

**City of West St. Paul
Special City Council Organizational Meeting Minutes
January 4, 2021**

1. Call to Order

Mayor-Elect Napier called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Swearing In Ceremony for Mayor David Napier and Councilmembers Julie Eastman, Lisa Eng-Sarne and Robyn Gulley

The City Clerk gave the oath to Mayor-Elect David Napier and Councilmembers-Elect Julie Eastman, Lisa Eng-Sarne and Robyn Gulley.

3. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Dave Napier
Councilmembers Wendy Berry, Julie Eastman, Lisa Eng-Sarne,
Robyn Gulley, John Justen, and Dick Vitelli

Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Ryan Schroeder
Police Chief Brian Sturgeon
City Attorney Kori Land
Marketing & Communications Manager Dan Nowicki
City Clerk Shirley Buecksler

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Adopt the Agenda

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Gulley to adopt the agenda, as presented.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

6. Designation of Mayor Pro-Tem for 2021

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to approve the designation of Councilmember Vitelli as Mayor Pro-Tem for 2021.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

7. Permanent Rules of the City Council and Code of Ethics

Motion was made by Councilmember Berry and seconded by Councilmember Justen to table this item to the Regular Council Meeting on January 25, 2021.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

8. Designation of Official Depositories

Motion was made by Councilmember Eng-Sarne and seconded by Councilmember Berry to adopt Resolution No. 21-001 Designating Official Depositories for the City of West St. Paul, Minnesota.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

9. Annual Insurance Renewal

Motion was made by Councilmember Eastman and seconded by Councilmember Justen to adopt Resolution No. 21-002 Approving Non-Waiver of Statutory Tort Liability Limits.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

10. Annual Renewal of Sewer Back-Up Coverage

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Berry to adopt Resolution No. 21-003 Establishing Limited Clean Up and Property Damage Protection for Sewer Back-Ups for Sewer Customers – 2021.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

11. Appointment of Fiscal Consultant for 2021

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to appoint Ehlers and Associates as Fiscal Consultant for 2021 and request they present to Council at a future meeting.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

12. Designation of Official Newspaper for 2021

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Eastman to designate the Twin Cities Pioneer Press as the Official Newspaper of the City of West St. Paul for legal notices and publications for 2021.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

13. Appointment of Councilmembers to Standing Committees, Municipal Advisory Commissions, and Public Agencies for 2021

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Gulley to appoint members to Council Standing Committees, as presented.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Berry to appoint members to City Advisory Commissions, as presented.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to adopt Resolution No. 21-004 Approving Appointments to Public Agencies. An Alternate to the Lower Mississippi Watershed Management District will be appointed at a later date.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

14. Adjourn

Mayor Napier closed with a few remarks. At our last meeting, we discussed a long time local business who was selling their building. We want to assure everyone that this business, Camelot Cleaners, has been around a long time and they are very dedicated to our community. Camelot Cleaners wanted to assure us that they are not going anywhere right now. Mayor Napier said the owner served on the City Council, and their business is very valued in our community. Every business has been challenged during this time. We need to be sure we are supporting Camelot Cleaners and all of our local businesses. Camelot Cleaners is open for business and doing great and we want to keep them strong, so please support that business. He apologized to the owner, as there was no intent to let the community know that they were on their way out but, actually, the opposite. Mayor Napier wants to let the community know that Camelot Cleaners is alive and well.

Mayor Napier said we lost someone very special to the City of West St. Paul. Louis Langer has been a part of our community for many, many years. He passed recently at 95 years old. We acknowledge him and all that he and his family have done for West St. Paul. Langer Construction built many homes in West St. Paul and the family owned business continues to do business here and in our neighboring cities. We are thinking about the family.

Councilmember Vitelli added that he worked with Louis in the construction industry and said he was a good guy.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne welcomed Councilmembers Eastman and Gulley to the Council. Councilmember Vitelli seconded that.

Councilmember Gulley said she is excited to serve and to be here. Councilmember Eastman agreed.

Mayor Napier wished everyone a Happy New Year. He sent the Council with a challenge that we are going to be better in 2021 than we were in 2020. We are going to do it as a group, a team, and as a community with this team here leading the City of West St. Paul for the next two years. He is excited for what we can do. COVID has challenged us more than usual, but Staff has assured us that we are going to get together for strategic planning as a team. We are going to do some fun things in 2021, he said.

City Manager Schroeder asked Council to watch for an email this week regarding scheduling dates in February for Town Hall meetings.

Motion was made by Councilmember Gulley and seconded by Councilmember Eastman to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

David J. Napier
Mayor
City of West St. Paul