

**City of West St. Paul
City Council Meeting Minutes
February 24, 2020**

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, Lisa Eng-Sarne,
John Justen, Bob Pace and Dick Vitelli

Absent: Councilmember Anthony Fernandez (excused absence)

Others Present: City Manager Ryan Schroeder
City Attorney Kori Land
Police Chief Brian Sturgeon
Human Resources Director Debra Gieseke
Finance Director Char Stark
Parks & Public Works Director/City Engineer Ross Beckwith
Community Development Director Jim Hartshorn
City Clerk Shirley Buecksler

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Adopt the Agenda

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

Vote: 5 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

5. OCWS Briefing

Mayor Napier said the Council held a work session prior to the regular meeting to discuss the following topics:

- A. Thompson/Oakdale Trail Feasibility Study Update
- B. Cub Foods Outlot Proposal Review

6. Citizen Comments

None.

7. Council Comments

Councilmember Eng-Sarne said we are excited to welcome Food Smith to West St. Paul on March 9th. Also big news is that Hy-Vee will be ready to begin construction in October.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne thanked South Robert Street Business Association, Dodge Nature Center, and everyone at the City who helped put on the Winter Fun Fest. It was 46 degrees, packed with attendees, and everyone had a great time. She hopes it will continue at Dodge Nature Center because it was a lot of fun.

Councilmember Justen said he also attended Winter Fun Fest with his two children. There were an amazing amount of kids there, and he talked with people who said they were there for the first time. As someone who has a deep and abiding love for Dodge Nature Center in our community, Councilmember Justen said he couldn't be happier with the event.

Councilmember Justen reminded everyone to join and provide feedback at this year's Town Hall meetings, which are scheduled for:

Wednesday, March 11th, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Harmon Park
Thursday, March 19th, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at St. Stephen's Church
Saturday, March 21st, from 10:00 am to Noon at Wentworth Library

Councilmember Vitelli said the street lights are out on the east side of Robert Street at Marie Avenue and Wentworth Avenue until the frost is out of the ground and they can be repaired.

Councilmember Berry said Winter Fun Fest was a success and a lot of fun. Dodge Nature Center was a great location for it. Thanks to South Robert Street Business Association, Dodge Nature Center and City Staff for their work on this event.

Councilmember Berry said the City Clerk started the absentee voting process for the Presidential Nomination Primary and it was a great kickoff to election season. She thanked Election Judges Larry Sachi, Julie Eastman, Rita Dolan, Howard Cutts and Gary Pagel for their recent help with health care facility voting. Also big thanks to all of the Election Judges who will be helping our city's voters at the Primary on Tuesday. Please go out and vote.

Mayor Napier said he wasn't able to attend Winter Fun Fest but he received messages and photos from both Dodge Nature Center and South Robert Street Business Association, showing what a great success it was. This partnership of combining their individual events into one large event proved successful with over 3,000 people attending this great community event in the middle of winter. He thanked everyone for being there and making it happen.

Mayor Napier said that both he and Councilmember Berry serve on the South Metro Fire Board. Some updates on what they are doing include:

- Two new fire engines are currently being assembled in Wyoming, Minnesota.
- The Board elected Public Member Dennis Wiperman – Mayor Napier gave a shout-out to Mr. Wiperman for his time and commitment serving on the Board for several terms now.
- The Night to Shine Event is a prom night for people ages 14 and older with special needs and has been hosted by St. Croix Lutheran School for the past four years.

Mayor Napier thanked and gave a shout-out to the South Metro Fire Department and West St. Paul Police Department Staff for their participation in this event

for the fourth year. Some Staff from South Metro Fire told him that this is one of the most fun activities they have participated in while serving on the Department.

- A Swearing In was held for new Firefighter Jake McCann. Mayor Napier congratulated Firefighter McCann and welcomed him to a great team.

8. Proclamations, Presentations and Recognitions

A. Proclamation – Rose Slomba Day

Mayor Napier read a proclamation in honor of Rose Slomba, born on leap day February 29, 1920, recognizing her 100 years of life and congratulating Rose on her 25th leap day birthday.

B. Introduction and Oath of Office for New Police Officer

Chief Sturgeon introduced new West St. Paul Police Officer Aaron Stone. Mayor Napier administered the Oath of Office, and Badge 2623 was pinned to his uniform by his fiancée, Jenna. Mayor Napier welcomed Officer Stone to the West St. Paul community.

C. Open to Business Presentation

Council heard a presentation on the Open to Business program.

D. Donations to the City

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Pace to adopt Resolution No. 20-019 Accepting Donations to the City, in the amount of \$1,000 from St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church towards the Police Department's Crime Prevention and Community Outreach efforts.

Vote: 5 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

Mayor Napier thanked St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church for their generous donation.

Other announcements:

City Attorney Land announced that the Planning Commission training session will be held at 4:30 p.m. on March 17, 2020, prior to the start of the Planning Commission meeting. This was posted as a meeting but everyone is welcome to attend.

Mayor Napier announced that the Annual Food Drive is taking place again this year, with Hamburger Challenge cards available for purchase from Neighbors, Inc. in South St. Paul.

Mayor Napier also announced that the State of the City Address is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on May 7, 2020 at Evolve, located at 260 Wentworth Avenue East in West St. Paul.

9. Consent Agenda

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

- A.** List of Claims for February 24, 2020 in the Amount of \$1,518,452.84
- B.** Financial Reports for January 2020
- C.** Resolution No. 20-020 Declaring Certain Property Surplus and Authorizing Sale and/or Disposal Thereof, including:
 - 2005 Dodge Caravan, VIN 2D4GP44LX5R431564
- D.** Rental Licensing in the Amount of \$2,409.00 for:
 - 460 Stanley Street East (Apartment – New Owner)
 - 937 Humboldt Avenue (Apartment – Renewal)
 - 237 Bernard Street West (Apartment – Renewal)
 - 264/266 Annapolis Street East (Apartment – Renewal)
 - 40 Annapolis Street West (Apartment – Renewal)
 - 188 Curtice Street West (Duplex – Renewal)
 - 110 Bernard Street West (Duplex – Renewal)
 - 921 Hall Avenue (Duplex – Renewal)
 - 235 Dakota Street (Duplex – Renewal)
 - 989 Smith Avenue (Duplex – Renewal)
 - 1087 Stryker Avenue (Duplex – Renewal)
 - 884/886 Cherokee Avenue (Duplex – Renewal)
 - 1116 Humboldt Avenue (Duplex – Renewal)
 - 174/176 Annapolis Street West (Duplex – Renewal)
 - 1109 Harmon Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
 - 930 Humboldt Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
 - 225 Thompson Avenue East (Single Family – Renewal)
 - 1096 Stryker Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
 - 1146 Stryker Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
 - 962 Livingston Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
- E.** Resolution No. 20-021 Appointing Additional Election Judges for the March 3, 2020 Presidential Nomination Primary, August 11, 2020 Primary, and the November 3, 2020 General Election
- F.** Resolution No. 20-022 Establishing West St. Paul as a Bird City, U.S.A.
- G.** Sanitary Sewer Inflow and Infiltration Services Agreement with the City of Newport
- H.** Coordinated Mental Health Response Pilot Memorandum of Understanding Extension and Resolution No. 20-023 Authorizing Execution of Agreement

Vote: 5 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

10. Public Hearings

A. Final Reading of Ordinance No. 20-002 Approving the Sale of the Thompson Oaks Golf Course to the Economic Development Authority for Redevelopment Purposes

City Attorney Land provided an overview the ordinance and answered questions from Council.

Mayor Napier opened the Public Hearing at 7:01 p.m.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Mayor Napier closed the Public Hearing at 7:01 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Pace to approve Ordinance No. 20-002 Approving the Sale of Property Located Within the City of West St. Paul, Minnesota, to the West St. Paul Economic Development Authority.

Vote: 5 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

11. New Business

A. Award Dome Safety Entrance Construction Bid

Motion was made by Councilmember Pace and seconded by Councilmember Vitelli to award the reconstruction of the dome safety exits to TMG Construction, in the amount of \$372,885.00.

Vote: 5 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

B. Alcohol Compliance Failures – License Sanction Hearings

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to adopt Resolution No. 20-024 Imposing Sanctions Upon Retail Intoxicating Liquor License Holder El Nuevo Morelos Mexican Restaurant.

Vote: 5 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Berry to adopt Resolution No. 20-025 Imposing Sanctions Upon Retail Intoxicating Liquor License Holder Smith Liquors.

Vote: 5 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Berry to remove the stay of \$200 and impose the full \$500 civil penalty, and adopt Resolution No. 20-026 Imposing Sanctions Upon Retail Intoxicating Liquor License Holder Faust Co., LLC dba R&B Liquor, as amended.

Vote: 5 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

C. Tobacco Compliance Failures – License Sanction Hearings

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Justen to adopt Resolution No. 20-028 Imposing Sanctions Upon Retail Tobacco License Holder Steven's Tobacco, Inc.

Vote: 5 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Pace to adopt Resolution No. 20-027 Imposing Sanctions Upon Retail Tobacco License Holder Jerry's Enterprises, Inc.

Vote: 5 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

12. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

13. Adjourn

Motion was made by Councilmember Berry and seconded by Councilmember Justen to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

David J. Napier
Mayor
City of West St. Paul