

City of Greenwood – City Council Minutes
Greenwood City Council Chambers
20225 Cottagewood Road Deephaven, MN 55331
Thursday, January 3, 2008

APPROVED MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Mayor Newman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Council present: Quam, Newman, Scharf, Hill and arriving at 7:01 Sagal

Council absent: none

Staff present: Attorney Kelly and Clerk Whipple

2. Approve Consent Agenda

Councilmember Scharf moved to approve the consent agenda. Second by Councilmember Quam. Motion carried 4-0

3. December Payables

Councilmember Hill moved to approve December payables of \$20,706.47

Second by Councilmember Quam. Motion carried 5-0

4. Approve Agenda

Councilmember Sagal asked to have 'newsletter' added as item 9F. Councilmember Hill moved to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Councilmember Sagal. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Matters from the Floor

Julie Ekelund 5135 Meadville Street described the fire lane traffic as a nuisance in the neighborhood. It is being heavily used as an access to Lake Minnetonka by trucks, 4 wheelers and snowmobiles. Cars are parking in the fire lane. There needs to be signage identifying prohibited activities before the police department can issue citations. Attorney Kelly said the Council has the authority to post no parking signs.

Councilmember Quam moved to authorize Deephaven Public Works to place no parking signs on the Meadville fire lane and no trailer parking within 300' of either side of the Meadville fire lane. Second by Councilmember Scharf. Motion carried 5-0.

Attorney Kelly stated it would be legal for the City to put up the chain with a padlock across the fire lane to prevent through traffic.

Dave Martini, our Engineer from Bolton and Menk, thanked the Council for the opportunity to work with the City on its projects. Councilmember Quam said we needed his expertise to identify which areas of the sewer system should be repaired first. This will be done closer toward spring. The road plan is something else on which our Engineers will give the City advice.

Paul Boedecker, 21925 Byron Circle, asked that the Council consider having the LRT plowed side to side. Currently, half the path is left snow covered for cross-country skiers. When the snow melts or drifts, it makes walking difficult. Mayor Newman said 3' is left snow-covered for cross-country skiers and 5' for walkers.

6. LMCD Report

No report

7. Planning Commission

A. Report

Planning Commission member Mark Spiers gave the report from the December 19 meeting. New Planning Commissioner member Tom Fletcher was sworn in as an alternate. The variance request by Mahrula's was approved unanimously. The PC voted to recommend to the City Council that David Paeper be approved as regular Planning Commission member.

B. Appointment of David Paeper to Planning Commission

Councilmember Sagal moved that David Paeper be elevated to full voting member of the Planning Commission. Second by Councilmember Quam. Motion carried 5-0

C. Variance request: Dennis and Diana Mahrula 5110 West Street

Mr. Mahrula reviewed his variance request proposal for a non-conforming deck to be built on an existing home. Councilmember Sagal moved to approve Resolution # 04-08 approving the Mahrula variance request for a legal, non-conforming deck on the lakeside of an existing home. Second by Councilmember Scharf. Motion carried 5-0

8. Old Business

A. Public Meeting – massing ordinance.

Councilmember Sagal stated he would like to see the massing ordinance approved.

Councilmember Hill moved to continue the massing ordinance discussion to the February meeting. Second by Councilmember Sagal. Motion carried 5-0.

B. Lift Station @ St. Alban's Bay

The City of Deephaven sent a letter to the Greenwood Council stating the landscaping improvements around the lift station meet with their approval. We will need a new letter from our engineer stating they have reviewed the improvements and found them acceptable, and recommend that the City take responsibility for the lift station. At a later date, our attorney will draft a resolution stating the City's responsibility for that lift station.

C. St. Alban's Boathouse

A new manager for the St. Alban's Boathouse Restaurant has filled out a background check and has been approved. There may be other personnel changes occurring at the Restaurant at a later date.

D. Fire Joint Powers Agreement

Councilmember Hill reviewed the proposed changes to the Joint Powers Agreement and the reasons for them. Councilmember Quam noted a typo on page 11. Motion by Councilmember Hill to approve the amendment to the Excelsior Fire District Joint Powers Agreement with the typo corrected. Second by Councilmember Quam. Motion carried 5-0

E. Siren

Clerk Whipple stated the new siren has been ordered. We will need to set up a meeting to review the existing siren site or possible new sites within the next couple weeks. The siren will need to be placed on right-of-ways or public land. Councilmember Quam recommended that the siren stay in the same place as that is what residents are used to.

9. New Business

A. Resolution #01-08 City Council meeting dates for 2008

There was discussion on the conflicts with Tuesday night City Council meetings. Alternate meeting dates were generally set for Thursdays. Councilmember Hill has conflicts with Thursdays but the City Hall is generally booked by Deephaven and Woodland on Wednesdays. Clerk Whipple will check with the other cities to see if they would be willing to accommodate Greenwood's revised schedule. Motion by Councilmember Quam to approve resolution #01-08, changing meeting dates to February 7, March 6, August 7, and November 6. Second by Councilmember Scharf. Motion passed 4-1 with Hill voting no.

B. Resolution 02-08 Council Appointments for 2008

Motion by Councilmember Hill to approve resolution #02-08. Second by Councilmember Quam. Motion carried 5-0.

C. Resolution #03-08 Greenwood Planning Commission meeting dates.

Motion by councilmember Quam to approve the Planning Commission dates for 2008. Second by Councilmember Scharf. Motion carried 5-0

D. Data Storage

City Hall is running out of room for storage of City records. Some City records need to be stored in perpetuity. Climate-controlled vault storage is a possibility as is electronic storage. Councilmember Hill suggested hiring a company to scan documents that currently exist and purchase a scanner for documents going forward. Councilmember Hill will check into this further for a later report.

E. Meeting Date for 2008 Local Board of Appeals and Equalization
(Five minute Recess)

The first choice for the meeting is Wednesday April 9 and second choice is Thursday, April 17 with the reconvene meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6, 2008. Clerk Whipple will check with the Assessor's office and Deephaven on using these dates.

F. Newsletter

Councilmember Sagal thanked Clerk Whipple for some of the content in the past newsletter. He also clarified a statement in the Mayor's letter; Greenwood's civil defense sires DOES currently work, it just doesn't rotate.

10. Reports

A. Mayor Newman attended the City/School meeting hosted by Woodland. Supt. Dennis Peterson had given a status report on improvements scheduled for buildings within the school district.

B. Clerk – no report

C. Attorney – no report

D. Animal Control: Councilmember Sagal felt the Uniform Animal Ordinance for the South Lake Cities was good. The goal of this ordinance is to have the four cities adopt a similar ordinance. The City of Greenwood may need to consider registering tags in perpetuity that will stay with the pet for its entire life.

E. Fire – no report

F. Seniors: Tom Anderson had spoken to the Clerk about the “Friends Board” drafting a new rental agreement with the South Shore Community Center. It was suggested that Mr. Anderson be invited to the February Council meeting.

G. Police: Mayor Newman noted that the SLMPD had new vision and mission statements. The budget now reflects the new CSO/animal control. John Wehrum, Dawn Roufs, Todd Saucier, and Tyler Decker are new employees with the Department.

H. Wirth Construction Site: Mayor Newman has not been in contact with Mr. Wirth nor his builder. Personal issues have prevented Mr. Wirth from moving forward with this building project.

Mike Farrahar, 21230 Excelsior Blvd asked if there was anything in our ordinance which identified how long this building project would be allowed to go on. Attorney Kelly said until the property became a public nuisance, the City has no tool to enforce completion.

11. Executive Closed Session; Labor Negotiations

Motion by Councilmember Sagal to Approve Resolution #05-08 to allow the Council to go into an Executive Closed Session for the purpose of labor negotiations. Second by Councilmember Quam. Motion carried 5-0 at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Whipple
Greenwood City Clerk/ Administrator