

**MAHTOMEDI CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
APRIL 6, 2021**

Mayor Jud Marshall convened the regular City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. with Council members Richard Brainerd, Jeff Charlesworth, Jeff Ledermann, and Jane Schneeweis in attendance. City Administrator Scott Neilson, City Attorney Bridget Nason, City Engineers John Sachi and Nick Guilliams, Finance Director Scott Schaefer, Public Works Director Bob Goebel, Fire Chief Terry Fischer, and City Clerk Jerene Rogers were also in attendance.

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

City Council member Brainerd moved and City Council member Charlesworth seconded the motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Yea: Brainerd, Charlesworth, Ledermann, Marshall, Schneeweis. Nay: None

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 16, 2021 CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES AND THE MARCH 16, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES.**

City Council member Schneeweis moved and City Council member Ledermann seconded the motion to approve the March 16, 2021 City Council work session and the March 16, 2021 City Council meeting minutes as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Yea: Brainerd, Charlesworth, Ledermann, Marshall, Schneeweis. Nay: None.

**4. PRESENTATIONS**

**1. Resolution Honorarily Co-Naming the Mahtomedi segment of the Lake Links Trail Wolgamot Way.**

Mayor Jud Marshall read Resolution 2021-19 Honorarily Co-Naming the Mahtomedi Segment of the Lake Links Trail Wolgamot Way.

Kevin Donovan thanked Steve for his many years of service to the school board as well as to the City of Mahtomedi.

Sarah Waldemar said she is Steve's little sister and is very proud of him. She is grateful that the City is recognizing his achievements.

City Council member Brainerd said it has been an honor being a neighbor of Steve's for many years and it has been a privilege to serve on the City Council with Steve. He said Steve has also served on the School Board, the MAEF Board, the Lake Links Trail Board, etc. He thanked Steve and Karen for their dedication to the City of Mahtomedi.

Washington County Commissioner Stan Karwoski said Steve is the epitome of persistence. He said he respects Steve for his leadership to get things accomplished.

Senator Chuck Wiger congratulated Steve and Karen and thanked Steve for allowing us to share in his legacy.

#### 4. PRESENTATIONS – Continued

Representative Peter Fischer congratulated Steve and Karen and said early on when he met Steve he was impressed with Steve's calm demeanor to get things done. He said Wolgamot Way is a great name for the trail, it's the Wolgamot Way to get things done.

Mahtomedi Superintendent Barb Duffrin agrees with all that has been said. She said Steve told her many stories about Mahtomedi and thanked him for providing her with the history of Mahtomedi when she first came to Mahtomedi.

Mike Brooks said Steve is a wonderful guy that brings the town to life. He is one of those individuals that brings a solution to the problem.

Steve Wolgamot stated this is wonderful and he truly appreciates everything that has been said on his behalf. He said we should look at everything we have accomplished as a city our size and be proud. He said he is thrilled to have worked with so many wonderful people and the gratitude is his.

#### 2. The Morris Leatherman Company

Peter Leatherman, of The Morris Leatherman Company presented the results of the city-wide survey. He said they surveyed 400 random residents between February 25<sup>th</sup> and March 26<sup>th</sup>. He said the average interview time was about 20 minutes and we had a non-response rate of 4.5%. He said the City received mostly favorable ratings. He said 99% of those surveyed feel the quality of life is excellent or good. He said one issue of concern is the lack of starter homes. He said residents here would like to see homes priced accordingly so their children could return to the City. He said 15% of residents surveyed feel the deer problem is very serious and 30% see it as a somewhat serious issue. Of those 45%, 50% feel it's a good idea/strongly to have a City controlled deer hunt. He said our residents are happy with the parks system, public safety, contact with City staff and the tax rates. He said many people are opposed to City managed trash collection.

There was City Council consensus that this survey provided worthwhile information and they are pleased with the results.

#### 5. DISCUSSION FROM THE AUDIENCE

Scott Eggert, 121 Loretta Lane would like an update on the items that were discussed at previous City Council meetings regarding issues with several trails within the City.

Jim Podobinski, 570 Warner Avenue South said there needs to be some type of traffic control/calming near O.H. Anderson School. He said he is concerned about the safety of kids walking to and from school. He has witnessed numerous near accidents. He doesn't know if stop signs would work, but feels something has to be done before something more serious occurs.

**6. CONSENT AGENDA**

City Council member Brainerd moved and City Council member Ledermann seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Yea: Brainerd, Charlesworth, Ledermann, Marshall, Schneeweis. Nay: None

**6a. APPROVAL – Annual Liquor/Assorted License Renewals.**

The annual liquor/assorted license renewals were approved contingent upon receipt of all appropriate paperwork and certificates of insurance.

**6b. APPROVAL – Service Contract with Washington County for County Organics Drop-Off Site.**

A Service Contract with Washington County for a County Organics Drop-Off Site was approved. The County has approved \$23,000 in Grant funding for the site. The site will be a free residential organics drop-off for all Washington County residents.

**6c. APPROVAL – Agreement with SL-Serco for Meter Reading Services for 2021.**

The 2021 Meter Reading Services Agreement with SL-Serco was approved. The agreement will expire on December 31, 2021.

**7. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None**

**8. STAFF REPORTS**

**8a. CONSIDER APPROVAL-Resolution Establishing Parking Restrictions on certain City Streets.**

City Administrator Scott Neilson said staff is requesting City Council approval of a Resolution restricting parking on certain streets.

Public Works Director Bob Goebel said the parking ban would include the area along the Lake Links Trail and locations within the Historic District where lane width prohibits the passing of emergency vehicles when a vehicle is parked adjacent to the curb. He said the City will issue parking permits upon request for residents. He said that he and Fire Chief Fischer decided where parking should be restricted in the Historic District. He said there would be no parking on the east side of Park Avenue along the Lake Links Trail. He said he is proposing this because the mailboxes are on the east side of Park Avenue. He said there would be no parking on the north side of the cross streets along the Lake Links Trail.

City Engineer John Sachi said the one-way street conversations came from safety concerns Fire Chief Fischer expressed. He said the Fire Chief is concerned he won't be able to get a fire truck down the road.

Public Works Director Goebel said the Lake Links Trail group wanted dedicated lanes or areas and that is the reason why he came up with this option.

**8. STAFF REPORTS – Continued**

City Council member Schneeweis said she has heard from a lot of homeowners and she would like more feedback from those people impacted by these decisions. She is concerned with cutting off access for residents.

City Council member Ledermann asked if a public hearing is required to make these changes.

City Attorney Bridget Nason indicated that the City Council has the authority to restrict parking on City streets.

City Council member Brainerd said he would like to hold a public hearing to get input on this issue. He said it's a big decision and the citizens should express their opinions.

Public Works Director Goebel said he had about 30 comments on the maps that were sent out. He said approximately 25 comments were made on the Trail No Parking map and 5 comments on the Proposed No Parking map. He said if two cars met in some of these areas, they would barely get by. He said we have to do something for safety reasons.

City Council member Charlesworth said there is no down side in listening to what the public has to say. He said his street has been one side parking for many years and it has to be that way to get an emergency vehicle through. He said these aren't easy decisions and if we are taking something away people have to understand why that is happening.

City Council member Brainerd moved and City Council member Charlesworth seconded the motion to combine items 8a and 8b and hear them at the May 4, 2021 City Council meeting where the City Council will conduct a public hearing. The City Council would also like additional informational materials included in their agenda packet. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Yea: Brainerd, Charlesworth, Ledermann, Marshall, Schneeweis. Nay: None.

**8b. DISCUSSION – Traffic Restrictions on Spruce Street from Mahtomedi Avenue to Park Avenue, Park Avenue from Spruce Street to Rose Street, and Park Avenue from Rose Street to Quail Street.**

Continued to the May 4, 2021 City Council meeting.

**8c. APPROVAL – Bill List.**

City Council member Brainerd moved and City Council member Schneeweis seconded the motion to approve the bills as presented. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Yea: Brainerd, Charlesworth, Ledermann, Marshall, Schneeweis. Nay: None.

**9. REPORT FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

City Administrator Neilson said the information for the Greenstep 5 designation has been sent in. He thanked Public Works Director Bob Goebel for his assistance in getting this completed. He stated FedEx

**9. REPORT FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR - Continued**

would like to put an AED in Southwest Park for public access. He said they would take care of all the expenses to put an outdoor stand with the AED at the park.

Public Works Director Goebel said he talked to FedEx again about donating some property for an off leash dog park. He was told they would speak to their corporate offices about this request. He said the Glenmar Diversion project will start the week of April 19<sup>th</sup>. He indicated that notices have gone out to the residents with construction and contact information. He said the EV Charging Station for Veterans' Memorial Park has not shipped. He said there have been several promises from the vendor, but it still isn't here. He said the charging station at City Hall is almost complete and will be able to be used soon. He said the banners and banner arms are in and the banners should be hung within the next couple of weeks.

City Engineer Nick Guilliams said the Phase 4- East project will begin later in April. He said Xcel Energy is moving and replacing gas lines and when that wraps up our crews can begin. He explained that the 2021 Street Improvement Project will begin late April to early May. He said a newsletter is going out informing residents about the project and giving them contact information. He said this project will take about 2 months.

**10. COMMENTS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL**

City Council member Brainerd asked if the City has received any direction regarding the upcoming Federal CARES funding.

City Administrator Neilson said no, nothing yet. He said we know the amount will be about \$100 per capita and we will have until 2024 to spend it. He also said that it looks like the money can be spent on water and sewer issues.

City Council member Brainerd asked if there has been any further discussion regarding the old Lakeside Club property.

City Administrator Neilson said the developer is holding a neighborhood meeting through Zoom and after that meeting they may re-apply.

**11. CLOSED SESSION - None**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 6, 2021**


**12. ADJOURNMENT**

City Council member Brainerd moved and City Council member Charlesworth seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Yea: Brainerd, Charlesworth, Ledermann, Marshall, Schneeweis. Nay: None.

**ATTESTED:**

  
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JERENE ROGERS, CITY CLERK

**APPROVED:**

  
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JUD MARSHALL, MAYOR