MAHTOMEDI CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
JULY 21, 2020

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

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Administrator Scott Neilson asked to pull item 8b. from the agenda. He noted this would be on the next agenda for discussion. He asked to add item 8f. Consider Approval of a Resolution Regarding the Wearing of Face Coverings in Places of Public Accommodation and asked to move Approval of the Bill List to item 8g.

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


City Council member Wolgamot moved and City Council member Ledermann seconded the motion to approve the July 7, 2020 City Council meeting minutes and the July 8, 2020 Joint City Council/Planning Commission meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote: Yea: Brainerd, Ledermann, Marshall, Schneeweis, Wolgamot. Nay: None

4. PRESENTATIONS

4a. 20 Year Service Award – Sandy Mahoney

Mayor Jud Marshall and Public Works Director Bob Goebel thanked Sandy for her years of service to the City of Mahtomedi.

5. DISCUSSION FROM THE AUDIENCE

Gene Altstatt, 67 Wildwood Beach Road has concerns regarding the continued flooding of the pond near his home. He believes the problem is made worse when the City has to pump the ponds on Edith Avenue and Lincolntown Avenue. He feels that water makes its way to the pond near him. He said City Engineer Nick Guiliiams and his attorney have a meeting scheduled for this week to discuss this issue.
6. CONSENT AGENDA - Continued

Staff requested and received permission to schedule a public hearing for preliminary 2021 Budget and Levy Certification for September 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

7a. CONSIDER APPROVAL – Vacation of Street Easement and Drainage and Utility Easements, which are located on the properties at 170 Bevins Lane and 175 Bevins Lane.

City Engineer John Sachi said the City received a petition from the property owners of 170 and 175 Bevins Lane asking the City to partially vacate a street easement and a drainage and utility easement. He said the partial vacation would allow the property owners some flexibility when developing their properties.

City Council member Wolgamot would like to retain a trail easement for this location as part of the vacation.

City Attorney Bridget Nason indicated that we could add the trail easement as part of the resolution that is being executed for the street easement and the drainage and utility easement.

Mayor Jud Marshall opened the public hearing at 7:30 p.m.

Applicant Joe Bevins, 170 Bevins said this additional 10’ would help him utilize his property.

Hearing no further comments, the public hearing was closed at 7:34 p.m.

City Council member Brainerd moved and City Council member Wolgamot seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2020-43 a Resolution Providing for the Vacation of a Street Easement and a Drainage and Utility Easement Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §412.851 and §462.358, Subd. 7. The motion includes the addition of a multi-use pedestrian trail to the easement. The motion passed by roll call vote. Yea: Brainerd, Ledermann, Marshall, Schneeweis, Wolgamot. Nay: None

8. STAFF REPORTS

8a. CONSIDER APPROVAL – Request from Robert and Erin Ostler for a minor subdivision to create 3 lots at 222 Quail Street and described as PID 20.030.21.21.0030.
8c. **CONSIDER APPROVAL – Request from Thomas and Anna Albert for a variance for a reduced corner side yard setback in order to construct an accessory structure at 98 Dunbar Way.**

City Planner Perdu said the applicant is requesting an 18-foot corner side yard setback variance to construct an accessory structure within the southwest corner of their yard, because the southeast corner contains an existing patio. The accessory structure is proposed to be 20’ X 30’, or 600 square feet. She said the applicants plan to install a privacy fence along the west side of the property this summer. She stated the Planning Commission reviewed this request and voted to recommend a reduced variance of 10 feet. She said the Planning Commission found the width of the right-of-way ensures that despite the variance, the structure will still be located thirty feet from the street, the configuration and current uses on the lot prevent the property owners from complying with the setback and the trees located along the rear property line and the proposed fence mitigate the impact of the setback variance.

City Council member Brainerd asked the applicant if they would build the shed elsewhere on the property if this request were denied.

Thomas Albert, applicant stated he has two trailers on the lot right now and he would like to store inside. He said when they purchased the property they did not catch the zoning code requirements regarding a corner lot.

City Council member Schneeweis asked the applicants if there is some other way we could reach a compromise.

Anna Albert, applicant stated they did compromise with the planning commission. She said the location of the building is the issue, not the size of the building.

City Council member Brainerd moved and City Council member Ledermann seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2020-46 a Resolution Denying a Variance in the required corner
8. **STAFF REPORTS – Continued**

8e. **DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION – Federal CARES Act Funds for Local Governments.**

City Administrator Neilson explained the CARES Act established the $150 billion Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) providing payments to State, Local and Tribal Governments navigating the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak. The City of Mahtomedi is eligible to receive $605,736. The criteria that expenses must meet to be eligible for funding are: Expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19, expenses not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 and expenses incurred between March and December 31, 2020. He said there is a list of eligible uses for this money. He asked the Council to discuss possible uses for these funds.

City Council member Ledermann stated the City expenses should be a priority, followed by helping the small businesses.

City Administrator Neilson stated the Washington County CDA would help administer the funds. He said they have an application process that they will use which will be beneficial to the City. The program through the County is called Open for Business.

City Council member Wolgamot said the priority should be the City, then the small businesses, and finally others deserving our attention. He feels the first two are the most important.

City Administrator thanked the Council for the direction they provided.

8f. **DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION – Face Coverings in Public Places.**

City Administrator Neilson said the Governor is expected to mandate the wearing of face coverings in public places. He said various cities have imposed a resolution regarding the wearing of face coverings in public places.

City Attorney Nason said the resolution that the council is being asked to approve is a policy declaration. The resolution is not an ordinance and there are no penalties for those that choose not to follow the policy.

City Council member Brainerd said he encouraged Scott to bring something before the Council to show support for wearing masks. He asked that the policy be effective immediately.

City Council member Brainerd moved and City Council member Wolgamot seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2020-48 a Resolution Regarding the Wearing of Face Coverings in
10. COMMENTS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL – Continued

City Council member Schneeweis said she talked to somebody regarding the Farmer’s Market who shared a list of reasons why the market is important. This person was asked to bring something to us for approval.

11. CLOSED SESSION - None

12. ADJOURNMENT

City Council member Brainerd moved and City Council member Schneeweis seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 p.m. The motion was unanimously approved by a roll call vote. Yea: Brainerd, Ledermann, Marshall, Schneeweis, Wolgamot. Nay: None.

ATTESTED: 

JERENE ROGERS, 
CITY CLERK

APPROVED:

JUD MARSHALL, 
MAYOR