meeting Minutes:

- 1) City Council Work Session dated August 12, 2025
- 2) City Council Regular Session dated August 12, 2025

5.02: Adopt Resolution #25-197 Approving Cash Disbursements Made and Authorizing Payment of Accounts Payable Invoicing Received During the Period of August 7, 2025, through August 20, 2025.

5.03: Authorization to Hire a Police Officer Filling a Current Vacancy in the Patrol Division

5.04: Adopt Resolution #25-181 Approving Partial Payment to Dave Perkins Contracting, Inc. for Improvement Project #25-04, Dickensons Mississippi Estates Street Reconstructions.

5.05: Adopt Resolution #25-183 Authorizing Partial Payment #26 to Magney Construction, Inc. for Improvement Project #21-09; Centralized Water Treatment Plant.

5.06: Adopt Resolution #25-186 Approving Partial Payment to Douglas-Kerr Underground, LLC for Improvement Project #24-13, Fox Ridge Estates 1st & 2nd Street Reconstructions.

5.07: Adopt Resolution #25-187 Approving Final Payment to Douglas-Kerr Underground, LLC for Improvement Project #25-01, Rivers Bend Regional Stormwater Improvements.

5.08: Adopt Resolution #25-188 Approving Partial Payment to Park Construction Company for Improvement Project #25-03, MSA Alpine Drive Reconstruction.

5.09: Adopt Resolution #25-189 Approving Partial Payment to Park Construction Company for Improvement Project #25-06 Sorteberg's Street Reconstructions.

5.10: Adopt Resolution #25-190 Approving Partial Payment to North Valley, Inc. for Improvement Project #25-07, 2025 Neighborhood Pavement Overlay Improvements.

5.11: Adopt Resolution #25-191 Approving Partial Payment to Corrective Asphalt Materials, LLC for Improvement Project #25-10, 2025 Pavement Rejuvenation.

5.12: Adopt Resolution #25-193 Approving Partial Payment to North Valley, Inc. for Improvement Project #25-05, High Point Street Reconstructions.

5.13: Adopt Resolution #25-199 Accepting Donation of a Drone from Morrison County Sheriff's Office

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

6. PUBLIC HEARING

None.

7. COUNCIL BUSINESS

7.01: Adopt Resolutions #25-192, #25-200, and #25-204 Supporting Terms of a TIF Agreement and Business Subsidy, Submitting Applications for MIF and JCF, and Calling for a Public Hearing for Zero Zone Refrigeration, LLC

Economic Development Manager Sullivan reviewed the Staff report in regard to a TIF agreement and business subsidy request, as well as requests for MIF and JCF for Zero Zone Refrigeration, LLC. He shared the EDA's recommendation of approval.

Jason Aarsvold, Municipal Advisor with Elhers and Associates, came forward and shared that they have been working closely with Economic Development Manager Sullivan to bring this project forward for consideration. He noted that they worked with the County Assessor to understand what the assessed value would be for this project. He explained how they came up with the request for \$360,000 in TIF Pay-Go Assessments.

Councilmember Peters asked if the 55 jobs that Zero Zone will be creating with this project will be full-time or part-time positions.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan said they will be full-time positions.

Councilmember Buscher asked if they would be union positions.

Economic Development Manager Sullivan said no and explained that some of the State programs require a prevailing wage.

Councilmember Riley shared that he believes this is a very good use of TIF for a great company. He noted that Ehlers has done a very thorough analysis of this project.

Councilmember Buscher agreed and added that Zero Zone does a lot for the community and the Fire Department.

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Specht, to adopt Resolution #25-192 Supporting Terms of a TIF Agreement and Business Subsidy and Calling for a Public Hearing for Zero Zone Refrigeration; subject to City Bond Attorney Review.

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

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Stewart, to adopt Resolution #25-200 Supporting Zero Zone Refrigeration, LLC Applying to the Job Creation Fund Program; subject to City Bond Attorney Review.

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

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Specht, to adopt Resolution #25-204 Approving Submittal of Application to Minnesota Investment Fund; subject to City Bond Attorney and Credit Review.

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

7.02: Supporting Ramsey Police Department's Funding Application to the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community

Police Chief Bluml reviewed the Staff report concerning the request to support the Ramsey Police Department's funding application to the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community for soliciting a funding request to purchase and implement a drone program.

Mayor Heineman asked about the battery capacity of the drone.

Police Chief Bluml said he was not sure; however, Investigator Hesse and Sergeant Dixon are both very passionate about this program and have a detailed presentation that they would be happy to share with anyone who is interested in helping answer more in-depth questions.

Motion by Councilmember Buscher, seconded by Councilmember Specht, to support the Ramsey Police Department's Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community Funding Request for the purchase and implementation of a drone program.

Further Discussion:

Councilmember Specht noted that this is a great opportunity that he is very excited about.

Councilmember Buscher said it is such a blessing to have a community that is so generous and has already helped the community in the past.

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

8. MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND STAFF INPUT

City Administrator Hagen announced upcoming meetings and events. He shared that they are still looking for volunteers for Happy Days.

Councilmember Buscher thanked Code Enforcement Officer Swalchick and Rental Housing Inspector Verbeek for their work on the rental housing program and code ordinances. She noted they do a lot of prevention work to help keep the community safe and clean.

Councilmember Peters shared that he recommends volunteering to be a Dog Show Judge at Happy Days.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Stewart, seconded by Councilmember Olson, to adjourn the meeting.

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

The regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 7:37 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.