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

The Ramsey City Council conducted a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, 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
Planning Manager Todd Larson
Recreation Coordinator Abby Proulx
Assistant City Engineer Joe Feriancek

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

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

3. PRESENTATIONS

3.01: Presentation of 2025 Photo Contest Winners

Recreation Coordinator Proulx presented the results of the City's 2025 photo contest, noting that the contest will celebrate its 10th anniversary next year and has received more than 750 photo submissions over the past nine years, including a record 123 photos from 34 photographers in 2025. She explained that the City frequently uses contest photos on the City website, in park program advertisements, at park kiosks, in the Ramsey Resident newsletter, and in the City's

popular puzzle competitions. She announced the winners in several categories: Built Landscapes and Architecture (1st: Don’s Promise by Megan Zacharias Buck; 2nd: Take a Seat by Jenna Martin; 3rd: Busy Streets by Michelle Osterhaus), Natural Space and Wildlife (1st: Male Ruby-Throated Hummingbird by Douglas Johannesson; 2nd: Flowers in the Sunset by Jenna Martin; 3rd: Rum River Sunrise Reflection by Scott Swanson), Life in Ramsey (1st: Slip Slidin’ by Jessica Hair; 2nd: Soccer at Elmcrest by Melissa Bauers; 3rd: Young River Fishermen by Scott Swanson), and the Youth Category (1st: Berry Bandit by Gavin Cuzzet; 2nd: Flower Bee by Cole Martin; 3rd: Pickle by Sydney Martin). She also announced the People’s Choice winner, In the Berry Canopy by Gavin Cuzzet, with Butterfly by Jenna Martin as runner-up. She noted that both People’s Choice winners since the category began have been youth entries. The Grand Prize winner for 2025 was Wood Duck on the Move by Jenna Martin. She concluded by promoting the upcoming April puzzle competition, featuring photos from the contest, and inviting questions from the City Council.

Mayor Heineman thanked Recreation Coordinator Abby Proulx for the presentation and commended the residents who participated in the photo contest. He said it is always exciting to see the photos that residents submit each year.

4. CITIZEN INPUT

None.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 5.01: Receive Cash and Investments for Period Ending February 28, 2026
- 5.02: Receive January 2026 Financial Reports – General Fund, EDA, and Enterprise Funds
- 5.03: Note the following Boards, Commissions, and Meeting Minutes:
 - Planning Commission – February 26, 2026
 - Environmental Policy Board – January 12, 2026
 - Economic Development Authority – January 8, 2026
 - Public Works – January 20, 2026
- 5.04: Approve the Following Meeting Minutes:
 - City Council Work Session dated February 24, 2026
 - City Council Regular Session dated February 24, 2026
- 5.05: Approve Business License Applications
- 5.06: Approve Request to Declare Surplus Property
- 5.07: Approve Updated Police Department Physical Fitness Program Policy #315
- 5.08: Authorization to Hire a Building Inspector/Plans Examiner
- 5.09: Authorization to Hire a Public Works Maintenance Worker

- 5:10: Adopt Resolution #26-077 Approving Cash Disbursements Made and Authorizing Payments and Accounts Payable Invoicing Received During the Period of February 19, 2026, through March 4, 2026
- 5:11: Adopt Resolution #26-059 Granting a Variance to Accessory Structure Setback Regulations (Project 26-102); Case of Cory DeLuca
- 5:12: Adopt Resolution #26-064 Adopting the Improving the Image of Ramsey Along the Highway 10 Corridor Policy
- 5:13: Adopt Resolution #26-066 Accepting Bids and Awarding Contract for 2026 Crack Seal Improvements, Improvement Project #26-09
- 5:14: Adopt Resolution #26-067 Accepting Bids and Awarding Contract for 2026 Pavement Rejuvenation Improvements, Improvement Project #26-10
- 5:15: Adopt Resolution #26-069 Authorizing the City Administrator to Execute a Grant Agreement for Crisis Response Grant and Letter of Support
- 5:16: Adopt Resolution #26-071 Approving the Transfer of Excess General Fund Revenue to the Equipment Revolving Fund, Facilities Construction Fund, Capital Maintenance Fund, and Public Improvement Revolving (PIR) Fund
- 5:17: Adopt Resolution #26-072 Approving the Final Plat of OSHAUGHNESSY THIRD ADDITION
- 5:18: Adopt Resolution #26-073 Authorize Application to Conduct Off-Site Gambling Adrenaline Sports Center by Hometown Hero Outdoors
- 5:19: Adopt Resolution #26-074 Approving the Final Plat for Serenity at Rivers Edge (Project No. 26-101): Case of Rivers Edge Development LLC
- 5:20: Adopt Resolution #26-075 Authorizing the Application for MN DNR Grant Funding for 2026-27 Playground Improvements at Riverdale Park

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

6. PUBLIC HEARING

6.01: PUBLIC HEARING: Adopt Resolution #26-058 Vacating Drainage and Utility Easements in OSHAUNESSY ADDITION

Presentation

Planning Manager Larson presented a public hearing regarding the O'Shaughnessy Third Addition plat previously approved by the City Council. He explained that the hearing focuses on a property at 17020 201st Avenue near St. Francis Boulevard, where three drainage and utility easements from the original O'Shaughnessy Addition plat would conflict with the layout of the new lots. The purpose of the hearing is to vacate the original easements so that appropriate drainage and utility easements can be re-established through the new platting process. Planning Manger Larson noted that staff received comments from utility providers with facilities along St. Francis Boulevard and that those easements will remain in place after replatting to maintain service. Staff recommended that the City Council hold the public hearing and adopt the resolution vacating the existing easements.

Public Hearing

Mayor Heineman asked if anyone present wished to speak during the public hearing regarding the item. He requested that anyone wishing to comment state their name and address before speaking.

Citizen Input

Mr. Dwayne Scoglin, 15170 Lane, stated that he owns the property located just south of the site being discussed. He referred to a question he asked during the previous City Council meeting regarding access to the development.

Mr. Scoglin explained that during the earlier meeting, he was told that the development would use the existing entrance and exit previously used by the old nursery, which had a curved, or “backwards C-shaped,” access configuration. He stated that a letter he later received suggested that the access plan may be different.

Mr. Scoglin asked for clarification on the current plan for the development's entrance and exit. He expressed concern that the explanation he previously received may not have fully reflected the actual plan.

Planning Manager Larson responded that the question raised was not directly related to the easement vacation being considered during the public hearing. He clarified that the development's access points are addressed in the plat itself.

Planning Manager Larson explained that the development will include three driveways connecting to St. Francis Boulevard. One of those access points already exists, and two additional access points are planned—one at the north end and one at the south end of the property. He added that there will also be access from Germanium Street.

Mr. Scoglin responded that the explanation provided answered his question about the access points. He then indicated he had no further comments at that time and allowed the meeting to continue.

Mayor Heineman asked whether any additional individuals were present in person or online and wished to speak during the public hearing.

Mayor Heineman, seeing no further comments, requested a motion from the City Council to close the public hearing.

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

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

Council Business

Motion by Councilmember Peters, seconded by Councilmember Olson, to adopt Resolution #26-058 Vacating Drainage and Utility Easements in OSHAUNESSY ADDITION.

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

7. COUNCIL BUSINESS

7.01: Adopt Resolution #26-065 Accepting Bids and Awarding Contract for Flintwood Hills 2nd & 3rd Street Reconstructions, Improvement Project #26-05

Assistant City Engineer Feriancek presented plans to reconstruct streets in the Flintwood Hills neighborhood east of Dysprosium Street, noting that the roads, built between 1985 and 1987, have deteriorated beyond simple overlay repair. Field reviews showed about 37 percent of the curb and gutter would require replacement, leading the Public Works Committee to recommend full curb-and-gutter reconstruction. The project will upgrade the street section to approximately 3.5 inches of bituminous pavement over 6 inches of aggregate base, remove about 1,400 cubic yards of excess sand, and replace driveways as needed. At the same time, only one storm sewer segment requires replacement after utility review. Bids, which opened March 3, produced nine submissions, with North Valley Inc. as the lowest bidder at \$792,282.86, about 25 percent below the engineer's estimate. This brings the total project cost to about \$974,507, which is below the \$1.168 million capital improvement plan estimate. If approved, staff will hold a pre-construction meeting and coordinate with the contractor, with substantial completion scheduled for August 28.

Mayor Heineman commented that the City Council has become familiar with these types of reconstruction projects and thanked staff for the presentation. He said it was a helpful overview of the project. He then asked if the City Council had any questions for City staff. Seeing none, he thanked the staff again for preparing the information and presentation.

Motion by Councilmember Riley, seconded by Councilmember Olson, to Adopt Resolution #26-065 Accepting Bids and Awarding Contract for Flintwood Hills 2nd & 3rd Street Reconstructions, Improvement Project #26-05.

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

7.02: Introduce Ordinance #26-04 Amending Chapter 26 of the City Code

Police Chief Bluml presented a proposed amendment to Chapter 26 of the City Code regarding municipal tobacco licenses to align City regulations with state law changes adopted in 2020. The updates include revised definitions, added administrative penalty language, compliance check requirements, and provisions reflecting the increased legal age for purchasing tobacco products. Police Chief Bluml stated the changes will ensure consistent enforcement and compliance within the City and noted the City Attorney reviewed and approved the proposed revisions. Staff recommended that the City Council introduce the ordinance.

Mayor Heineman asked if anyone in the audience or any Councilmembers had questions regarding the proposed ordinance. He commented that the changes appear to align the City's regulations with current requirements.

Mayor Heineman, hearing no questions, stated that he would entertain a motion from the City Council.

Motion by Councilmember Peters, seconded by Councilmember Specht, to Introduce Ordinance #26-04 Amending Chapter 26 of the City Code.

A roll call vote was performed:

Councilmember Buscher	aye
Councilmember Riley	aye
Councilmember Stewart	aye
Councilmember Olson	aye
Councilmember Specht	aye
Councilmember Peters	aye
Mayor Heineman	aye

Motion carried.

8. MAYOR, COUNCIL, AND STAFF INPUT

City Administrator Hagen announced upcoming meetings and events.

9. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

The regular meeting of the City Council adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian S. Hagen
City Administrator

ATTEST:

Katie M. Schmidt
City Clerk

Drafted by Sue Osbeck
TimeSaver Off-Site Secretarial, Inc.