

**MINUTES
MINNETONKA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING, MONDAY, MAY 23, 2005**

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL.

Councilmembers Tony Wagner, Bob Ellingson, Brad Wiersum, Terry Schneider, Jan Callison, Al Thomas, and Karen Anderson were present.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

City Manager John reviewed the addendum. For item 10B, the I-494 improvement project, there was an amendment to the master utility agreement, and an additional resolution. A new item (10G) was added to amend the resolution dividing two properties at 13 and 15 Westwood Road into two lots for Lance Rosenberg.

Callison moved, Schneider seconded a motion to accept the agenda with the addendum. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 9, 2005 regular meeting.

Thomas moved, Wagner seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2005 Minnetonka City Council meeting. Wagner, Ellingson, Wiersum, Schneider, Callison and Thomas voted "yes." Anderson abstained. Motion carried.

6. SPECIAL MATTERS:

A. Recognition of former Economic Development Authority Youth Representative Paula Chatterjee.

Callison recognized Paula Chatterjee for her service on the Economic Development Authority. Anderson presented Chatterjee with a plaque, and noted she served as a youth representative. Chatterjee expressed her appreciation for the experience.

B. Recognition of retiring employee, Steve Anderson, Assistant Fire Chief - Prevention & Support.

Thomas recognized Assistant Fire Chief Steve Anderson for his more than 17 years of dedicated service to the city of Minnetonka. Mayor Anderson presented him with an award. Steve Anderson thanked the city council, the city manager and assistant city manager.

C. Recognition of Jacque Larson for completing TwinWest Leadership Program.

Schneider recognized Larson for completing the TwinWest Leadership Program. Larson thanked the city council and Assistant City Manager Geralyn Barone for allowing her to attend the program. She especially appreciated the valuable contacts she gained.

D. Community Survey results.

Anderson introduced this item.

Dr. Bill Morris of Decision Resources reviewed the executive summary of the latest community survey. In general, he noted that Minnetonka's results were very positive and the city has done a fantastic job with city service quality and communications outreach. There is a general sense of satisfaction with development and taxation issues. The main concern of residents is having a sufficient housing mix to stay in the community and for their children to move back to the community. Minnetonka does not have the problems of other cities, such as crime and taxes. Minnetonka's goodwill reservoir is still there and residents are confident in the future.

In addition to the information in the executive summary, Morris provided the following comparisons between Minnetonka and similar communities:

- Quality of life in Minnetonka: 55% rated the quality of life as excellent . This rating is at the highest level for the western suburbs. No other community has established that high an excellent rating.
- Awareness and participation in programs and offerings: curbside recycling participation is within the top 10%, and awareness levels for our leaf drop and special drop offs is extraordinarily high due to the city's communications efforts.
- Pavement repair: 63% gave Minnetonka a positive rating, while 35% gave fair or poor ratings. This is still 15% ahead of the current suburban norms (48% positive:40% negative).

- Water & sewer: Minnetonka's 90:3 positive ranking was one of the most outstanding rankings they have found in the past three years in the metro area.
- Snowplowing: the 91% positive rating is right at the top of the range across the metropolitan area.
- Minnetonka's city services rankings by residents remain among the best regarded across the metropolitan area.
- Minnetonka resident willingness to increase taxes to maintain city services is very high, especially in the western suburban area. Only a few southern and northeastern suburbs show similar support.
- Minnetonka is defining the trend across the metro area—service evaluations are moving up, and residents value those services highly, expect quality services, and are willing to see an increase if necessary to maintain those services.
- Environmental protection: only 12% thought the city was doing too little in this area. The average ranking is 30%.
- Open space: only 23% feel the city does not have enough open space. The norm in the metro area is 35%, and for the western suburbs it is 37%. Minnetonka's 72% ranking that we have about the right amount of open space is high for the metro area.
- Balance the environment with the rights of property owners: Minnetonka's 10:1 successful rating is highest in the metro area. The next rating is 6:1.
- Recreation programs and offerings: Minnetonka's 92% satisfaction rating is one of the best ratings for a recreation program in the metro area.
- Job rating of city staff: Minnetonka's 8:1 favorable rating is at the top of the metro area once again. The 27% excellent ranking is in the top five of communities surveyed over the past three years. Minnetonka's staff is very highly regarded.
- Customer Service: For the public sector, the threshold for high quality customer service is 80%. Across the board, Minnetonka has met and exceeded every threshold for high quality customer service. Minnetonka's rankings in this category have always been among the highest across the metro area. The fact that Minnetonka's excellent rankings have increased is particularly outstanding.
- Police: The Minnetonka police excellent ranking of 61% is the highest across the metro area.
- Unsafe areas: Residents consider Minnetonka a safe community in which to live, which mirrors the pattern of western and southern suburbs.
- Communications: The *Minnetonka* Memo has one of the highest ratings in terms of being a source of information in the metro

area. Minnetonka is the only community they survey that has a dominant communications news link, which is especially noteworthy because that link is the city's newsletter and not an outside source. The *Memo's* rating is 10 to 15% ahead of the suburban norm.

- Cable TV: Minnetonka's 27% rating for viewership of council meetings is very high in comparison to many cities.
- Web site: Minnetonka's Web site received one of the strongest evaluations across the metro area.
- Citizens feel informed by the city: Minnetonka was number one in this category in 2005.
- In general, Minnetonka's:
 - City services evaluations were among highest in the metropolitan area.
 - Communications outreach was at the top of the metro area in every aspect. Minnetonka's newsletter, recreation brochure, and Web site have the highest reach and extraordinary evaluations for content and format.
 - City Hall enterprise has been and remains among the best regarded across metro area.
 - High quality services rank at the top of range.

Anderson thanked Dr. Morris for his firm's services. She noted that their questions were framed so that residents could give informed responses. She said that Minnetonka is fortunate to have comparative data.

Thomas appreciated the accuracy of the data we receive through the surveys. He noted that the park renewal referendum effort began because a survey showed the need. He views the survey as a pulse for what people are thinking about. He found it reassuring to get a good feeling for and insight into what the city needs to work on.

Schneider noted the strength of the *Minnetonka Memo*. He was surprised that Internet use has leveled, and asked if other communities have had the same results.

Morris said that it varies. Usage in Scott and Dakota counties has grown since they improved their Web sites. Usage in Hennepin and Anoka counties has declined. Across the seven county metro area, usage has reached a plateau. Improvements to Web sites seem to have an impact on usage.

Schneider said that the *Memo* is sent to residents, but they have to come to the Internet. He asked about broadcast Web information.

Gunyou noted that about 500 people subscribe to the city's on-line newsletter, Hot Topics.

Anderson thanked Dr. Morris for the good report and his fine work.

7. REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER & COUNCIL MEMBERS.

Gunyou reported on the schedule for upcoming council meetings and Holiday closings. He also provided information about the 2005 Burwell tour season.

Anderson reported on the city's May 19th Earth/Arbor Day celebration. She noted that 60 volunteers planted trees in Big Willow Park. She thanked staff for their efforts, especially Emily Barbeau, the assistant forester, and Emily Buss, a forestry intern.

8. CITIZENS WISHING TO DISCUSS MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

No one appeared.

9. BIDS AND PURCHASES:

A. Consideration of bids for the Susan Lane Storm Sewer Improvements Project No. 5616.

Gunyou provided the staff report for this item.

Callison moved, Wiersum seconded a motion to award the bid for the Susan Lane Storm Sewer Improvement Project No. 5616 to Valley Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$264,985.64. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

10. CONSENT AGENDA (Items Requiring a Majority Vote):

A. Claims for council authorization – May 23, 2005.

Wiersum moved, Wagner seconded a motion to approve the May 23, 2005 claims list, including checks numbered 189362 through 189666, totaling \$1,442,715.81. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

B. Resolution approving Work Order No. 6B for the I-494 improvement project.

Wiersum moved, Wagner seconded a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2005-052 approving Work Order No. 6B for the I-494 improvement project and Resolution No. 2005-053 approving

Master Utility Agreement amendment #2 for the I-494 improvement project. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

C. Ordinance regarding emergency management.

Wiersum moved, Wagner seconded a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2005-14 amending City Code Section 900 regarding emergency management. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

D. Resolutions ordering the abatement of nuisance conditions.

Community Development Director Ron Rankin advised that five of the properties were now in compliance, so no action would be required.

Wiersum moved, Wagner seconded a motion to adopt the following resolutions ordering the abatement of the nuisance conditions.

- 1) Adopt Resolution No. 2005-054 ordering the abatement of nuisance conditions existing at 3320 Chippewa Road.
- 2) Adopt Resolution No. 2005-055 ordering the abatement of nuisance conditions existing at 17621 Creek Ridge Pass.
- 3) Adopt Resolution No. 2005-056 ordering the abatement of nuisance conditions existing at 16609 Devon Drive.
- 4) Adopt Resolution No. 2005-057 ordering the abatement of nuisance conditions existing at 13921 Excelsior Boulevard.
- 5) No action taken: 13929 Excelsior Boulevard.
- 6) Adopt Resolution No. 2005-058 ordering the abatement of nuisance conditions existing at 16720 Excelsior Boulevard.
- 7) Adopt Resolution No. 2005-059 ordering the abatement of nuisance conditions existing at 15216 Highwood Drive.
- 8) Adopt Resolution No. 2005-060 ordering the abatement of nuisance conditions existing at 15929 Highwood Drive.
- 9) No action taken: 4200 Marlborough Court.
- 10) No action taken: 15710 Minnetonka Blvd.
- 11) Adopt Resolution No. 2005-061 ordering the abatement of nuisance conditions existing at 16614 State Highway 7.
- 12) Adopt Resolution No. 2005-062 ordering the abatement of nuisance conditions existing at 17729 Susan Drive.
- 13) Adopt Resolution No. 2005-063 ordering the abatement of nuisance conditions existing at 3440 Therese Street.
- 14) No action taken: 18 Westwood Circle.
- 15) Adopt Resolution No. 2005-064 ordering the abatement of nuisance conditions existing at 12900 Woodbridge Trail.
- 16) No action taken: 14920 Woodruff Road.

All voted "yes." Motion carried.

E. Final approval of the STAGEBERG ADDITION plat at 17224 Lake Street Extension for Gene Stageberg.

Wiersum moved, Wagner seconded a motion to approve the STAGEBERG ADDITION final plat that was received on May 4, 2005, subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Compliance with all preliminary plat conditions, especially the specific conditions for release of the plat; and
- 2) Unless the city council approves a time extension, the final plat must be recorded within one year of council approval of the final plat.

All voted "yes." Motion carried.

F. Final approval of the LINNER WOODS plat at 1908 Linner Road for CoPar Development, LLC.

Wiersum moved, Wagner seconded a motion to approve the LINNER WOODS final plat that was received on May 6, 2005, subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Compliance with all preliminary plat conditions, especially the specific conditions for release of the plat; and
- 2) Unless the city council approves a time extension, the final plat must be recorded within one year of council approval of the final plat.

All voted "yes." Motion carried.

G. Amended resolution dividing two properties at 13 and 15 Westwood Road into two lots for Lance Rosenberg.

Anderson pulled this item from the consent agenda. Gunyou provided the staff report for this item which was added to the agenda through the addendum.

Schneider moved, Callison seconded a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2005-065 amending the resolution approving a lot division at 13 and 15 Westwood Road for Lance Rosenberg. All voted "yes."
Motion carried.

11. Items requiring Five Votes: None.

12. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES: None.

13. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. Ordinance amending the City Charter regarding incompatible offices.

Gunyou provided the staff report. Anderson noted that the public hearing was previously opened. No one wished to comment on the ordinance, and Anderson closed the hearing.

Schneider moved, Wiersum seconded a motion to adopt Ordinance #2005-15 amending Minnetonka City Charter Section 2.05 regarding incompatible offices. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

B. Site and building plan approval for a picnic shelter in Boulder Creek Park, 5924 Stoneybrook Drive.

Barone provided the staff report. Anderson opened the public hearing. No one spoke, and the hearing was closing.

Thomas moved, Wagner seconded a motion to approve the site and building plans for the picnic shelter at Boulder Creek Park at 5924 Stoneybrook Drive, subject to the following condition:

The site must be developed and maintained in substantial conformance with the following plans:

- 1) Overall Layout Plan date-stamped March 4, 2005.
- 2) Building rendering dated May 16, 2005.

All voted "yes." Motion carried.

14. OTHER BUSINESS: None.

15. APPOINTMENTS and REAPPOINTMENTS: None.

16. ADJOURNMENT.

Thomas moved, Wiersum seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting 7:47 p.m. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Magrew
City Clerk