

CITY OF SHOREWOOD
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2025

5755 COUNTRY CLUB ROAD
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

1. CONVENE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Labadie called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call

Present. Mayor Labadie; Councilmembers Maddy, Sanschagrín, Gorham, and DiGruttolo; City Administrator Nevinski; City Clerk/HR Director Thone; and Communications and Recycling Coordinator Wilson

Absent: None

C. Review Agenda

Maddy moved, Sanschagrín seconded, approving the agenda as presented.

Motion passed.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Labadie reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda.

Maddy moved, DiGruttolo seconded, Approving the Motions Contained on the Consent Agenda and Adopting the Resolutions Therein.

A. City Council Work Session Minutes of January 27, 2025

B. City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2025

C. Approval of the Verified Claims List

D. Mound/St. Bonifacius Fire JPA, Adopting RESOLUTION NO. 25-019, "A Resolution Supporting the Formation of a Fire Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) Between the Cities of Minnetrista, Mound, Saint Bonifacius, and Spring Park with Collaboration of Shorewood."

E. Joint Powers Agreement – State of MN BCA

Motion passed.

3. MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

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Mike Hirner, 19360 McKinley Court, asked about the change in the flight paths that have resulted in constant air traffic over the City and why the planes were coming all the way out to this area. He noted that the he had noticed that year after year, the flights were also getting lower and lower and would also like to know why that was also happening. He asked if there was anything the City Council can do to help get the City's quality of life back by not having the planes coming all the way out to the City and also to get their elevation raised, so they do not have the loud noises associated with air traffic.

Mayor Labadie stated that she felt that those may be things that the City has not control over, but the City can send a letter of inquiry to the appropriate agencies.

City Administrator Nevinski stated that they can contact the MAC and see if they are able to gather any information, but noted that Mayor Labadie was most likely correct that the City did not have control over that situation.

Mayor Labadie asked City Administrator Nevinski to keep the Council informed when they receive a reply from the MAC.

Mr. Hirner explained that other cities have petitioned to have things adjusted and noted that many had been successful.

4. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Recycling Update

Communications and Recycling Coordinator Wilson gave an overview of the recycling trends from 2024 and noted that the City had a ninety-six percent recycling rate. He shared details of the usage and drop off locations throughout the City for organics, contract details and fees for the services of Republic Services. He highlighted some of the education and outreach activities that were undertaken in 2024. He outlined some upcoming activities, programs, and the expiration of the current recycling contract with Republic Services at year end and noted that the City will be looking to prepare an RFP for a new contract that would begin on January 1, 2026.

Councilmember Sanschagrín asked about the length of the recycling services contract.

Communications and Recycling Coordinator Wilson stated that the contract was for five years.

City Administrator Nevinski noted that there has been a history of simply renewing the contract and not going out for an RFP.

Councilmember Gorham asked how the City's participation in organic recycling compared to other cities.

Communications and Recycling Coordinator Wilson stated he did not know how Shorewood compared to other cities.

Councilmember Gorham stated that, in his opinion, he felt the City should do better and asked if they knew what was preventing people from participating in organics recycling.

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Communications and Recycling Coordinator Wilson stated that he suspected that the issue with organics recycling may be related to inconvenience and residents having to take the materials in their car and drive it to a drop-off location. He noted that the locks were also cumbersome and explained that Republic Services had advised the City to take the locks off during the winter months, but noted that, in the past, they had padlocks on the containers all through the winter months which could be difficult to open. He explained that the intent of the locks were to help prevent contamination from other materials because they look like a regular dumpster.

Councilmember DiGruttolo stated that she felt the City's recycling program was great and felt that Communications and Recycling Coordinator Wilson was doing a great job. She asked if there may be a way to get resident feedback before the City puts together an RFP and explained that she had heard people complain about the current providers because they have a lot of stipulations and rules for residents to follow.

Communications and Recycling Coordinator Wilson stated that he felt that they could get feedback from residents prior to putting out an RFP.

Mayor Labadie stated that the Recycling Committee was meeting on March 11, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. and asked if it would be open to the public.

Communications and Recycling Coordinator Wilson stated that the Recycling Committee meetings were open to anyone who was interested in attending.

Councilmember Gorham asked about the results of the Vantage survey.

Communications and Recycling Coordinator Wilson explained that Vantage built the survey, but it was not sent out. He noted that he felt that some of the questions ended up being a bit 'leading' and would need to be tweaked before it could be sent out.

Councilmember Sanschagrín asked if there were any plans to work with Vantage on anything else.

Communications and Recycling Coordinator Wilson stated that they do have plans to work with Vantage on other projects.

5. PARKS

6. PLANNING

7. ENGINEERING/PUBLIC WORKS

8. GENERAL/NEW BUSINESS

A. Commission Appointments

Mayor Labadie explained that earlier tonight, the Council had conducted interviews for the open seats on the Park Commission and the Planning Commission. She stated that she felt that all eight individuals who applied for the Commission seats were very impressive and qualified.

Following discussion, there was consensus to appoint Mike Hirner (three-year term), Amy Wenner (three-year term), and Janet Sylvester (remainder of Nat Gorham's term) to the Park Commission and to appoint Cindy Holker (three-year term), Daniele Longo (three-year term), and Eric Magistad (remainder of Michelle DiGruttolo's term) to the Planning Commission.

Maddy moved, DiGruttolo seconded, Adopting RESOLUTION NO. 25-020, "A Resolution Appointing Commissioners to the Park Commission and Planning Commission", as discussed.

Motion passed.

9. STAFF AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Staff

City Clerk/HR Director Thone stated that, so far, the City had four well-qualified candidates who have applied for the Planning Director position, which will close on February 17, 2025 at midnight.

City Administrator Nevinski stated that related to LMCC there have been two applications from Minnco and Comcast, for a cable franchise and reminded the Council that MetroNet was currently in the process of doing their build out in the City. He noted that Public Works would be working quite a bit on Grant Lorenz in order to keep the channel open, which may require closing down the road. He stated that the Engineering staff was continuing to work on the Pavement Management Plan and the mill and overlay plans which should come before the Council sometime in March. He stated that for the Parks Plan update, an RFP should be going on this week. He noted that Finance Director Schmuck had issued an RFP for the City's banking services which received eight responses. He explained that the City's current bank came in with the best arrangement and lowered some of their fees, so the City will continue to use the services of the current banking institution. He stated staff had also been working on the Worker's Comp audit as well as property appraisals for the City's insurance. He reminded the Council that their retreat would be February 18, 2025.

B. Mayor and City Council

Councilmember Gorham stated that if City Engineer Budde would have been at tonight's meeting he had intended to ask him about the four-hour long all-city meeting at Minnetonka regarding the Highway 7 project and asked if City Administrator Nevinski had any information on the meeting.

City Administrator Nevinski stated that he had briefly connected with Public Works Director Morreim following the meeting but did not have all the details and suggested that the Council get a summary from staff who had attended the meeting in order to get more details.

Councilmember Gorham suggested that they get the summary at the next Council meeting and noted that one of the things being discussed in the new legislative session was the MnDOT cost participation policy, which he felt could affect the Highway 7 project and recommended that the City pay attention to what was going on in the session.

Councilmember Sanschagrín expressed appreciation to City Administrator Nevinski and Finance Director Schmuck for putting together the RFP to look at the City's banking costs and in looking for ways to reduce those costs. He encouraged staff to continue looking at this in other areas as

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well and stated that he would like the City to track this in order to identify areas of cost savings and cost efficiencies in the City.

City Administrator Nevinski acknowledged that this was something that was already on staff's radar and they were planning to continue to look for this type of opportunity.

Councilmember Maddy stated that the Excelsior Fire District had a few new members from other area cities and noted that he had been elected chair. He shared that the Excelsior Fire District had done a live burn about a week ago on the Chanhassen border and stated that crews from Minnetonka were also present in order to train alongside the Excelsior Fire District firefighters.

Mayor Labadie stated that the *Sun Sailor* newspaper recently published their 'Best of...' issue and included a segment for Shorewood, Excelsior, and Greenwood. She noted that the Shorewood Community and Event Center won the title of the best area community center, which she felt was something they could be very proud of. She stated that earlier today she had attended the Regional Council of Mayors meeting in Minneapolis and the topic was changes to government, climate, and the importance of forward-thinking in all decisions. She noted that the League of Women Voters, for the south shore cities, folded last year, due to lack of membership but had merged with the Wayzata League of Women Voters and would be putting on a Mayor's Forum at the Shorewood Community and Event Center on February 27, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

10. ADJOURN

Maddy moved, Sanschagrín seconded, Adjourning the City Council Regular Meeting of February 10, 2025, at 7:39 P.M.

Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Sandie Thone, City Clerk


Jennifer Labadie, Mayor

