

- MINUTES -
CHASKA CITY COUNCIL
JUNE 29, 2020

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Windschitl at 7:06 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Roll call was taken. Present: Councilmembers Hatfield, Hubbard, Huang, Grau, and Mayor Windschitl. *(Councilmember Grau participated remotely per State Statute 13D.021).*

Absent: None.

Also Present: Luke Melchert, City Attorney; Nate Kabat, Assistant Administrator; Matt Podhradsky, City Administrator, Kevin Wright, Communication Director; and Mike Tutor, Cable Communications Coordinator.

4. Adopt the Agenda

Motion by Councilmember Huang, second by Councilmember Hubbard to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

5. Visitor Presentation

5.A. American Promise

Nancy Haaheim summarized the purpose of the group American Promise and invited Chaska to pass a resolution in support of a 28th Amendment limiting campaign spending.

Mayor Windschitl inquired what voting needs to occur for this to occur.

Ms. Haaheim provided further detail into the process for a constitutional amendment to pass. She inquired when this resolution could come before Council for a vote.

City Administrator Podhradsky explained the number of options available for this to come before the Council.

The Council shared their thoughts on the resolution American Promise is proposing.

Mayor Windschitl inquired how something like this gets governed.

Ms. Haaheim explained that in general across the nation this kind of disclosure is not required. Vicki Barnes, Midwest Head of American Promise, spoke in further detail regarding disclosure laws.

Mayor Windschitl asked how many letters of participation are needed for the State to move forward toward ratifying.

Ms. Barnes explained that passing a resolution communicates support to the House and Senate representatives.

Mayor Windschitl again asked how this would be governed.

City Administrator Podhradsky spoke about different proposals for how candidates would pay for campaign travel.

Ms. Barnes noted that American Promise is not advocating for any specific amendment.

City Administrator Podhradsky stated Staff will put together a draft resolution to put before the Council at a future meeting.

5.B. Announcement of Candidacy

Matt Udermann announced he is running for Carver County Commissioner District 3 and summarized his three campaign pillars.

5.C. Residents Organizing Against Racism

Amanda Flowers Peterson expressed frustration with avenues of communication for residents to bring concerns to the City and proposed the Council develop an initiative to effectively allow all citizens to have their voices heard.

The Council shared their thoughts and concerns regarding Ms. Flowers Peterson's grievances.

Jenna Cruz, resident, explained that she has not seen a sense of urgency from the City to address racism in the community. She asked for an oversight committee for police policy.

The Council and Staff discussed options and formats for them to address these concerns.

6. Minutes

Motion by Councilmember Hatfield, second by Councilmember Grau to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2020 City Council meeting. Motion carried.

7. Consent Agenda

Motion by Councilmember Huang, second by Councilmember Hubbard to approve the Consent Agenda Items A through C:

- A. License Agreement for Warner Stairs with Jonathan Neighborhood Association
Motion to approve the License Agreement for Warner Stairs with Jonathan Neighborhood Association and authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to sign the agreement.
- B. Adopt Resolution 2020-50, Approving 2020 Performance Measures
Motion to approve adopt Resolution 2020-50 Approving 2020 Performance Measures.

- C. Approve Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association (MMUA) Delegate Update
Motion to approve the MMUA proposed delegate changes.

Mayor Windschitl asked for clarification on item C.

City Administrator Podhradsky explained it is an update from MMUA.

Motion carried.

8. Action Items

8.A. Motion to Approve the Chaska Event Center, located at 3210 Chaska Blvd, as the Official Location for Chaska City Council Meetings due to COVID-19 Until Further Notice

City Administrator Podhradsky presented the item to the Council.

Council and Staff discussed ways to improve the audio for attendees at the Event Center and changes to the Council chambers.

Councilmember Grau commented that resident participation seems to be working well via ZOOM and suggested that keeping that way of attending Council Meetings be an option to consider in the future.

Mayor Windschitl commented that prior to the pandemic, the Council did a good job getting information out to the public.

The Council and Staff discussed whether an online platform would be allowed by statute when not in an emergency declaration as is the current situation. City Administrator Podhradsky stated Staff will look into that further.

Councilmember Huang inquired if the motion needs to address the allowance of an online platform like ZOOM.

City Administrator Podhradsky stated that is not an issue since it is allowed in an emergency setting.

Assistant Administrator Kabat spoke to the benefit from an administrative standpoint that making the Event Center the official temporary location provides.

Motion by Councilmember Hubbard, second by Councilmember Huang to approve the Chaska Event Center as the official meeting location for City Council Meetings due to COVID-19 until further notice. Motion carried.

8.B. Approve City of Chaska Pandemic Reopening and Preparedness Plan

City Administrator Podhradsky presented the item to the Council.

Councilmember Grau inquired if this can be changed after approval tonight.

City Administrator Podhradsky explained it can always be brought before the Council and changed if needed.

Council and Staff discussed mask-wearing.

City Administrator Podhradsky explained that should the need arise to change to mask requirement in municipal buildings instead of encouragement, those changes could be made.

Assistant Administrator Kabat noted this is intended to be a guiding document.

Councilmember Hubbard asked if any commissions have met since March and asked if there is a tentative date and location for them to meet.

Assistant Administrator Kabat provided further detail regarding those plans.

Motion by Councilmember Hubbard, second by Councilmember Hatfield to approve the City of Chaska Pandemic Reopening and Preparedness Plan. Motion carried.

8.C Closed Session – City Administrator’s Review

Council and Staff discussed the process for the closed session.

Motion by Councilmember Huang, second by Councilmember Grau to enter into a closed session to discuss the performance review of City Administrator Matt Podhradsky. Motion carried.

8.D Return to Open Session

Motion by Councilmember Huang, second by Councilmember Hatfield to exit the closed session and resume the regular meeting of the City Council at 10:27pm. Motion carried.

9. Bills

9.A. Accounts Payable Council Roster 6-29-2020

The Council requested further information about bills on pages 3, 9, 15, and 23, and also those items for COVID needs.

City Administrator Podhradsky provided further information regarding those bills.

Motion by Councilmember Huang, second by Councilmember Hubbard to approve the bills as presented. Roll call was taken. Voting aye: Councilmembers Hatfield, Hubbard, Huang, Grau and Mayor Windschitl. Voting nay: None
Motion carried.

10. Other Business

10.A. City Administrator's Report

10.B. Bi-Weekly Report 6-29-2020

10.C. Other Reports

10.C.i. Financial Reports as of 5/31/20

10.D. Other Meeting Minutes

10.D.i. Receive the Draft Minutes of the June 10th Planning Commission Meeting

Councilmember Huang:

- Commented that the community feedback from the discussion on the 24th was good and healthy but also stated there are some voices having trouble being heard. He encouraged the City to find a forum to provide opportunities for residents to be able to speak out. City Administrator Podhradsky encouraged residents to let the City know if they did not feel the layout of the forum from the 24th did not work for them as far as getting their thoughts out and shared.
- Updated the Council on the food distribution event on Saturday.
- Noted there is another community discussion via ZOOM on Tuesday, June 30 from 9-10:30 am.
- Encouraged residents to enjoy the 4th of July fireworks at 10pm at McKnight Park.

Councilmember Hubbard:

- Noted Hawks Ridge mountain bike trails opened up and that this is a great thing for Chaska.
- Noted she attended the opening of Hawks Ridge mountain bike trail and stated the partnership between all the different agencies and cities was wonderful.
- Provided her thoughts regarding the community conversation held on June 24, 2020.
- Reported concerns from a constituent about speeding on Bavaria Road.
- Noted the Lake Grace pavilion looks like it is almost done.
- Wished everyone a Happy 4th of July.

Councilmember Hatfield:

- Shared her thoughts on the community conversation held on June 24, 2020.
- Reported a constituent contacted her regarding the backyard chicken ordinance with concerns about including beekeeping. Mayor Windschitl asked if there is an existing ordinance against beekeeping. City Administrator Podhradsky stated they are allowed in the greenbelt.

Mayor Windschitl:

- Provided thoughts on the community discussion held on June 24, 2020 and stated they will continue to provide opportunities for residents to speak and share thoughts.
- Stated it looked like a great turnout at the food distribution.
- Wished everyone a Happy 4th of July.
- Asked for updates on Creek Road sewer. City Administrator Podhradsky gave details regarding that project.
- Noted the next Council meeting is July 6, 2020.

11. Adjourn

Motion by Councilmember Hatfield, second by Councilmember Hubbard to adjourn the meeting at 11:01 pm. Motion carried.