

**City of West St. Paul
City Council Meeting Minutes
July 13, 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,
Anthony Fernandez, 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

Mayor Napier welcomed Candidates Kimetha Johnson, Julie Eastman and Robyn Gulley.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Adopt the Agenda

Motion was made by Councilmember Eng-Sarne 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. Housing Plan / Maxfield Housing Market Study
- B. Conversion Therapy Ban Request
- C. Modification of Farm and Other Small Animal Ordinance
- D. Social Media Policy
- E. OCWS Backlog Items

6. Citizen Comments – In Person

- Burt Johnson, Attorney for the Carpenter’s Union, regarding prevailing wage and subsidies for Dominionium
- Lucas Franco, Research Manager for the Laborer’s Union, regarding Dominionium’s request for another subsidy

- Arturo Fernandez, 326 West George Street, regarding an experience he had working with Dominion in Spring Lake Park
- Sally Spreeman, Ward 2, wanting to ensure the development is done right the first time and the concern for privacy and security
- Kimetha Johnson, Ward 1 renter at 2045 Christensen Avenue, regarding her experience living in a Dominion complex in Brooklyn Park

7. Citizen Comments – Phone Line

- Joan Hutter, Ward 1, regarding the benefits of raising chickens; the wearing of masks; and questions on Dominion and TIF
- Mark Rainey, Ward, 2, thanked Councilmember Eng-Sarne for a great event on Saturday, that there is year-round use for the hockey rink at Harmon Park, and that the City should sponsor an event like this one every month
- Sarah, 187 Haskell Street East, with support for affordable housing but not increasing the amount of TIF
- Kristin, 1062 Delaware Avenue, Ward 3, regarding Dominion and TIF
- Lauren Hazenson, 239 Stassen Drive, Ward 1, regarding Dominion and TIF
- Laura Zanmiller, Ward 1, regarding Dominion and TIF and the Signal Hills development site
- Nick Andersen, Vice President and Project Planner for Dominion Apartments, responded to resident concerns regarding inflated construction costs, TIF and that the project feels rushed to some residents

8. Council Comments

Councilmember Berry said it is great to see everyone here and to have Town Square Television televising the OCWS, as well.

Councilmember Pace echoed what Councilmember Berry said about OCWS being televised and asked if the EDA meetings will also be televised, which Council learned that they will be.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne suggested that the small animal ordinance include ducks.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne said the Skate Against Hate event on July 11 was a worldwide event. \$2,000 was raised for Mother's Love, and Residents of Color Collective also assisted. She appreciates the idea of making it a monthly event. People from all over the metro were here and were complimentary of Harmon Park.

Councilmember Justen thanked Staff and Town Square Television for the call-in feature for citizen participation, as well as recording and live streaming the OCWS.

Councilmember Vitelli responded to Joan Hutter's comment and said he loves chicken and eggs but is looking out for neighbors with small lots.

Mayor Napier said the Splash Pad is open and successful. He supports increasing the hours and said we want to capitalize on providing some fun with what's left of the warm weather.

In regards to the Splash Pad hours, Councilmember Pace agreed to longer hours and on weekends. Councilmember Justen questioned the rationale for the current hours and said one person wanted weekday hours expanded. Councilmember Berry is in favor of extra weekend hours.

9. Consent Agenda

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

- A.** Minutes of June 22, 2020 Regular Council Meeting
- B.** List of Claims in the Amount of \$1,161,527.44
- C.** Resolution No. 20-059 Concurring with the Issuance of an Application to Conduct Off-Site Gambling, Minnesota Charity Events, on September 18-20, 2020
- D.** Rental Licensing, Including:
 - 217 Bernard Street West (Duplex – Renewal)
 - 159 Mendota Road West (Single Family – New)
- E.** Resolution No. 20-060 Appointing Additional Election Judges for the August 11, 2020 Primary and November 3, 2020 General Election
- F.** Resolution No. 20-061 Adopting Reassessment of 110 Wentworth Avenue West for Wentworth Avenue Reconstruction Project 17-7
- G.** Mid-Year 2020 Council Initiatives Update
- H.** Assigning Public Safety Committee Study of Smith Dodd Area Concerns

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

10. Public Hearings

A. Final Assessment Hearing for 2019-2020 Robert Street Sidewalk Snow Removal

City Manager Schroeder presented and answered questions for the Council.

Mayor Napier opened the Public Hearing at 7:20 p.m.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Mayor Napier closed the Public Hearing at 7:20 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Berry to adopt the final assessment roll for 2019-2020 Robert Street Sidewalk Cleaning.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

11. New Business

A. First Reading of Ordinance – Modification to Tobacco Ordinance

Police Chief Sturgeon introduced the following proposed ordinance for its first reading:

“An Ordinance Amending Section 113 of the West St. Paul City Code Prohibiting Sales of Tobacco to Anyone Under the Age of 21”

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Pace to approve the first reading, with licensing violations increased and incorporated into the final reading, and call for a second reading of the ordinance to be held at a Public Hearing at the City Council meeting on July 27, 2020.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

B. First Reading of Ordinance Amending Mayor and Council Salaries for 2021 and 2022

City Manager Schroeder introduced the following proposed ordinance for its first reading:

“An Ordinance Amending West St. Paul City Charter Section 2.07 Subd. 1 and City Code Section 30.04 Regarding Mayor and Council Salaries”

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Justen to approve the first reading and call for a second reading of the ordinance to be held at a Public Hearing at the City Council meeting on July 27, 2020.

Vote: 7 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

C. First Reading of Ordinance Approving the Sale of Property to Hy-Vee, Inc. for Redevelopment Purposes and Approving the Lot Split for PID 42-11560-01-020

City Attorney Land introduced the following proposed ordinance for its first reading:

“An Ordinance Approving the Sale of Property Located Within the City of West St. Paul, Minnesota, to Hy-Vee, Inc. and Approving Lot Split for PID: 42-11560-01-020”

Motion was made by Councilmember Pace and seconded by Councilmember Justen to approve the first reading and call for a second reading of the ordinance to be held at a Public Hearing at the City Council meeting on July 27, 2020.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

D. First Reading of Ordinance Approving the Sale of Property to the County of Dakota for the River to River Project

City Attorney Land introduced the following proposed ordinance for its first reading:

“An Ordinance Approving the Sale of Property Located Within the City of West St. Paul, Minnesota, to the County of Dakota”

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to approve the first reading and call for a second reading of the ordinance to be held at a Public Hearing at the City Council meeting on July 27, 2020.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

12. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

10. Adjourn

Motion was made by Councilmember Berry and seconded by Councilmember Vitelli to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Meeting adjourned.

David J. Napier
Mayor
City of West St. Paul