

# City Council Proceedings

1342

State of Minnesota  
Counties of Scott & Le Sueur  
City of New Prague

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Special City Council Meeting  
Monday, August 17, 2020

*Conducted via GoToMeeting due to the COVID-19 Pandemic which is preventing attendance at the regular meeting location.*

Mayor Nickolay called the online meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. with the following members present: Nickolay, Ryan, Bass, Seiler, and Wolf.

Staff Present Online: Mike Johnson, Ken Ondich, Jim Gareis, Glen Sticha, and Barb Ulschmid

Others Present Online: City Engineer Chris Cavett and New Prague Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Brooke Sticha

Motion by Nickolay, seconded by Bass to approve the Agenda. By roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion carried (5-0).

City Engineer Chris Cavett provided an update to the City Council on the TH#19/Main Street Reconstruction Project (2020 CIP). Mr. Cavett also explained the need to modify the existing contract by adding an additional \$5,800.00 via Change Order No. 1 and a resolution. The revised contract amount would be \$12,504,800.00. This additional amount was necessary in completing the storm sewer in Memorial Park which needed to be completed early and out of the way so next spring the piping would no longer be in the way of where the Veteran's Memorial will be built. This work has already been approved by the project team (MnDOT, Construction Engineer and City Staff), completed and now needs the Council's approval.

After discussion, motion by Ryan, seconded by Seiler to approve *RESOLUTION #20-08-17-01 APPROVING TH#19/MAIN STREET 2020 CIP RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT DIRECTING MODIFCATION OF EXISTING CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER NO. 1.* By roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion carried (5-0).

Planning/Community Development Director Ken Ondich presented the details of a Satisfaction of SCDP Housing Repayment Agreement and recommended the Council's approval of this Agreement for the SCDP Housing Repayment Agreement with Andrew and Melinda Boll. Director Ondich explained that Le Sueur County was awarded a Small Cities grant for funds to use in the rehabilitation of 20 owner occupied homes in four cities within Le Sueur County. New Prague was one of the four cities selected with the stipulation that inclusion in the program meant that the City had to utilize \$80,000 of existing Small Cities income to loan out to the 20 housing projects throughout the county. With each of the 20 housing projects we have a recorded repayment agreement for the portion of the City's funds that they were loaned (\$4,000 was loaned to each of the 20 projects). The terms of the agreement are that the grantee must repay the loan in full if the house is sold within 10 years from the date of the agreement and if the 10 years expires the loan is forgiven. The repayment agreement is a lien on the property.

On July 31, 2020, the City received a \$4,000 check as repayment on one of the agreements because their house was sold within 10 years of the date of the agreement. With receipt of the repayment, the title company is requesting that the City approve a document that shows the agreement has

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been satisfied. This is the third request for a satisfaction document under this joint program with Le Sueur County.

After discussion, motion by Nickolay, seconded by Bass to approve the *SATISFACTION OF REPAYMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE SCDP HOUSING REPAYMENT AGREEMENT WITH ANDREW AND MELINDA BOLL*. By roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion carried (5-0).

Police Chief/Emergency Manager Jim Gareis presented a request for permission on behalf of the New Prague Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, Brooke Sticha to hold the 2020 Nožinky Festival in Memorial Park 2-3 days the week of September 14<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>. City staff will coordinate with the New Prague Chamber of Commerce to make this a safe event for those in attendance. By utilizing Memorial Park for this event, there will be ample area to allow for social distancing in various areas throughout the park.

After discussion, motion by Seiler, seconded by Wolf to approve the *CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S REQUEST TO HOLD THE 2020 NOŽÍNKY FESTIVAL WITH THE ABOVE NOTE CONDITIONS IF IT REMAINS IN COMPLAINEE WITH ALL EXECUTIVE ORDERS REGARDING COVID-19 PEACE TIME EMERGENCY*. By roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion carried (5-0).

City Administrator Mike Johnson presented a final document that was developed by the New Prague EDA for the "Small Business Recovery Fund Program Guidelines". The application period is proposed to remain open from August 17, 2020 to August 31, 2020. Working with NextStage, the City's Fund Administrator, the goal is to notify approved applicants by email on or before September 9, 2020. The EDA has \$200,000 that is proposed to be given out for this program with the maximum business funding of a grant up to \$7,500/business. This will likely allow the EDA to fund about 26-27 local businesses with this funding.

City Administrator Johnson stated that the Scott County Board of Commissioners just announced a program to support local businesses in Scott County and this program will run from August 19, 2020 to August 31, 2020. Le Sueur County Board of Commissioners are also likely to create a Small Business Recovery Fund Program for Le Sueur small businesses in the near term.

No action required by the City Council on this agenda item, informational only.

Emergency Management Director (EMD) Jim Gareis provided the Council with a COVID-19 order update. Continue to manage the workforce here at the City. Executive Orders have been extended another 30 days by Governor Walz. Nothing much has changed since the last Council meeting. Staff are staying healthy. Making sure all employees continue to have PPE, the City Hall continues to be closed to the Public. Also, the Primary Election went well as far as COVID safety. Director Ondich shared that 342 residents voted in person (about 12% of the city). Primary election was a good learning experience on how to set up for the General Election. Absentee ballots can be found on the City's website or can be picked up in South Public entrance of the City Hall.

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Mayor Nickolay - Revisited about the Golf Board being able to meet face to face and people from the outside being able Zoom in. Ken Ondich explained that he is working with CTS on making this work. Ondich recommended to continue with the GoToMeeting set up for August and will continue to work with CTS on this option and keep the Council posted.

After discussion, it was moved by Nickolay, seconded by Ryan to approve the Consent Agenda as follows.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A. August 3, 2020 Special City Council Meeting Minutes

B. Claims for Payment - August 17, 2020

By roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion carried (5-0).

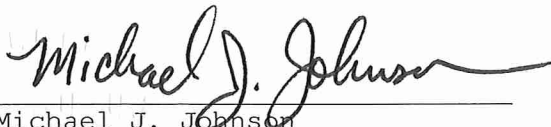
Miscellaneous Items:

Mike Johnson, Councilmembers and Staff - Wished the Mayor a Happy Birthday.

Glen Sticha - Provided an update on the Biosolids tank project at the WWTF.

There being no additional business, motion by Nickolay, seconded by Bass to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:13 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried (5-0).

ATTEST:



Michael J. Johnson  
City Administrator



Charles L. Nickolay  
Mayor

