

COON RAPIDS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The first regular meeting of the Coon Rapids City Council for the month of February was called to order by Mayor Jerry Koch at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 2, 2020, using the audio and video conferencing platform, Zoom, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Mayor Koch led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mayor Jerry Koch, Councilmembers Brad Greskowiak, Kari Rehrauer, Wade Demmer, Jennifer Geisler, Brad Johnson, and Pat Carlson

Members Absent: None

ADOPT AGENDA

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DEMMER, TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS AMENDED TO MOVE ITEMS 4. AND 5. FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA TO BE DISCUSSED UNDER NEW BUSINESS AS ITEMS 11A. AND 11B. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

1. JANUARY 19, 2021, COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER DEMMER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GRESKOWIAK, FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 19, 2021, COUNCIL MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSENT AGENDA/INFORMATIONAL BUSINESS

2. ADOPT RESOLUTION 21-31 CALLING FOR PUBLIC HEARING TO VACATE RIGHT-OF-WAY EASEMENT, FOLEY BOULEVARD
 3. ADOPT RESOLUTION 21-29 TRUST AGREEMENT APPROVAL
 4. ~~APPROVE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA AND CITY OF COON RAPIDS FOR ICWC PROGRAM~~
 5. ~~APPROVE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH ANOKA HENNEPIN DISTRICT 11 FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT~~
 6. RECEIVE 2020 YEAR END GAMBLING EXPENDITURE REPORT
 7. RECEIVE LAWFUL GAMBLING REPORT AND AUTHORIZE PAYMENT TO COMMUNITY STRENGTH FOUNDATION
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MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER DEMMER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON, FOR APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC HEARING

None.

BID OPENINGS AND CONTRACT AWARDS

8. CONSIDER AWARD OF CONTRACTS FOR 2021 WELL REHABILITATION PROGRAM AND WEST WATER TREATMENT PLANT BOOSTER 4 & 5 UPGRADE
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The staff report was shared with Council.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER REHRAUER, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 21-7(9) AWARDED A CONTRACT TO MUNICIPAL BUILDERS, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$206,755.00 FOR PROJECT 21-7, 2021 WELL REHABILITATION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER CARLSON, TO REJECT ALL BIDS AND NOT AWARD A CONTRACT FOR PROJECT 21-8 AT THIS TIME AND AUTHORIZE REBIDDING.

Councilmember Demmer asked for more detail on the error. Public Works Director Himmer said there was an electrical component in the project. General contractors often use sub-contractors for electrical work. The lowest three bids all used the same electrical sub-contractor who had found an error in their part of the bid. Staff decided it should be rebid. Councilmember Demmer asked if there was an issue since the bids were public. Mr. Himmer said the bids were public information. City Attorney Brodie said there were not any issues from a legal perspective. He also said this was the better option than negotiating with a single bidder.

Councilmember Greskowiak asked if the bid results would be available by the next Council meeting. Mr. Himmer said they had to advertise for at least two weeks so the project would probably lose about one month. He said staff planned to look at some of the lead items and might end up directly purchasing some of those. Councilmember Greskowiak asked if items were taken out to note so the Council could compare.

Councilmember Johnson asked if additional contractors could bid. Mr. Himmer said yes, it would be open to any and all bidders.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

OLD BUSINESS

9. CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 2242 AN ORDINANCE REVISITING CITY CODE 12-201 AND 12-202

The Staff report was shared with Council.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER DEMMER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON, TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 2242 REVISING THE ADOPTION OF THE MINNESOTA BUILDING CODE AND THEREBY AMENDING REVISED CITY CODE – 1982 SECTIONS 12-201 AND 12-202. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS

10. CONSIDER 2021 WORKERS COMPENSATION COVERAGE

The Staff report was shared with Council.

Councilmember Demmer asked if choosing any retro plan resulted in the same \$1.6 million in savings. He also noted that Option 1 had the highest minimum. Finance Director Hanson said the City had chosen Option 3 over the last, at least, 10 years. This year's maximum went up to \$1.7 million due to the police class increase. If the City did not choose a retro plan, it would lose the opportunity to get the \$1.6 million back from the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust. Councilmember Demmer asked her to comment more on choosing Option 1 with the highest minimum. City Manager Stemwedel said it was most probable to have more cost than the minimum, but it did involve risk calculation. He said staff felt more comfortable capping the City's risk on the high end over the potential to save anything on the low end.

Councilmember Greskowiak asked if the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust was the City's only option and if other cities used others. He thought the Minneapolis Police Department was affecting the increased rates. Mr. Stemwedel said it was the best option for Worker's

Compensation. The larger cities such as Minneapolis and Saint Paul are self-insured. He added that the increased rates were a state wide challenge due to Post Traumatic Stress Disorder becoming eligible for claims.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DEMMER, TO SELECT OPTION 1 OF THE RETRO-RATED PLANS WITH THE LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA CITIES INSURANCE TRUST FOR 2021 WORKERS COMPENSATION COVERAGE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. CONSIDER RESOLUTION 21-30 AUTHORIZING 2020-2021 INSURANCE RENEWALS

The Staff report was shared with Council.

Mayor Koch asked if the number of vehicles listed included dump trucks and loaders. Finance Director Hanson confirmed it did.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER DEMMER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON, TO PURCHASE INSURANCE RENEWAL THROUGH THE LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA CITIES INSURANCE TRUST; MAINTAIN STATUTORY LEGAL LIMITS OF \$1.5 MILLION PER OCCURRENCE; AND ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 21-30 PURCHASING SEWER BACKUP LIABILITY INSURANCE. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11A. APPROVE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA AND CITY OF COON RAPIDS FOR INSTITUTION COMMUNITY WORK CREW PROGRAM

The Staff report was shared with Council.

Councilmember Rehrauer made a motion to table this item for the opportunity to discuss at a future work session. Councilmember Geisler said she was willing to second the motion; however, she wanted to make sure there was not interest in any other discussion tonight because if the item was tabled it could not be discussed further. Councilmember Rehrauer had concerns and needed more information and wanted the opportunity to talk about it.

Councilmember Geisler asked if tabling would cause any timeline issues. City Manager Stemwedel said the deadline was April 1st which should provide plenty of time to add it to a work session and then get it back before Council for a vote.

Mayor Koch asked how long the City had been in this partnership. Public Works Director Himmer said at least the nine years he had been there. He also asked for specific questions the Council had so he could provide the correct information at the work session. Mayor Koch asked if there had ever been any issues. Mr. Himmer said he was not aware of any concerns. Staff was even considering adding a second crew because it was such a good value.

Councilmember Rehrauer said her main concern involved the types of jobs and the wage earned. She wanted to make sure it was a reasonable wage with safe working conditions.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER REHRAUER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, TO TABLE ITEM 11A. TO BE ADDED TO A FUTURE WORK SESSION FOR DISCUSSION. THE MOTION PASSED 5-2 (KOCH AND GRESKOWIAK OPPOSED.)

11B. APPROVE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH ANOKA HENNEPIN DISTRICT 11 FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT

The Staff report was shared with Council.

Councilmember Geisler asked if the Police Officers were in uniform. Police Chief Wise explained that the DARE officers were in full uniform, while School Resource Officers wore plain clothes. He added that the assignment process was very competitive so the officers that were there wanted to be there. He also encouraged the Council to speak with principals about the roles the officers played and how important they were to the school's culture.

Councilmember Rehrauer said she had spoken with several people and they all had great things to say about the School Resource Officers. She asked about the process of hiring for the positions. Chief Wise said the positions were posted internally and then a formal interview process followed conducted by two Command Staff Officers and the principal. The three people then choose the officer they think is the best fit for the position. Councilmember Rehrauer asked how the Police Department determined the services were beneficial to the District. Chief Wise commented that was a good question. He said to a certain extent it was presumed because the District continued to renew the contract. The relationships formed between the officers and the students also provided information on when the Police Department needed to provide services such as protective services.

Councilmember Carlson said he had worked in the schools for 27 years. He was a DARE officer for eight years and a School Resource Officer for 19. He still had relationships with some of the kids and had written many job and military recommendations. He said there was some correction involved, but mainly it was about positive relationships between the police and students.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER REHRAUER, TO APPROVE THE 2020-2021 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR SCHOOL LIAISON AND PREVENTION PROGRAM OFFICER SERVICES WITH ANOKA-HENNEPIN SCHOOL DISTRICT #11. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

OPEN MIC/PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Koch reviewed the rules of order for the Open Mic/Public Comment portion of the meeting.

REPORTS ON PREVIOUS OPEN MIC

12. OPEN MIC RESPONSE – MS. KATHERINE KOPHER – 1XXXX DOGWOOD STREET NW

Mayor Koch discussed Ms. Kopher’s comments made during Open Mic at the December 15, 2020 Council meeting.

13. OPEN MIC REPORT – MR. WAYNE SCHWARTZ – XXX 104TH AVENUE

Mayor Koch discussed Mr. Schwartz’s comments made during Open Mic at the January 19, 2021 Council meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Koch mentioned that tonight was the Snowflake Days Community Parade and they were collecting food. City Manager Stemwedel said it looked like staff was having a lot of fun.

City Manager Stemwedel said the Front Door Program, a curb appeal grant program, was now open with an application deadline of March 1, 2021. More information could be found on the City’s website.

Councilmember Johnson gave a shout out to former Councilmember Paul Johnson who helped him get two vehicles out of the snow at the Aspen Park parking lot. He also requested the Public Works Department to put up a barricade since that parking lot did not get plowed.

ADJOURN

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER DEMMER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER CARLSON, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:06 P.M. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Jerry Koch, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joan Lenzmeier, City Clerk