

- MINUTES -
CHASKA CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 2, 2023

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Huang at 7 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Roll call was taken. Present: Mayor Pro Tem Huang and Councilmembers Grau, Hatfield, and Hubbard.

Absent: Mayor Windschitl.

Also Present: Kevin Wright, Community Engagement Manager; Krista Mark, Communications Coordinator; Elise Durbin, Assistant City Administrator; Christophe Morschen, City Attorney; and Julie Grove, Economic Development Coordinator.

4. Adopt the Agenda

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

5. Visitor Presentation

John Wittman, Chaska resident, asked if the people of Chaska can afford the consistently increasing taxes. Last year the property taxes increased significantly. Also, the one percent sales tax is negatively impacting residents. Inflation for groceries and gas is unsustainable. Increasing taxes for infrastructure is just another straw that may break the backs of residents. He asked the Council to not be tone-deaf.

Mayor Pro Tem thanked Mr. Wittman for his comments. He noted there are a number of opportunities for community members to provide additional input in the budget process.

6. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

6.A. Approve the September 18, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilmember Grau, second by Councilmember Hatfield to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2023 City Council meeting.

Motion carried.

7. Consent Agenda

Motion by Councilmember Hubbard, second by Councilmember Hatfield to approve the Consent Agenda Items A through B:

A. 2024 Prosecution Contract

Motion to authorize the Mayor Pro Tem and Assistant City Administrator to execute the 2024 County Prosecution Contract.

B. Calling for a Public Hearing to Consider a Grant Application to the Minnesota Investment Fund (MIF) Program

Motion to set a Public Hearing for October 16, 2023 to Consider a Grant Application to the Minnesota Investment Fund (MIF) Program.

Motion carried.

8. Action Items

8.A. Adopt Resolution 2023-80, Public Assessment Hearing and Resolution Approving the Imposition of Service Charges for the 2024 Chaska Downtown Special Services District

Assistant City Administrator Durbin introduced the item to the Council and Economic Development Coordinator Julie Grove provided a presentation on it. Dan Keyport, Chaska Downtown Business Alliance President, also provided information.

Councilmember Hubbard thanked the business owners for their contributions to the Chaska community. The Councilmembers provided a number of positive comments about the impact of the businesses in Downtown Chaska.

Mayor Pro Tem Huang opened and closed the public hearing at 7:24 p.m. as no one wished to address the Council.

Motion by Councilmember Hatfield, second by Councilmember Grau to adopt Resolution 2023-80 Imposing Service Charges and Setting the 2024 Operating Budget and Plan for the Chaska Downtown Special Service District.

Motion carried.

8.B. Public Hearing to Consider Certification of Fall 2023 Delinquent Utilities and Adopt Resolution 2023-81 Approving Certification of Delinquent Utilities and Miscellaneous Unpaid Charges

Assistant City Administrator Durbin introduced the item to the Council and provided a presentation on it.

Mayor Pro Tem Huang asked why the smaller amounts were included in the report even though it was described as listing only fees owed in excess of \$50. Councilmember Hatfield stated the list is broken down by different utility types, so the total fees owed by a unit are above \$50.

Mayor Pro Tem Huang pointed out Chaska offers a number of assistance programs to help pay for utilities. Assistant City Administrator Durbin confirmed that was correct and noted Staff works closely with those with delinquent utilities to connect them with support.

Mayor Pro Tem Huang opened and closed the public hearing at 7:33 p.m. as no one wished to address the Council.

Motion by Councilmember Hubbard, second by Councilmember Grau to adopt a Resolution 2023-81 approving certification of delinquent utilities and miscellaneous unpaid charges to Carver County for collection with the payable 2024 property taxes.

Motion carried.

9. Bills

9.A. Accounts Payable Claims Roster 2-10-2023

The Council requested further information about bills on pages 11 and 19.

Assistant City Administrator Durbin provided further information regarding those bills.

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

10. Other Business

10.A. City Administrator's Report

10.A.i. Bi-Weekly Report 2-10-2023

Councilmember Hatfield:

- Noted Guardian Angels recently held their event Downtown.
- Stated the Chaska Cares event is on Saturday, October 7, 2023.
- Added the Halloween Jamboree is on October 28, 2023.
- Encouraged residents to reach out to Councilmembers with their comments and concerns regarding the budget rather than just commenting on social media.

Councilmember Hubbard:

- Pointed out the 2040 Master Plan was made public.

Councilmember Grau:

- Noted the Miracle League baseball field is interesting and worth a conversation resources and abilities individuals have.
- Attended the Latin Music and Food Festival.
- Attended the Community Parks event prior to the present Council Meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Huang:

- Attended the Latin Music and Food Festival.
- Stated the Costco site is still underway, and they hope to open on schedule.
- Attended the open house for the construction project at the Landscape Arboretum.
- Pointed out on Wednesday, October 4, 2023 around 1:20 p.m. will be an emergency alert drill.
- Stated a new group of legislators and the House Capital Committee will be hosted Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at the City Hall in the History Center.
- Asked for an update on the process regarding City Square Park. Assistant City Administrator Durbin provided an update on the park plans.

11. Adjourn

Motion by Councilmember Grau, second by Councilmember Hubbard to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Motion carried.