

COON RAPIDS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 16, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The second 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 16, 2021, in the Council Chambers.

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 JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

1. FEBRUARY 2, 2021, COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GRESKOWIAK, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER CARLSON, FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2, 2021, COUNCIL MEETING. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSENT AGENDA/INFORMATIONAL BUSINESS

2. APPROVE THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE ENTERPRISE LICENSE FOR BLISS MASSAGE STUDIO LLC, 277 COON RAPIDS BOULEVARD, SUITE 410

3. ACCEPT ASSESSMENT WAIVER AGREEMENT WITH FOINGII GBADYU-KOLLIE FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 941 104TH AVENUE NW
 4. APPROVE FINAL PAYMENT TO T.A. SCHIFSKY & SONS, INC. FOR PROJECT 20-8, MISC. PARK & TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS
 5. ACCEPT DRAINAGE AND UTILITY EASEMENTS FOR 9032 NORWAY STREET AND 799 90TH AVENUE NW
 6. ADOPT RESOLUTION 21-35 ACCEPTING THE 2021 SCORE RECYCLING GRANT FUNDS FROM ANOKA COUNTY
-

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, FOR APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC HEARING

7. HOLD PUBLIC AND ASSESSMENT HEARINGS, CONSIDER RESOLUTIONS 21-1(6A) ORDERING PROJECT AND 21-1(8) APPROVING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS
-

The Staff report was shared with Council.

Mayor Koch asked about the average amount of time for a street to go from alligator cracks to potholes. City Engineer Hansen said approximately three to five years. He said recently there had been a lot of repeated freeze thaw patterns which triggered a quicker turnover.

Councilmember Carlson asked when the roads were last replaced. Mr. Hansen said the roads had never been reconstructed. They were originally constructed in the mid-1980s.

City Manager Stemwedel shared an online attendee inquired about street improvement effect on property values. Mr. Hansen said the City had completed a benefit analysis and the benefit to a property was between \$4,000 and \$5,000.

Councilmember Greskowiak asked about the total thickness. Mr. Hansen said the original design was two inches, but the City now used three inches.

Councilmember Rehrauer asked if the streets lasted longer due to the additional thickness. Mr. Hansen said yes, there was an additional 10% life span.

Mayor Koch opened the public and assessment hearing at 7:28 p.m.

Bryan Champagne 10505 Ibis Street, shared that the corner of his street did not have a stop sign and had always been a problem with accidents. However, his main concern was financial. He is on disability and has been living there for 32 years, but the expenses keep going up.

Mayor Koch noted his address was part of the Forest Park neighborhood and was actually part of Item 8. Mr. Hansen also shared there was a senior citizen and active military deferral and that Mr. Champagne should speak with the assessing department. He also talked about the stop sign in question and the process to review a new stop sign.

Mayor Koch closed the public and assessment hearing at 7:33 p.m.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GRESKOWIAK, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 21-1(6A) ORDERING THE IMPROVEMENTS.

Councilmember Greskowiak said the improvements were in Ward 1. He said there was 100% approval of everyone that he had talked to.

Councilmember Demmer reminded everyone that Coon Rapid's assessment rate was quite a bit lower than surrounding communities. The City tried hard to strike an appropriate balance. Mayor Koch added that it was a very fair because it required the properties that do not pay taxes to pay a portion.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GRESKOWIAK, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 21-1(8) APPROVING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND ORDERING ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS.

Councilmember Greskowiak mentioned this was a very concentrated area and wanted to ensure the construction provided access to the area. Mr. Hansen said it had been incorporated within the specifications.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. HOLD PUBLIC AND ASSESSMENT HEARINGS, CONSIDER RESOLUTIONS 21-2(6A) ORDERING PROJECT AND 21-2(8) APPROVING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Staff report was shared with Council.

Mayor Koch asked if the City let Connexus know that it was replacing the street lights in case they wanted to update theirs. City Engineer Hansen said in most instances they had updated their fixtures, but the City did inform all of the private utilities of the projects.

Councilmember Greskowiak asked if this was the first reconstruction. Mr. Hansen said the majority were the first. The City did reconstruct a portion of Juniper Street about ten years ago. Staff was proposing to reconstruct the entire street because curb, gutter, concrete, valves, and hydrants were not replaced. It was also replaced at two inches. The footage was subtracted from the assessment. Councilmember Greskowiak asked about the cast pipe water mains. Mr. Hansen

said lining watermain was very complicated. It was much more economical to open cut and replace.

Mayor Koch opened and closed the public hearing at 7:48 p.m. since no one appeared to address the Council. It was noted that Mr. Bryan Champagne spoke at the public hearing for street project 21-1 but his address is contained in the street project for 21-2.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER REHRAUER, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 21-2(6A) ORDERING THE IMPROVEMENTS. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 21-2(8) APPROVING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND ORDERING ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. VACATION OF DRAINAGE AND UTILITY EASEMENTS FOR 9032 NORWAY STREET AND 799 90TH AVENUE NW

The Staff report was shared with Council.

Mayor Koch opened and closed the public hearing at 7:53 p.m. since no one appeared to address the Council.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 21-32 VACATING DRAINAGE AND UTILITY EASEMENTS. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. VACATION OF WATERMAIN EASEMENT FOR 3045 MAIN STREET NW

The Staff report was shared with Council.

Mayor Koch opened and closed the public hearing at 7:55 p.m. since no one appeared to address the Council.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 21-33 VACATING WATERMAIN EASEMENT. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

BID OPENINGS AND CONTRACT AWARDS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

11. CONSIDER RESOLUTION 21-5(8) APPROVING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND ORDERING AD FOR BIDS FOR ANNUAL STREET MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

The Staff report was shared with Council.

Councilmember Greskowiak asked about fog sealing. Public Works Director Himmer said fog sealing had replaced chip sealing for the last three years. It is more of a liquid form and takes more time, but stands up better.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GRESKOWIAK, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 21-5(8) APPROVING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND ORDERING ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR THE 2021 STREET MAINTENANCE PROGRAM.

Councilmember Geisler thanked Mr. Himmer. She said Coon Rapid's was leading this effort to have larger contracts with better prices.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. CONSIDER RESOLUTION 21-11(8) ACCEPTING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR EAST RESERVOIR REHABILITATION AND AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF BIDS

The Staff report was shared with Council.

Councilmember Greskowiak thought it was great the City continues to invest in its infrastructure. He asked about the useful life of the reservoir after renovations. Public Works Director Himmer said 40 to 50 years.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER CARLSON, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 21-11(8) ACCEPTING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR EAST RESERVOIR REHABILITATION, AND AUTHORIZE THE SOLICITATION OF BIDS. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

13. CONSIDER RESOLUTION 21-34 AMENDING THE REVOLVING CONSTRUCTION FUND

The Staff report was shared with Council.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 21-34 AMENDING THE REVOLVING CONSTRUCTION FUND, AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO EXECUTE THE LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT WITH SEH TO PERFORM THE FEASIBILITY STUDY TO INVESTIGATE THE POTENTIAL CONSTRUCTION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS MONOPOLE AT THE FOLEY BOULEVARD WATER TOWER SITE.

Councilmember Greskowiak asked why this did not go out for bid. Public Works Director Himmer said the City had several consultants in a pool. They would do a request for proposal if a project was in the magnitude of \$75,000+. This is smaller and SEH is very specialized in this area.

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.

Daniel Nimlos, 12180 Ilex Street NW, said he wanted to talk about a warm weather topic. He asked the Council to direct the Sustainability Commission to study a revision of City Code 6-502 to allow for limited bee keeping for residents. He said the revision could be similar to Ordinance 2163 passed in 2016 that allowed the keeping of chickens. There was a discussion about the possibility of an ordinance at the Work Session in November 2019. He wished to add his voice in hopes this work can continue. He thought it would be a huge win from a residential perspective. He also shared his experience at Bethel University where there were bee hives in the gardens to support the student dining center.

Mayor Koch asked about the name of the program he referenced. Mr. Nimlos said the program is called Lawns to Legumes. Mayor Koch encouraged him to keep in contact with his Councilmember.

REPORTS ON PREVIOUS OPEN MIC

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

City Manager Stemwedel thanked the Snowflake Days committee and staff for pulling off a safe event. He said the weather did have an impact, but a lot of events were successful. Mayor Koch also thanked the whole crew.

Mayor Koch asked about the Police Department reimbursement for services rendered to the City of Minneapolis that was referenced in a newspaper article. Police Chief Wise said he was surprised to be omitted from the article. Coon Rapids collaborated with the other agencies that were mentioned. Today they resubmitted an invoice to Minneapolis for the police services that were provided. Chief Wise acknowledged that it was a hot topic at the legislature. He said Minneapolis was currently only asking other agencies to backfill. He also added that the Department had never asked another agency to reimburse the City for helping in an emergency; however, they had never had to commit so many officers for so many days. He said he was hopeful for a compromise.

Councilmember Geisler reminded everyone that the Front Door program was still open for applications until March 1, 2021.

ADJOURN

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER CARLSON, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:22 P.M. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Jerry Koch, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joan Lenzmeier, City Clerk