

**CITY OF ST. FRANCIS
ST. FRANCIS MN
ANOKA COUNTY**

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

TUESDAY- SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

1. **CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The regular City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Steve Feldman.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Members present: Mayor Steve Feldman, Councilmembers Kevin Robinson, Joe Muehlbauer, Robert Bauer and Sarah Udvig. Also present; Assistant City Attorney Dave Schaps (Barna, Guzy & Steffen), City Engineer Craig Jochum (Hakanson Associates, Inc.), City Administrator Joe Kohlmann, Community Development Director Kate Thunstrom, Police Chief Todd Schwieger, Fire Chief Dave Schmidt, Public Works Director Paul Teicher, Liquor Store Manager John Schmidt, Finance Director Darcy Mulvihill, and City Clerk Barb Held.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION BY MUEHLBAUER SECOND ROBINSON APPROVING THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL AGENDA. Motion carried 5-0.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION BY BAUER SECOND UDVIG APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A-G AS FOLLOWS:

- A. City Council Minutes – August 19, 2019
- B. Proclamation “October Domestic Violence Awareness Month” Resolution 2019-36
- C. Acknowledge the Donation from Kwik Trip to the Fire Department, \$1,000
- D. Accept the Resignation of Rhonda Knutson from the Liquor Store
- E. City Council Work Session Notes – August 14, 2019
- F. Police Department Surplus Property – Bikes Resolution 2019-37
- G. Payment of Claims \$158,341.10 (Check #'s 76336-76389)

Motion carried 5-0.

5. **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Jerry Sabinash and Brian Goodspeed, 256th Avenue, Isanti County would like to be able to drive their golf carts from Isanti County into St. Francis. They were stopped by the St. Francis Police this last time. They didn't get a ticket but were told it was not allowed. The officer told us to make it home safely. They both would like to have the

city change the ordinance so they can come into town and go to County Market, Kwik Trip.

Mayor Feldman asked Police Chief Schwieger to explain the current ordinance. Chief Schwieger stated right now golf carts are restricted in certain areas which are by the golf course.

Brian said in Isanti you purchase permits for \$15.00. Chief Schwieger stated 47 is a State Hwy and you are also dealing with county roads not just city streets. The more you open it up to allow them the more problems you will have. Brian and Jerry said they are on the shoulders.

Schwieger said there are even restrictions for motorized bikes. I am sure MnDOT would have an opinion if we allowed them. Schwieger said each city has their own restrictions.

Muehlbauer stated interesting subject. Don't want to open it up for safety reasons, but would be interested in what MnDOT would have to say. Main thing is to keep the people safe. Don't know if this would be a top priority. Glad the officer told you to make it home safe.

Brian said he likes to take the wife for a joyful ride into St. Francis.

Feldman said maybe you two will obey the law but not everyone will. There are always people that abuse the law.

Robinson public safety is paramount. Liked that the officer told you to go home safe and not ticket you. I wouldn't devote any resources to it.

Bauer would be interested in looking at the Statutes, snowmobile versus golf carts. Why not add golf carts and ATV's with snowmobile laws. Maybe wait until this winter to look at this further, budget time now. Rules should be the same for all.

Brian said we have mirrors on them and will be putting signals on too.

Udvig agrees with everything that has been said. Agree, you may be responsible but there are people that are not. Unfortunately, we can't give you an answer tonight.

Feldman said we will look into but won't make any promises. Not saying your irresponsible but there are people who are not.

6. **SPECIAL BUSINESS**
None

7. **PUBLIC HEARING**

None

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

None

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Ordinance 252, Second Series – Approving Rezoning Outlot A Rivers Edge North from R-2 Urban Single Family Residence to Rivers Edge Planned unit Development (Second Reading)

MOTION BY MUEHLBAUER SECOND UDVIG APPROVING THE SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 252, SECOND SERIES APPROVING THE REZONING OUTLOT A OF RIVERS EDGE 1ST ADDITION FROM R-2 TO RIVERS EDGE PUD.

Roll Call: Ayes: Feldman, Bauer, Udvig, Robinson, and Muehlbauer,
Nays: None
Motion carried 5-0.

B. Swiss Landing – Concept Plan

Beth Richmond of HKGi reported the applicant, SBD Properties, LLP is seeking concept plan review of a 163-unit single –family residential development on 132 acres west of the Rum River and east of Hwy 47. Richmond discussed the Land use, zoning, concept plan, 115 proposed lots, 48 single-family lots, private park, commercial area, PUD, streets & transportation, landscaping, wetlands, and floodplain area, No formal action tonight. Applicant asking for feedback/direction. The Planning Commission discussed a number of items related to the concept plan; streets, access and park. Following this review, the applicant will consider all feedback from both Council and the Planning Commission and determine whether or not to proceed.

Feldman asked about the density and if they would be city water/lots. Richmond said yes they would have city water and sewer. Asked about the height restrictions. Feldman said on page 33 of the packet spoke about private streets. Concern is not sure if we should allow private streets. Want to make it simpler for the future homeowners. The applicant has not said either private or public. Engineer had made the comment. Feldman stated if we allow them we just seem to end up with problems later.

Robinson asked about the private park, private streets, access to future streets for future development. Richmond said this is a fairly contained development. Thunstrom said the South part is the business park. Development to the north may fall under different restrictions because of land use. Robinson said he was just curious of how they would keep people out of the private park.

Udvig said I agree, not sure how you would regulate the private park. Still a lot of things that still need to firm up. Feldman said yes, just a concept plan and just a discussion.

Bauer asked about the park too. I think this park could be beneficial for the public. Maybe a Frisbee course, canoe/kayak landing.

Muehlbauer would like to see the streets meeting city standards, good access points, like to see more commercial.

Feldman said our thoughts will go back to the developer. They will decide if they want to proceed and start with the planning commission. Like the great potential different types of housing and being responsible with the river. Good job with the information. Like the history of this property too that was included. We want to see this happen.

C. Ordinance 253, Second Series – Outdoor Storage (First Reading)

Community Development Director Kate Thunstrom stated the change is mainly due to clarification. Parking surface specifically with the pavers. The current code is being interpreted differently. Chapter 10, Section 16 D-3 is the area that is being amended. Referenced Section 16 as it relates to parking and driveways was updated this spring so reference in Section F are no longer correct. Planning Commission held a public hearing with no public comment received.

Feldman stated he likes clarification with the remainder of the council having no additional comment.

**MOTION BY UDVIG SECOND BAUER APPROVING THE FIRST READING OF
ORDINANCE 253, SECOND SERIES AMENDING CHAPTER 10, SECTION 16-15
ENTITLED "OUTDOOR STORAGE.**

Roll Call: Ayes: Bauer, Udvig, Robinson, Muehlbauer, and Feldman,
Nays: None
Motion carried 5-0.

D Ordinance 254, Second Series – Accessory Structures (First Reading)

Thunstrom stated at the August 5, 2019 Council meeting a builder and property owner addressed Council on their concern of the limited attached garage space that current zoning code allows. Currently the size caps the attached garage at 80% up to 1,000 sq. ft. no matter the size of the house footprint. Staff did review surrounding cities and found there are many ways cities set the size limits. The City has had a handful of contractors and property owner's struggle with the limits we have in place, all because of the increased sizes of the houses. The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on August 21, 2019 and received no public comment. Staff is proposing keeping the maximum limit of 840 sq. ft on attached garages unless the footprint of the house is of

a size that lows that to increase. Using a flat 80% limit, the increase will balance the house and garage based on the overall size.

Feldman clarified the sizes of accessory structures.

Bauer asked for an explanation of where this is happening. Thunstrom said this is typically happening in the large rural lots where they want to build a larger house and current code would not allow them to build a larger garage.

The rest of council was in an agreement with the amendment.

MOTION BY ROBINSON SECOND MUEHLBAUER APPROVING THE FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 254, SECOND SERIES.

Roll Call: Ayes: Udvig, Robinson, Muehlbauer, Feldman, and Bauer
Nays: None
Motion carried 5-0.

E. Setting City Council Work Session

City Administrator Joe Kohlmann stated along with setting a work session for either September 23rd or the 24th; MnDOT also would like to have a work session with the city council September 16 5-6 pm before the Council meeting. They would like to inform you what they will be presenting before the public open house on September 19.

Council agreed on holding a work session on Tuesday September 24 at 5:30 pm at city hall.

10. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Joseph Murrell, 24360 Yukon Street asked, is Ordinance 254 a new or amendment to an existing ordinance. Kate said this is an amendment and will effect just garages.

11. REPORTS

A. Councilmember Reports-

Udvig – nothing to report.

Bauer - nothing to report.

Robinson encourages everyone to attend the MnDOT public open house September 19 from 4:30 to 7:30 at the First Baptist Church.

Muehlbauer agrees the meeting on September 19 is very important. Get your input heard. This is the time to be heard. Facebook is not the place to do that, show up to the open house.

Feldman agrees too. MnDOT will be sending out a mailing to all the property owners allow the corridor. Plus, the changes to Hwy 47 is a 50 year term. Now is the time to have your voices heard not on Facebook come to the meeting.

Read the newsletter, please. More than the mayor's article. More information will be sent out on the meter replacement. Teicher reported a letter will be sent out to all the

property owners to set schedules for the meter replacement. Just received the meters and should be started soon.

Schools in session please watch and be cautious for pedestrians. Hoping for a safer road.

Riverbank Bank Lane/Kings Hwy Update: curbs and culverts have been installed and rough grading continues. Feldman asked if the pipe by the Blood's property is under ground? Jochum said, yes. End of September should be completion date.

Feldman said would like to go on record we are finally completing projects, Riverbank/Kings Hwy, the Meadows, can't emphasize enough there are always going to be problems. Seeing a light at the end of the tunnel. They were handed down to us and we are handling them. We are doing good and continue working with staff, residents results are going in the positive direction. We are willing to listen.

B. Upcoming Events -

Sept 16 City Council Meeting @ St. Francis Area Schools District Office 6:00 pm
Sept 18 Planning Commission @ St. Francis Area Schools District Office 7:00 pm
Sept 19 MnDOT Open House @ First Baptist Church 4:30-7:30 pm

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Feldman adjourned the regular city council at 7:11pm.


Barbara I. Held, City Clerk