

**MAHTOMEDI CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
MARCH 21, 2023**

Mayor Richard Brainerd convened the regular City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. with City Council members Jeff Charlesworth, Lilly Melander, Luke Schlegel, and Jane Schneeweis in attendance. City Attorney Bridget Nason, City Engineer John Sachi, City Planner Hannah Rybak, Public Works Director Bob Goebel, Fire Chief Terry Fischer, Finance Director Scott Schaefer, and City Clerk Jerene Rogers were also in attendance.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Clerk Jerene Rogers said we would like to add a proposal from EMS Management & Consultants to the Consent Agenda as Item 6e. She said EMS Management & Consultants will provide ambulance billing services to the City for a cost of \$15 per transport and 2% of net collections. Currently we pay Expert Billing \$29 per transport. She said we haven't been satisfied with Expert Billing since new ownership took over a few years ago.

City Council member Charlesworth moved and City Council member Schlegel seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 7, 2023 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES.

City Council member Schlegel asked to change the word funded to fundable in the sentence on page 4, paragraph 2 to, "He said for now it looks like the only federally *fundable* end point for the line is in Maplewood."

City Council member Schlegel moved and City Council member Charlesworth seconded the motion to approve the March 7, 2023 City Council meeting minutes as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. PRESENTATIONS

4a. Washington County Commissioner – Stan Karwoski

County Commissioner Karwoski thanked the City Council and City Staff for their support and involvement with the County Road 12 project. He also thanked Mahtomedi residents for their engagement throughout the entire project. He said the County is thankful for the continued partnership with the City. He presented Mayor Brainerd with a plaque recognizing the completion of the project.

4b. Metropolitan Council Representative – Gail Cederberg

Ms. Cederberg introduced herself and said she is the newly appointed District 12 representative for the Met Council. She said District 12 encompasses the cities from Forest Lake to Cottage Grove. She stated the Met Council meetings are streamed live online at metcouncil.org if anybody would like to follow their proceedings.

4. Presentations - continued

4c. State Senator – Karin Housley

Senator Housley said she has served as a State Senator for 11 years. She said during the final 8 weeks of legislative session we will see a lot of spending bills coming through. She said she is fighting for tax relief. She said two of items in the bonding bill are \$20 million for the Lake Elmo Avenue/Highway 36 interchange and \$2.4 million to complete the Lake Links Trail. She explained the Adult Use Cannabis Bill continues to move through committees and said she will not vote for this bill to be passed. She thanked the council for their time and encouraged those to contact her if needed.

Heather and Randy Bacchus, 77 Edgecumbe Drive spoke to the council regarding Cannabis and Marijuana. They explained that they are trying to educate people regarding the effects of both of these items and are concerned if the Adult Use Cannabis Bill is passed in legislature. They lost their son due to a Cannabis induced psychosis that resulted in his suicide and are concerned for kids that are under the age of 25 using these products.

4d. Proclamation Honoring State Champion Mahtomedi High School Boys Hockey Team.

Mayor Brainerd read a Proclamation for the 2023 State Champion Mahtomedi High School Boys Hockey Team stating March 21, 2023 will be proclaimed as Mahtomedi High School Boys Hockey Day within the City of Mahtomedi. Mayor Brainerd presented the Coach Poeschl with two photos and the Proclamation.

Coach Poeschl and Assistant Coach Rogosheske thanked the City Council and said they are very proud of the team and that the team worked hard to achieve this goal.

5. DISCUSSION FROM THE AUDIENCE - None

6. CONSENT AGENDA

City Council member Schlegel moved and City Council member Charlesworth seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

6a. APPROVAL – WSB Proposal to Survey Two City Owned Lots.

The proposals from WSB to survey two city owned lots in the amount not to exceed \$9,840.00 each for the Glenmar Avenue lot and the Bevins Lane lot were approved.

6b. APPROVAL – Resolution Appointing Advisory Commission Members.

Resolution 2023-14 a Resolution Appointing Advisory Commission Members to a three-year term starting on April 1, 2023 was approved. The following members were appointed to fill three year terms expiring on March 31, 2026:

6. **CONSENT AGENDA - continued**

Environmental Commission – Christine Ahmann-Maples
Finance Commission – Mike Bromelkamp, Roger Humphrey, Bob Pocrnich
Park Commission - Anna Costello, Stacey Fischer
Planning Commission – Tony Chesak, Alex Rogosheske, Dan Soler

6c. **APPROVAL – Construction Pay Voucher No. 1 for the Greenwood Ditch Drainage Improvement Project.**

Construction Pay Voucher No. 1 in the amount of \$133,908.75 to Winberg Companies for the Greenwood Ditch Drainage Improvement Project was approved.

6d. **APPROVAL – Resolution Extending Variance Approval for the Property Located at 317 Wedgewood Drive.**

Resolution 2023-17 a Resolution Extending Variance Approval for the Property Located at 317 Wedgewood Drive was approved. The property owners requested an extension due to unforeseen financial and economic changes. They are hoping to start this project in the spring of 2024.

6e. **APPROVAL – Proposal from EMS Management & Consultants to provide ambulance billing service to the City of Mahtomedi - added**

The proposal from EMS Management & Consultants to provide ambulance billing service to the City was approved. The fee will be \$15 per transport and 2% of net revenue collections.

7. **PUBLIC HEARINGS – None**

8a. **CONSIDER APPROVAL – Request from Steve Zawadski, on behalf of property owner Owasso Beach, LLC, for a major subdivision to subdivide the parcel into 5 (five) single-family lots located at 313 Old Wildwood Road and described as PID 31.030.21.12.0003.**

City Planner Hannah Rybak stated the applicant, Steve Zawadski is proposing to split the property into five single-family residential lots. She said the home previously on the lot has been removed and the lots proposed meet the criteria for subdivision with 1.5 units per acre. She explained the developer would be responsible to pay the City \$12,000 for the parkland dedication fee. City Planner Rybak said a complete tree inventory was provided by the developer indicating the significant trees on the property. She said the property is considered heavily wooded with 212 significant trees, so one tree for every three trees removed will be required to be replaced.

City Engineer John Sachi said the applicants engineer has addressed all of the concerns WSB staff had when reviewing the plans for this development. He said the City will be responsible for the on-going maintenance of the infiltration basin that will be installed as part of this development. He stated that either a homeowner's association or the property owner will be responsible for the

8. STAFF REPORTS - continued

proposed retaining walls near the pond. He said this will be a condition of approval and part of the developer's agreement.

The applicant, Steve Zawadski thanked staff and said they are excited to be here. He said this will be a nice development and fit in the neighborhood.

City Council member Charlesworth said the Planning Commission did a good job vetting this proposal. He said he is happy with this proposal.

City Council member Schlegel said he encourages staff to prepare a retaining wall maintenance agreement. He was happy to hear that the developer took feedback from staff to make the proposal better.

City Council member Charlesworth moved and City Council member Schlegel seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2023-13 a Resolution Approving an Application of a Major Subdivision (Including Preliminary and Final Plat Approval of Old Wildwood Oaks) to Create Five Single-Family Lots from the Current Lot at the Property Located at 313 Old Wildwood Road, PID 31.030.21.12.0003. The motion was unanimously approved.

8b. **CONSIDER APPROVAL – Joint Resolution Requesting Concurrent Detachment from White Bear Lake and Annexation into Mahtomedi of certain lands pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 414.061.**

City Attorney Bridget Nason said the property located at 906 Wildwood Road and the parcel directly to the south of that parcel are currently located in the City of White Bear Lake. Staff believes it would make the most sense to have the property annexed into the City of Mahtomedi corporate boundaries. Staff has discussed this with City of White Bear Lake officials and they have agreed to the border adjustment. She said both city councils are required to pass a resolution requesting the proposed border adjustment. She stated the signed resolutions, along with proposed revised municipal maps are submitted to the Office of Administrative Hearing, where the resolutions will be reviewed by the Chief Administrative Law Judge who will issue an order ordering the detachment and annexation.

City Council member Schlegel asked if the owners of the property have been notified of this proceeding.

City Attorney Nason said yes they have and City Administrator Neilson spoke with one landowner and he had no concerns regarding the proceeding.

City Council member Schneeweis moved and City Council member Charlesworth seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2023-15, a Joint Resolution Requesting Concurrent Detachment from White Bear Lake and Annexation into Mahtomedi of Certain Lands Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 414.061. The motion was unanimously approved.

8. STAFF REPORTS - continued

8c. CONSIDER APPROVAL – Pedestrian Crossing Safety Improvements at Wildridge Road/
Lincolnton Avenue intersection.

John Carr, 190 Wildridge Road said the residents in this area are asking the City Council to make safety improvements at the Wildridge Road/Lincolnton Avenue intersection. He said the Wildridge Pines Homeowners' Association supports this request. He explained that there is not an ADA ramp/loading zone waiting area on the west side of the crossing. He said pedestrians must stand in the roadway at the blind corner. He explained that southbound motorists who turn onto Wildridge have limited visibility of pedestrians waiting to cross Lincolnton Avenue. He stated pedestrians standing on the west side of the crossing cannot see vehicles approaching the intersection because of the terrain. He stated they would like to see Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) lights at this intersection to notify vehicles of pedestrians/bikers waiting to use the crosswalk. Mr. Carr said they would like to have an ADA ramp/curb cuts and 80 feet of sidewalk installed along the north edge of Wildridge Road. He said as an additional option a pedestrian crossing point on Wildridge Road at the end of the new sidewalk section should be painted for pedestrians.

City Council member Charlesworth said these improvements would go a long way. He said he is familiar with the intersection and with the high snowbanks there right now it is terrifying to use the crosswalk.

City Council member Schneeweis said this request is a slam dunk for her. She believes we should have RRFB lights at this intersection as well as others within the city.

City Council member Schlegel said he spent time watching cars in this area. He said there is definitely an issue there right now with the snow. He said the RRFB lights make sense. He asked if they make noise.

City Engineer Sachi said yes the lights do make noise, but the volume can be adjusted. He also said they could roll this project into the Juniper Street Project, like they are doing with the Gosiwin Avenue to Dahlia Street trail project.

Mayor Brainerd said the cost of this project could be \$13,000 to \$18,000 and asked if we have funds to move forward with these improvements.

Finance Director Scott Schaefer said yes, we can use contingency funds.

Mayor Brainerd said the consensus of the Council is to direct staff to put together a proposal for these improvements and to bring the proposal back to the Council at a future meeting for approval.

8. STAFF REPORTS - continued

8d. CONSIDER APPROVAL-Bill List

City Council member Schneeweis moved and City Council member Schlegel seconded the motion to approve the bills as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

9. REPORT FROM THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Public Works Director Goebel said hot mix is now available and staff will be out pothole patching. He said he has contacted MNDot regarding the potholes on Hwy 244.

Fire Chief Terry Fischer said the full-time person who the Council recently approved will begin employment on April 5th. He said there is a paramedic who is interested in becoming a paid on-call employee that will be beginning the pre-employment process soon.

Finance Director Schaefer said a work session will be scheduled for the end of April to discuss the fire department staffing study that is currently being completed.

10. COMMENTS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Brainerd reminder the rest of the Council of the Board of Review meeting scheduled for April 5th at 5:00 p.m. He said a brainstorming meeting with the entire council will be scheduled for some time in the near future. He stated he attended the LMC meeting and has also had good conversations with the Mayors from White Bear Lake and Willernie and the school superintendent.

City Council member Schneeweis stated City Council member Charlesworth has agreed to take over the council liaison position for the Environmental Commission.

City Council member Charlesworth said he is looking forward to the new role. He also said it was very nice to see the Wildridge Road neighborhood working together.

11. CLOSED SESSION – None

12. ADJOURNMENT


City Council member Charlesworth moved and City Council member Schneeweis seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m. The motion was unanimously approved.

ATTESTED:

APPROVED:



JERENE ROGERS, CITY CLERK



RICHARD BRAINERD, MAYOR