

CITY OF ST. FRANCIS
ST. FRANCIS, MN

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

April 17, 2006

5:30 pm Board of Review: Mayor Randy Dressen opened the Board of Review at 5:30 pm. All members present except for Steve Kane who was excused. Mayor Dressen then turned the hearing over to the Anoka County Assessors. Representing Anoka County was Mike Ducklow, John Leone and Nancy Saatela. Mr. Ducklow the residential assessor for St. Francis gave an overview of the recent home sales, training requirements for the City Council and the area he will be reviewing this year. Last year the number of new homes were 79, which are down from the last couple of years. Mayor Dressen asked how the home sales were in the surrounding area. Mr. Ducklow indicated the cities in our area were also lower, with the Cities of Ramsey and Blaine higher due to the number of new town homes in each city. Council member Jones asked how the Green Acres valuation is calculated. Mr. Ducklow said their office has discussed this a lot recently. They met with surrounding counties and found out all the counties are pretty similar. They also try to get farmer to farmer sales. No public was in attendance. Motion by Schoer second Brown to close the Board of Review at 5:48 pm. Motion carried 4-0.

6:00 pm Regular City Council Meeting:

1. **Call to Order:** The regular City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Randy Dressen at 6:00 pm. at ISD #15 District Office.
- 2, **Roll Call:** Present were Mayor Randy Dressen, Council members, Kerry Schoer, Ray Jones and Tim Brown. Excused was council member Steve Kane. Also present were City Engineer Jared Voge (Bolton & Menk), City Attorney Scott Lepak (Barna, Guzy and Steffen), City Administrator Matt Hysten, and City Clerk Barb Held.
3. **Adopt Agenda:** MOTION BY BROWN SECOND JONES TO APPROVE THE APRIL 17, 2006 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.
4. **Consent Agenda:** MOTION BY BROWN SECOND BY SCHOER TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA A-E AS FOLLOWS:
 - a. Approve the April 3, 2006 City Council minutes.
 - b. Approve Payment of Claims 1-103 in the amount of \$485,741.81.
 - c. Accept the Performance Review of Police Officer Jacob Rehling
 - d. Approve Qwest request to place, construct and maintain telephone utility along Arrowhead Street.
 - e. Proceed the Water Shut offs. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.
5. **Petitions, Request, Applications**
 - a. **Park Commission Applicant-Melissa Carlson:** MOTION BY SCHOER SECOND JONES TO APPOINT MELISSA CARLSON TO FILL THE TERM

EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2006 TO THE PARK COMMISSION. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

b. **Main Man Properties: Poppy Street Development:** The City received a letter from Penny Freeman, a partner for Main Man Properties, LLC. Questions raised by the developers are how far the future road should be constructed and the park dedication costs for the development. Steve Ortell, 839-235th Avenue East Bethel one of the developers was there to answer any questions. Jones said he doesn't want to see a dead end road and would like to see a road all the way to County Road 9. Their concern was the additional cost of the extension of the road. Would they be responsible for the paving of it and any assessment cost? The Planning Commission discussion was to have the road constructed as a collector street to County Road 9. Eddie Main said they talked to one of the abutting property owners and struck up a deal on some property needed for the road right away. They said they were told the City would donate the road right away along the property the City owned. Schoer said he doesn't want to put the road in if it doesn't go all the way through. Mayor Dressen said we need to know what was said and also know if the other property owners are interested with the road extension. Regarding the park dedication the developers would like to donate the wetland for their park dedication requirement.

c. **Property at 3758 Bridge Street-Brian Smith, Realtor:** Brian Smith, the realtor, spoke on behalf of the sellers Kent and Michelle Huges who agreed to sell the City of vacant lot. Unknown to the sellers, asbestos was found in the tiles in a unit, which cost \$2,000 for the removal. Mr. Smith said before the sale of the property he called the City and was told there was no well on the property. A well was found and sealed at a cost of \$1,000. When digging to abandon the water and sewer lines a 10x10 foot area of car batteries were found and properly disposed of at a cost of \$500. The total cost of \$3,500 was an extra expense not anticipated. Council indicated they were purchasing the property as a bare lot ready to be paved and it is currently not ready to be paved due to trees still on the lot. Regarding the trees, Hylan said he never talked about the trees with the Council nor with Mr. Smith, however, the Streets/Parks department will relocate some of them to the parks, and the others will be removed later. Schoer and Jones agreed we will also have cost with the additional fill that will be needed. MOTION BY BROWN SECOND SCHOER TO DENY THE REQUEST OF THE \$3,500 FOR THE ADDITIONAL COST. MOTION CARRIED 4-0. The question was asked of the attorney how do we close the property. The City entered into a purchase agreement and had a closing date. The City still has the ability to pick up the property. If the City is not interested in the property anymore we could ask for the earnest money back. At that time the seller could sell the lot.

6. **Ordinances & Resolutions:** None

7. **Meeting Open to the Public:** Eugene Aydt, 23552 Salish Street, was speaking on behalf of some residents regarding vehicle noise and asked for a possible remedy. Dressen said where this left off last year was when you heard the noise call the police. Mr. Aydt said they would like to have police available at certain times and listen, we shouldn't have to call. Mr. Aydt said he would like to have a breakdown, if possible, of the traffic calls to see if any are for noise. Brown said enforcement is the problem; also different calls have different priorities. Mr. Aydt asked to give the officers a reminder, who do I need to talk to about that. Dressen said he should talk to the City Administrator, Hylen then he will forward the concerns to the Police Chief. Hylen told Aydt to call him tomorrow to set up a meeting.

8. **Reports of Consultants and Staff Members:**

a. **Engineer: 1) Poppy Street Feasibility Study:** A draft feasibility report from BDM Consulting Engineers, PLC was provided to the City Council and is currently being reviewed by City Staff. This project would involve the installation of bituminous on Poppy Street and 225th Avenue a joint effort between the City of Oak Grove and St. Francis. In the St. Francis city limits we would also like to include curb and gutter. BDM would like a community neighborhood informational meeting be held in early May. The 429 Process will be followed. It is ultimately up to the Council if you want this to be assessed through a 429 process.

2) Update of Projects: Jared Voge, City Engineer provided a summary of the current projects in the City of St. Francis.

b. **Attorney:** A memo was provided to the City Council regarding information on the sale of real estate, which needs to be done by ordinance. Due to the time table of this process, now would be a good time to start addressing this.

c. **Staff:**

Fire Dept: Authorization to Purchase (2) Sets of Turnout Gear: MOTION BY BROWN SECOND SCHOER TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF 2 TURNOUT PANTS AND COATS FROM CLAREY'S IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,770. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

Water/Wastewater:

Streets/Parks; Authorization to Advertise for Part Time Seasonal Employees: MOTION BY BROWN SECOND JONES TO APPROVE THE ADVERTISING FOR PART TIME SEASONAL EMPLOYEES IN THE STREETS/PARKS DEPARTMENT. MOTION APPROVED 4-0.

Liquor Store: None

Police: Authorization to Purchase Department Issued Badges: Chief Byron Froh is requesting authorization to purchase ten sets of a three badge/set to be issued to the department' officers. Each badge set consists of one hat badge, one shirt badge, and one coat badge. Recently the St. Francis police department received an outstanding performance award from the Minnesota Safe and Sober Organization. This merchandise award translates into a monetary value of \$1,840 at Streicher's police supply. The officers have requested that this merchandise award be utilized for the purpose of offsetting some of the cost in changing and updating the style of the badge worn by the department. Chief Froh is recommending financing the new badges with the award money and the balance coming from the drug and alcohol forfeiture funds.

MOTION BY SCHOER SECOND BROWN APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF NEW BADGES WITH THE MONEY COMING FROM THE RECOMMENDED FUNDS.

MOTION CARRIED. 4-0. Council member Jones asked what happens to the old ones. Hysten said he would find out.

Bid Results for the Surplus Vehicles: The City advertised for sale of the following surplus vehicles; 1995 Ford Windstar Van minimum bid \$800.00 and 1999 Pontiac Sunfire minimum bid \$1,500.00. The City did not receive any bids for the Windstar and three bids for the Sunfire. Bids received are as follows: 1) Joe Haag \$1,575.00 2) Craig Scarborough, \$1,750.00 3) Trent Blake \$2,106.00. **MOTION BY BROWN SECOND JONES TO ACCEPT THE THREE BIDS FOR THE 1999 PONTIAC SUNFIRE. MOTION CARRIED 4-0. MOTION BY JONES SECOND BROWN TO AWARD THE BID TO TRENT BLAKE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,106.00. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.** The Windstar will be sent to an auction.

City Administrator Report: Street Alignment-Salvage Yard

Property: Planner Steve Bjork provided a memo to the city council stating the City submitted a CDBG request to Anoka County for the construction of the required infrastructure for the former Highway 47 salvage yard property. The Anoka County HRA Board has recommended award of the grant request to the County Board and a final notification on the grant award is expected in the near future. In order to keep the development of the property moving forward, a decision will need to be made on the street alignment that will service the subject property. Three options were presented to the Public Works Supt., Streets/Parks Supt. and the City Engineer. All three parties felt that the Option C should be eliminated from consideration. Option A would run the street in an East-West alignment and would terminate on the eastern edge of the development. This street alignment would not permit the extension of this street in the future due to the location of the existing public works structure. Option B would shift the alignment to the north and would also terminated the street at the eastern edge of the development. This alignment would allow for the extension of the street in the future. The future extension would tie back in with 227th Avenue (CSAH 24). After some discussion the general consensus was to forward this to the planning commission for their input.

Soil Excavation Quotes-Former Hwy 47 Salvage Yard Structure: Two quotes were received for the additional removal of contaminated soil at the former Hwy 47 Salvage Yard site. Once the clean up is completed, the final clean up document will be prepared by ProSource and forwarded to the State for their consideration. Quotes were received from PGM, \$2,985.00 and Minnesota Specialized \$1,662.50. MOTION BY JONES SECOND BROWN TO ACCEPT THE TWO QUOTES. MOTION CARRIED 4-0. MOTION BY JONES SECOND BROWN TO AWARD THE QUOTE TO MINNESOTA SPECIALIZED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,662.50 TO COMPLETE THE SOIL EXCAVATION. MOTION BY JONES SECOND BROWN TO WITHDRAW THE MOTION AWARDING THE QUOTE. MOTION CARRIED 4-0 MOTION BY SCHOER SECOND BROWN TABLE AWARDING THE QUOTE. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

North Metro Mayors Association Membership Program: Previously the City Council requested me to look into possible membership in the North Metro Mayors Association. They have an Associate Membership for a maximum of two years at \$1,000 per year. The association is a strong lobbying group and is active in north metro transportation legislation. Mayor Dressen would it be more effective to get involved in AMM. General Consensus was to invite a representative to come to a future council meeting to talk about their association.

Asbestos Abatement Quotes for 23525 St. Francis Blvd: Two quotes were received for the abatement of asbestos at 23525 St. Francis Blvd. in order for the fire department to do training burns on the structure. They are Mavo Systems \$1,995.00 and EnviroTech \$1,050.00. MOTION BY SCHOER SECOND BROWN TO ACCEPT THE TWO QUOTES FROM Mavo Systems \$1,995 and EnviroTech \$1,050. MOTION CARRIED 4-0. MOTION BY BROWN SECOND JONES TO AWARD THE QUOTE TO ENVIROTECH FOR \$1,050.00. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

Northland Securities Letter: The financial consultant prepared a letter regarding the potential call of our 1993 bonds. General consensus was to put this on a future agenda.

Springsted Organization Study: May 22nd at 3:30 pm was set for a council retreat with Sharon Klumpp of Springsted Inc.

9. **Reports of Council Members:** Jones referenced a letter that was sent to Mr. Karpe regarding a fence issue. Hylen stated this was given to you for your information. Jones questioned the 10 foot fence set back. Question was asked does this 10 foot requirement have to do with his conditional use permit.

10. **Report from Mayor.** Attended the AMM Nominating Committee. Dressen stated he was interested in transportation board. Mr. Hylen's six month review is coming up in May.

11. **Old Business:** Jones again brought up the needed upgrade of Hwy. 47, Burns Township and Ramsey are sending letters. Hylen said he will send a letter in support.

Schoer said Hwy 47 Auto Parts still need to be cleaned up. Hylan said will check into and report back. Jones said do we allow the two trailers to remain there.

12. **New Business:** Brown asked if the July 3rd could be changed. Lepak will check into it.

13. **Adjournment:** Mayor Dressen adjourned the council meeting at 7:52 pm.

Barbara I. Held
City Clerk/Treasurer