

**City of West St. Paul  
City Council Meeting Minutes  
December 14, 2020**

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Napier called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Present: Mayor Dave Napier  
Councilmembers Wendy Berry, Lisa Eng-Sarne,  
Anthony Fernandez (attended virtually), John Justen,  
Bob Pace and Dick Vitelli

Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Ryan Schroeder  
City Attorney Kori Land  
Police Chief Brian Sturgeon  
Finance Director Char Stark  
Parks & Public Works Director/City Engineer Ross Beckwith  
City Clerk Shirley Buecksler  
Recycling Coordinator Cassandra Johnson

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Adopt the Agenda**

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Justen to adopt the agenda, as amended below:

Edit Item 9G: Remove Advanced Disposal Services from list; and  
Add Item 11D: Liquor License Rebate Program

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**5. OCWS Briefing:**

An Open Council Work Session was held prior to the City Council Meeting to discuss:

- A. Thompson County Park Project Update
- B. Branding and Logo Discussion

**6. Citizen Comments – Phone Line**

No one addressed the Council.

## **7. Council Comments**

Councilmember Pace said it has been a pleasure working as a Councilmember. In the past four years, he has observed and worked with many Staff members and has learned a lot of the inner workings of the City and what it takes to keep things running smooth. He said every West St. Paul resident should be very proud. We have achieved an incredible amount of progress in the past four years. Councilmember Pace thanked Mayor Napier, Council and Staff and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Councilmember Berry said the Quarantine Cup is going on between West St. Paul and Mendota Heights. Follow it on Facebook - this week's challenge is pet pictures.

Councilmember Berry thanked Councilmembers Pace and Fernandez for the past four years of service to the City, as well as their support and advice.

Councilmember Fernandez said it has been an honor and a privilege to serve on the City Council. Good luck to everyone and Merry Christmas.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne thanked West St. Paul Police and South Metro Fire for the Santa Parade and Holiday Hero Parade. It was really well received and boosted everyone's spirits.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne said the toy drive not only filled one, but two squad cars. A Place of Hope will distribute the toys to families in Dakota and Washington counties.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne thanked Councilmembers Pace and Fernandez for their teamwork and all of the work we've accomplished on Council this year. She especially thanked Councilmember Pace for his kind words of encouragement when decisions needed to be made, and she said she is thankful to know him.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne said Tea Cup is now open on Robert Street next to Caribou and Signal Hills.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne said she joined the Citizens Climate Lobby with Congresswoman Angie Craig last week to reiterate the support of the resolution this body passed last year on climate change. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

Councilmember Justen mentioned a Facebook Live event with the West St. Paul Police Department on Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m. Coffee with a Cop will be with the Cities of West St. Paul and South St. Paul and Dakota County Social Services.

Councilmember Justen thanked both Councilmembers Pace and Fernandez for all of their work. We wouldn't be where we are today without their contributions.

Councilmember Vitelli talked about many things that happened in 2020 and echoed what Councilmember Pace said - that we work well together on this Council and may have had disagreements, but we always came to a resolution and got things done.

Councilmember Vitelli said we have great Staff in West St. Paul and thanked them for all the work they've done. He thanked Councilmembers Pace and Fernandez for all the work they have done in the past four years. He wished everyone a healthy and happy 2021, Happy Hanukkah and Merry Christmas to all.

Mayor Napier said he was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to moderate Congresswoman Angie Craig's Town Hall. He said it was a very interesting experience and good for our community, as well. We lean on them for local support and it's important to have those relationships.

Mayor Napier welcomed our returning Councilmember Lisa Eng-Sarne representing Ward 3, and new Councilmembers Julie Eastman, representing Ward 1, and Robyn Gulley, representing Ward 2, who will join us at the table in January.

Mayor Napier said he will be making Council committee appointments in January. He will be calling each Councilmember to learn their interests and ideas.

Mayor Napier said the Wayland Water Project Mayor's Challenge is happening again in 2021. It kicks off in April and he will start putting it together with Staff.

Mayor Napier thanked Dakota County for bringing forward the Thompson County Park project at tonight's OCWS. If you missed it, look at the City's or the County's website for information showing what the park will look like by next fall. It is going to be a high class amenity for our community.

## **8. Proclamations, Presentations and Recognitions**

### **A. Recognition for Councilmembers Fernandez and Pace**

Mayor Napier recognized Councilmembers Fernandez and Pace and thanked them on behalf of Council, Staff, and the residents of West St. Paul for their time and efforts put towards this community. Mayor Napier read a proclamation and presented each with framed artwork of projects they were involved in during their time on Council.

## **9. Consent Agenda**

Motion was made by Councilmember Eng-Sarne and seconded by Councilmember Justen to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda, as presented:

### **A. 2020 City Council Actions**

### **B. Minutes of Meetings for August 2020:**

- OCWS and Regular Council for August 31, 2020

### **C. Minutes of Meetings for September 2020:**

- Regular Council Minutes for September 14, 2020
- OCWS and Regular Council Minutes for September 28, 2020

### **D. Minutes of Meetings for October 2020:**

- OCWS and Regular Council Minutes for October 12, 2020
- OCWS and Regular Council Minutes for October 26, 2020

**E. Minutes of Meetings for November 2020:**

- OCWS and Regular Council Minutes for November 9, 2020
- Special Council Minutes for November 12, 2020
- OCWS and Regular Council Minutes for November 23, 2020

**F. Claims for December 14, 2020 in the Amount of \$1,626,194.00**

**G. City Licensing Including:**

- 2021 3.2 Off-Sale Liquor Licenses  
Speedway #4045, 3.2 Off-Sale, Tobacco, MV Related
- 2021 Business Licenses – No Background  
~~Advanced Disposal Services, Rubbish Commercial/Residential~~ (Removed)  
Discount Tire, MV Related
- 2021 Business Licenses – Background Required  
Holiday Stationstores, Tobacco, MV Related  
Pearl Li Lu, Massage-Personal  
Tobacco E Cig Sales, Tobacco  
Binyan Zhu, Massage-Business/Personal

**H. Rental Licensing Including:**

- 447 Bernard Street East (Single Family – New)
- 138 Stanley Street East (Single Family – New)
- 1028 Seminole Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)

**I. 2021-2030 Capital Improvement and Equipment Plan (Revised)**

**J. Final Payment of \$85,707.87 to Northdale Construction Company, Inc. for the 2019 Street Improvements Project 19-1**

**K. Final Payment of \$26,509.61 to McNamara Contracting, Inc. for the 2020 Street Improvements Project 20-1**

**L. Private Property Inflow and Infiltration Grant Agreement with Metropolitan Council**

**M. Sanitary Sewer Lining Reimbursement Request**

**N. Application for 2021 Dakota County Community Waste Abatement Grant Program**

**O. Resolution No. 20-122 Designating Polling Locations for 2021**

**P. 2021 City Meeting Calendar**

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

## **10. Public Hearings**

### **A. Adoption of 2021 Budget and Tax Levy**

Mayor Napier opened the Public Hearing at 7:14 p.m.

Hearing no one wishing to speak, Mayor Napier closed the Public Hearing at 7:15 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Pace to adopt Resolution No. 20-123 Adopting the Final Budget and Setting the Final 2021 Tax Levy and Debt Service Levy. The increase will be 5.61% over 2020.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

## **11. New Business**

### **A. First Reading of Ordinance Enacting City Code Section 92.11 and Amending Sections 92.02, 92.03 and 92.08 Regarding Solid Waste Abatement**

A presentation was provided by Recycling Coordinator Johnson, along with Dave Magnuson and Jon Buck of Dakota County Environmental Resources, to introduce the following ordinance for its first reading:

*“An Ordinance Enacting West St. Paul City Code Section 92.11 and Amending Sections 92.02, 92.03 and 92.08 Regarding Solid Waste Abatement”*

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Berry to approve the first reading and call for a second reading of the ordinance to be held at a Public Hearing at the Regular Council Meeting on January 11, 2021.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

### **B. Set Sale Date – General Obligation Utility Revenue Bonds**

Motion was made by Councilmember Berry and seconded by Councilmember Justen to adopt Resolution No. 20-124 Providing for the Sale of \$2,580,000 General Obligation Utility Revenue Bonds, Series 2021A, and Resolution No. 20-125 Authorizing the City of West St. Paul to Enter Into a Credit Enhancement Program Agreement with the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

### **C. DWI Grant Award Acceptance**

Motion was made by Councilmember Pace and seconded by Councilmember Justen to adopt Resolution No. 20-126 Authorizing Execution of Agreement for Funding for the Enforcement of DWI Laws.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

### **D. Liquor License Rebate Program**

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli to provide a quarterly rebate to On-Sale Liquor License holders equal to the amount of time their business was closed due to the Governor’s Executive Order. Councilmember Vitelli withdrew his motion.

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to provide a rebate to On-Sale Liquor License holders for three months of their paid 2020 license fee and three months of their paid 2021 license fee.

Vote: 5 ayes / 1 nay – Councilmember Fernandez. Motion carried.

**12. Old Business**

There was no old business to discuss.

**13. Adjourn**

Motion was made by Councilmember Pace and seconded by Councilmember Fernandez to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Meeting adjourned.

David J. Napier  
Mayor  
City of West St. Paul