

**City of West St. Paul  
City Council Meeting Minutes  
January 11, 2021**

**1. Call to Order**

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

**2. 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  
City Attorney Kori Land  
Police Chief Brian Sturgeon  
Parks & Public Works Director/City Engineer Ross Beckwith  
Community Development Director Jim Hartshorn  
City Planner Melissa Sonnek  
City Clerk Shirley Buecksler

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Adopt the Agenda**

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

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. City Manager Position Profile
- B. Sign Ordinance Discussion

**6. Citizen Comments – In Person**

No one addressed the Council.

**7. Citizen Comments – Phone Line**

No one addressed the Council.

## **8. Council Comments**

Councilmember Eastman said we have bars and restaurants opening today, so please support our local businesses. We need everyone to continue wearing masks and social distancing to keep our households safe and our business employees safe, as well. We had one strain of the UK virus in Dakota County

Councilmember Eastman said the Town Hall meetings and surveys are coming up. The survey will be online. Results are anonymous, there will be a freeform comment field at the end, it will be available in Spanish, and for those who do not have computer access, you can pick up a printed copy at City Hall. Town Hall meetings will be virtual and broadcast/livestreamed on Town Square TV. Stay tuned for more details.

Councilmember Berry is excited to kick off 2021 with our new Council. Welcome to Councilmembers Eastman and Gulley, and welcome back to Councilmember Eng-Sarne and Mayor Napier.

Councilmember Berry recommended supporting local businesses and wearing your mask and reminded everyone to be nice to the people who work there.

Councilmember Gulley said she is happy to be here and thanked everyone for welcoming her. It's been a difficult week and a lot of our neighbors are feeling the weight of what is happening on the national level and locally, as well. But she has been lifted to see the good things happening in our community. These next couple weeks will be challenging, but look around to find ways where we can help our neighbors and lift each other up.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne echoed the welcome and also related to our businesses opening back up and what we can do to help them. Our local businesses who pay a Liquor License fee received refunds for three months of their 2020 license and three months of their 2021 license.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne echoed that it is disheartening to watch the news and see what is happening on the Federal level, but we can be proud of what we are doing here. Last Wednesday, the Environmental Committee worked on code improvement to make this city better. We can be proud of the work they're doing. The City is still running efficiently and well, and we are here for you.

Councilmember Vitelli reminded everyone that 47 years ago today was the worst disaster for South Metro Fire when we lost three firefighters. We are remembering them today.

Mayor Napier said that Bud Trost passed away two weeks ago at the age of 94. He owned a farm at what is now Robert Street and Crusader Avenue. He was a distinguished United States Marine, Police Officer, and Police Chief for 38 years. He continued to help his sons with farming up until two years ago. He always had a story to tell, and he will be missed.

Mayor Napier welcomed Councilmembers Eastman, Eng-Sarne and Gulley. He told everyone to watch for Town Hall meetings coming up and to get involved.

Mayor Napier said that he and Councilmember Berry serve on the South Metro Fire Department Board. They recently had a review of Fire Chief Mark Juelfs and said that he

received glowing marks. South Metro Fire is doing a fantastic job. Councilmember Berry echoed Mayor Napier's comments and agreed.

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

### **A. Donations to the City**

Mayor Napier thanked the following donors for their generous donations:

South Robert Street Business Association has graciously donated \$500.00 to the Police Department for the Santa Fire Truck Parade outreach program and \$1,500.00 to the Police Department's Hero's and Helpers (aka Shop With a Cop and Firefighter) community outreach program.

Rimma Getman has graciously donated \$16.00 to the Police Department's Special Programs account.

Two Anonymous Citizens has graciously donated \$150.000 to the Police Department's Special Programs account.

Anonymous Citizen has graciously donated \$2,680.00 to the Police Department's Hero's and Helpers community outreach program.

Mayor Napier said this is a testament to the great work done by the West St. Paul Police Department.

Motion was made by Councilmember Gulley and seconded by Councilmember Eastman to adopt Resolution No. 21-005 Accepting Donations to the City.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

## **10. Consent Agenda**

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

### **A. Minutes of December 14, 2020**

- OCWS Minutes of December 14, 2020
- Regular Council Minutes of December 14, 2020

### **B. Minutes of January 4, 2021 Special Council Organizational Meeting**

### **C. Claims for January 11, 2021 in the Amount of \$1,420,733.61**

### **D. Rental Licensing in the Amount of \$35.00 for 1040 Ottawa Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)**

### **E. Community Waste Abatement Grant Agreement with Dakota County**

### **F. LiveBarn Agreement to Provide Livestream of Ice Arena Events**

### **G. Resolution No. 21-006 Establishing Parking Restrictions on Moreland Avenue from Delaware Avenue to Robert Street**

**H. Councilmember Eastman Appointed as Alternate to the Lower Mississippi Watershed Management District for 2021**

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**11. Public Hearings**

**A. Site Plan, Preliminary and Final Plat for the Construction of a Self-Serve Laundromat at 1365 Robert Street, Linn Investments Properties**

The Applicants joined the meeting via WebEx.

Mayor Napier opened the Public Hearing at 7:21 p.m.

The following persons addressed the Council:

- Judy Rangel
- Connye LaCombe, Ward 3

Hearing from no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Napier closed the Public Hearing at 7:24 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Eastman to adopt:

- Resolution No. 21-007 Approving a Site Plan for the Construction of a New Self Serve Laundromat at 1365 Robert Street, Linn Investments Properties LLC; and
- Resolution No. 21-009 Approving the Preliminary and Final Plat for 1365 Robert Street for 1365 Robert Street, Linn Investments Properties LLC

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**B. Site Plan, Conditional Use Permit, Preliminary and Final Plat for the Construction of a New Two Story Commercial Building Containing Minor Automotive Repair, a Motor Fuel Station, and Car Wash in a B3 – General Business District at 1820 Robert Street, Bobby and Steve’s Auto World**

The Applicant joined the meeting via WebEx.

Mayor Napier opened the Public Hearing at 7:28 p.m.

Hearing from no one wishing to speak, Mayor Napier closed the Public Hearing at 7:29 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Gulley and seconded by Councilmember Vitelli to adopt:

- Resolution No. 21-010 Approving a Site Plan for the Construction of a New Two-Story Commercial Building Containing Minor Automotive Repair, a Motor Fuel Station, and Car Wash at 1820 Robert Street, Bobby and Steve’s Auto World; and

- Resolution No. 21-011 Approving a Conditional Use Permit to Allow a Minor Automotive Repair Business and a Motor Fuel Station in a B3 – General Business Zoning District at 1820 Robert Street; and
- Resolution No. 21-012 Approving the Preliminary and Final Plat for 1820 Robert Street, Bobby and Steve’s Auto World

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**C. Conditional Use Permit to Allow a Car Wash in a B3 – General Business District at 1949 Robert Street, Crew Carwash**

The Applicant joined the meeting via WebEx.

Mayor Napier opened the Public Hearing at 7:49 p.m.

The following persons addressed the City Council:

- Mary Strandmark

Hearing from no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Napier closed the Public Hearing at 7:55 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Berry to adopt Resolution No. 21-013 Approving a Conditional Use Permit to Allow a Car Wash in a B3 – General Business District at 1949 Robert Street, Crew Carwash, Inc.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**D. Conditional Use Permit to Allow a Medical Clinic in a B3 – General Business District at 1700 Livingston Avenue, Sutton Outpatient Services**

The Applicant joined the meeting via WebEx.

Mayor Napier opened the Public Hearing at 8:02 p.m.

Hearing from no one wishing to speak, Mayor Napier closed the Public Hearing at 8:03 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to adopt Resolution No. 21-014 Approving a Conditional Use Permit to Allow a Medical Office in a B3 – General Business District at 1700 Livingston Avenue, Suite 120, Sutton Outpatient Services.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**E. Final Reading of Ordinance No. 21-001 Enacting City Code Section 92.11 and Amending Sections 92.02, 92.03 and 92.08 Regarding Solid Waste Abatement**

Mayor Napier opened the Public Hearing at 8:07 p.m.

Hearing no one wishing to speak, Mayor Napier closed the Public Hearing at 8:08 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Eastman to pass Ordinance No. 21-001 Enacting West St. Paul City Code Section 92.11 and Amending Sections 92.02, 92.03 and 92.08 Regarding Solid Waste Abatement.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**12. New Business**

**A. First Reading of an Ordinance Amendment Regarding the Definition of Family, City of West St. Paul**

Community Development Director Hartshorn introduced the following ordinance for its first reading:

*“An Ordinance Amending West St. Paul City Code Section 150.036 And West St. Paul Zoning Code Section 153.004 Regarding the Definition of Family”*

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Berry to approve the first reading and accept the language as presented in the memo with the addition of guardianship in the subcategory and call for a second reading of the ordinance to be held at a Public Hearing at the Regular Council Meeting on January 25, 2021.

Vote: 5 ayes / 1 nays – Councilmember Vitelli voted against. Motion carried.

**13. Old Business**

**A. Approve Plans and Specifications and Authorize Ad for Bid for 2021 Street Improvements Project 21-1**

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Justen to adopt Resolution No. 21-015 Approving Plans and Specifications and Authorizing Ad for Bid 2021 Street Improvements Project No. 21-1.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**14. Adjourn**

Motion was made by Councilmember Gulley and seconded by Councilmember Berry to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Meeting adjourned.

David J. Napier  
Mayor  
City of West St. Paul