

COON RAPIDS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 2, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

The first regular meeting of the Coon Rapids City Council for the month of March was called to order by Mayor Jerry Koch at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 2, 2016, 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 Denise Klint, Ron Manning, Wade Demmer, Jennifer Geisler, Brad Johnson and Steve Wells

Members Absent: None

ADOPT AGENDA

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

PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

1. PRESENTATION BY FAMILY PROMISE

David Frend introduced the program at Family Promise to the City Council. He discussed how his program was helping individuals receive short-term housing and meals in Anoka County. He appreciated the partnerships Family Promise had with local churches and numerous other volunteer organizations. The goals for the coming year were reviewed in detail and he requested the Council consider funding Family Promise in the future.

Councilmember Klint appreciated the work being done by Family Promise because it was the only organization that offered assistance to homeless children and their families.

Mayor Koch asked if Family Promise was receiving grants from other municipalities. Mr. Frend reported Family Promise was receiving annual funding from Andover, Anoka, Blaine and Anoka County.

2. SENATOR JIM ABELER AND REPRESENTATIVE PEGGY SCOTT

Representative Peggy Scott thanked the Council for their time. She discussed the events that would be taking place in the upcoming legislative session that would impact the City of Coon Rapids. She commented on the Hanson Boulevard bonding project and was cautiously optimistic the project would be passed. She reported she was also working on body camera legislation. She stated it was a pleasure to serve this community and appreciated the great turnout for the recent caucus. She encouraged the public to reach out to her with any comments or concerns they may have.

Councilmember Klint asked if the legislature would be addressing mental health issues during the next session.

Senator Jim Abeler thanked the Council for their time. He discussed his committee appointments and anticipated he would be serving on the Health and Human Services Finance Committee and the Higher Education Committee. He discussed the mental health issues that were addressed in the 2015 legislative session. He encouraged the City Council to visit the Senate and House websites for further information on the matters that would be addressed in the 2016 session.

Councilmember Manning questioned what the projections were for the budget surplus.

Senator Abeler estimated the State's budget surplus would be \$900 million. He believed there would be a push to address Local Government Aid (LGA) and that these funds be spent on essential items.

Mayor Koch appreciated the representative's assistance with Hanson Boulevard. He requested the representatives continue to lobby for a third lane on Highway 10 from Hanson Boulevard to Round Lake Boulevard.

Senator Abeler reported the City of Andover was also pushing for the third lane on Highway 10. He understood the value of improving this roadway.

Councilmember Klint encouraged Senator Abeler to push for the creation of additional adolescent mental health facilities given there was a growing need in the community.

Senator Abeler commented there was a youth mental health facility in Maple Grove with beds for teens and children. He reported he would be eager to talk about this issue further with Councilmember Klint.

Councilmember Johnson appreciated the work being conducted by Representative Scott on the body cameras legislation. He recommended State Statute 634.36 be amended to include body camera footage, and squad car footage.

Mayor Koch thanked Representative Scott and Senator Abeler for their attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

3. FEBRUARY 16, 2016, COUNCIL MEETING

Councilmember Geisler requested the TBD values be added to the minutes on Page 9.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER MANNING, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DEMMER, FOR APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 16, 2016, COUNCIL MEETING AS AMENDED. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSENT AGENDA/INFORMATIONAL BUSINESS

4. APPROVE EXPENDITURES FOR WOODVIEW PARK UPGRADE
 5. APPROVE AGREEMENT FOR ON-LINE BILL PAY FOR UTILITY BILLING
 6. ADOPT RESOLUTION 16-34 AGREEMENT FOR MINNESOTA GOVERNMENT ACCESS (MGA)
 7. APPROVE WAIVER OF CARNIVAL LICENSE FEES FOR THE 2016 SPRINGFEST CELEBRATION ON MAY 20 & 21, 2016
-

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

PUBLIC HEARING

None.

BID OPENINGS AND CONTRACT AWARDS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

8. CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 2159, AN ORDINANCE ADDING REQUIREMENTS FOR MICRODISTILLERIES, BREW PUBS AND BREWER TAPROOMS
-

The Staff report was shared with Council.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER KLINT, TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 2159, AN ORDINANCE ADDING REQUIREMENTS FOR

MICRODISTILLERIES, BREW PUBS AND BREWER TAPROOMS; AND; AUTHORIZE SUMMARY PUBLICATION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. CONSIDER ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 2160, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE 5-900 TOBACCO

The Staff report was shared with Council.

Mayor Koch asked if there was any Tobacco License holders present to discuss the proposed amendment. There were no comments from the public.

Councilmember Demmer understood the new Ordinance would allow e-cigarettes to be equivalent to cigarettes under City Code. City Clerk Lenzmeier reported this was the case.

Councilmember Geisler asked if e-cigarettes could only be smoked indoors in vapor lounges. City Attorney Brodie advised current Minnesota State law does not prohibit the use of e-cigarettes in public places. At this point, it would be up to individual establishments (such as a restaurant) to ban the use of e-cigarettes.

Councilmember Geisler questioned if the City would have to change its Ordinance if the State were to make a change. City Attorney Brodie reported the City would be covered if the State were to amend the current statute.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER DEMMER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MANNING, TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 2160, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE 5-900 TOBACCO; AUTHORIZE SUMMARY PUBLICATION.

Councilmember Demmer discussed the numerous health trials being conducted on e-cigarettes. He anticipated these studies would be published in the next few years. He was pleased that the City would be treating e-cigarettes like cigarettes until there was further data on their health impacts.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS

10. PC 16-5, CONSIDER APPLICANT REQUEST FOR CODE AMENDMENT TO ALLOW BOAT AND MOTOR REPAIR IN PORT CAMPUS SQUARE

The Staff report was shared with Council. It was noted the Planning Commission reviewed this request at both their January and February meetings. The Planning Commission found the proposed

use was not consistent with the goals and objectives of PORT Campus Square and recommended denial of the Code Amendment.

Councilmember Manning asked how long the building owner would have to vacate the building. City Attorney Brodie stated the applicant was technically already violating City Code. He believed staff would give the applicant a reasonable amount of time to vacate the premises and vacate the premises.

Councilmember Manning requested enough time be granted to the applicant so as to not hurt their business.

Councilmember Klint explained she called the City on numerous occasions to complain about this site. She believed this property was a complete eyesore. She did not support the business storing boats onsite and wanted to see the business removed as it did not align with the City's vision for the boulevard. She encouraged the Council to support denial of the applicants request to amend Title 11.

Councilmember Wells supported the denial as well. He requested the City allow the applicant to have several months to relocate as this would allow him time to get through the busy season.

Councilmember Johnson saw some value in the City having a boat servicing business in the community given the fact Coon Rapids was a river city. He agreed the vision for the boulevard had to be followed but questioned where a boat and motor shop could locate in the Coon Rapids. Planner Harlicker reported boat and motor repairs was categorized as a major recreational activity and would be allowed in the General Commercial or Industrial zoning districts.

Councilmember Johnson stated he would be supporting the denial. However, it was his hope that the business would remain in the City as it provided a valuable service to Coon Rapids residents.

Mayor Koch agreed the current location was not the right fit. He did not support the level of outdoor storage at this business. He wanted to see the City give the business six months to a year to relocate.

Councilmember Manning supported this recommendation.

Councilmember Klint asked if the number of boats and vehicles could be limited in order to bring this site into conformance. City Attorney Brodie advised this would be difficult to regulate given the fact the site had never been in conformance with City Code. He reported staff would be willing to work with the applicant on relocating their business in the City.

Councilmember Demmer appreciated the fact that staff was willing to assist the business owner in finding a new location in Coon Rapids.

Councilmember Johnson questioned if there was a given timeframe that the City Council must act based on the Planning Commission's recommendation. City Attorney Brodie explained the Planning Case was under the 120 day rule for this Planning Case, which would expire at the end of April.

Councilmember Johnson recommended the Council uphold the Planning Commission's denial and that staff be directed to assist with relocating the business and be required to report back to the City Council at future meetings as to the progress.

Councilmember Geisler did not mind the boat and motor repairs. However, she did not approve of the outdoor storage of boats on the site. She supported denial of the applicants request as Coon Rapids Boulevard was not the proper location for this business.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER KLINT, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, TO DENY THE APPLICANT'S REQUEST TO AMEND TITLE 11 TO ALLOW BOAT AND MOTOR REPAIR AS A PERMITTED USE IN PORT CAMPUS SQUARE, ALLOWING THE BUSINESS UP TO SIX MONTHS TO RELOCATE.

Councilmember Klint appreciated that staff was willing to assist with relocating this business, she understood that this was not staff's area of expertise.

Councilmember Manning encouraged staff to work with the owner on the timing of his move.

Councilmember Johnson believed there was an incentive for the business owner to find a new place. He favored the Council supporting a more indefinite time period and that the Council receive updates from staff on the businesses progress.

Councilmember Klint feared that if the site were cleaned up and allowed to remain longer than six months, the City would be addressing this matter again next spring.

Mayor Koch suggested the timeframe be left up to City staff. City Attorney Brodie recommended the Council have a specific date for this matter as this would provide the best guidance for staff and the business owner.

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. CONSIDER REQUEST FOR TWO ADDITIONAL REGULAR PART-TIME POSITIONS
AT CTN

The Staff report was shared with Council.

Councilmember Geisler questioned how many hours per week the regular part-time employees would work. City Manager Stemwedel reported these employees would work 28 hours per week per position. It was noted these would be non-benefited positions.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER WELLS, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER DEMMER, TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 16-35 AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR THE PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS FUND FOR ADDITIONAL PART-TIME STAFF.

Councilmember Klint did not believe this request was setting a very good precedent. It was her opinion that the need for additional employees should have been caught during the budgeting process, given the new contracts that were in place. She did not appreciate increasing the budget after it was approved by the City Council.

City Manager Stemwedel reported the public communications fund was an enterprise fund. He explained the City would not be increasing its workload because of the new franchise with CenturyLink, rather the workload would be increased by the private business contracts. He discussed how these private business contracts have ebbed and flowed over recent years.

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.

LeAnn Mortenson, 11220 Olive Street NW, thanked the City Council for updating its Tobacco regulations. She urged the City Council to ban the use of e-cigarettes where cigarettes are prohibited. She believed this would protect the clean indoor air within the City of Coon Rapids that residents have come to expect. She commented 79% of Minnesota residents supported further regulation to prohibit e-cigarette use in indoor places. She discussed recent health study findings and explained that nicotine and other harmful toxins are emitted by e-cigarettes. She reported the long-term impacts of e-cigarette vapors are unknown, which was a concern for the public. She discussed the numerous cities and counties that had banned the use of e-cigarettes indoors. She encouraged the City to further regulate e-cigarettes as they were growing in popularity.

REPORTS ON PREVIOUS OPEN MIC

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Koch was pleased to report the golf driving range opened last Saturday and the executive course would be opening this Thursday, March 3.

Mayor Koch commented the next City Council meeting would be held on Tuesday, March 22.

ADJOURN

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER GEISLER, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WELLS,
TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:15 P.M. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Jerry Koch, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joan Lenzmeier, City Clerk