

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



City Council Meeting
Monday, March 21, 2016

Mayor Nickolay called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Nickolay, Bruzek, Jirik, Ryan, Tuma

Staff Present: Mike Johnson, Ken Ondich, Glen Sticha, Mary Jo Hruby

Mayor Nickolay amended the Agenda by moving Agenda Item 11(E) *Approval of 2016-2017 Liquor Licenses for Desperate Measures Karaoke Inc. d/b/a JT's Hideaway* from the Consent Agenda to be handled on its own as a separate Agenda item.

It was moved by Nickolay and seconded by Bruzek to approve the amended Agenda. All voted in favor of the motion. (5-0)

City Engineer Chris Cavett provided an overview of the Municipal State Aid System Revisions. Mr. Cavett noted it is important to look at making revisions to the designated routes of the City's Municipal State Aid Street in order to maximize potential revenue from the system, as well as designate as much of the eligible mileage as possible. The City gained 0.09 miles of local road with the adoption of Jillian Street as a public road. It provides another 20% of 0.09 miles that can be designated as a state aid route. It brought the available mileage up to a point that we could designate another block or street to the system. Mr. Cavett reviewed the 2016 recommended system revisions with the proposed revocations and proposed designations. Staff and SEH recommend that the City Council approve the Resolution for Establishment of State Aid Streets. The Resolution will be forwarded to the Commissioner of Transportation for approval. The changes would result in additional revenue next year.

It was moved by Ryan and seconded by Bruzek to approve RESOLUTION #16-03-21-01 ESTABLISHMENT OF STATE AID STREETS. All voted in favor of the motion. (5-0)

City Engineer Chris Cavett reviewed the Grant Application results for MNDOT FY2020 STP - Small Urban Funds for TH#19 Project. In December 2015 the City Council authorized the submittal of a grant application to assist in the local share of the TH 19 project costs. The application requested federal funds in the amount of \$1,500,000. Glen Sticha and Chris Cavett presented the project in more detail to the subcommittee. The subcommittee recommendation was presented to the Area Transportation Partnership at a meeting held on March 14, 2016. The recommendation was to fund the New Prague application in FY2020 in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 (for federal aid eligible expenses). The STP-Small Urban funding will most likely be used to cover a portion of the City's share of parking lane, streetscaping, landscaping and lighting costs. The ATP grant funding does not cover any of the City utility (sewer and water) costs. MNDOT District 7 Staff is in the process of preparing a Draft Memorandum of Understanding to address some of the roles and responsibilities during the initial planning and pre-design process, as well as how costs will be shared between the City and DOT.

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Public Works Director Sticha reviewed the quotes received for a new commercial zero turn lawnmower for the Parks Department replacing the 2009 Cub Cadet lawn mower. This lawn mower would be a 2016 Zero Turn 60" with a minimum of 25 HP engine. Staff reviewed quotes from three different manufactures and after comparing specifications and demoing all three of the lawn mowers, Staff feels the 2016 Toro 700 Series is the best choice from MTI Distributing Inc. for \$11,405.96 because of its proven reliability that Staff has seen with the other Toro equipment we have and it is the least expensive of the three models.

It was moved by Tuma and seconded by Ryan to approve the purchase of the 2016 Toro 7000 series Zero Turn Mower from MTI Distributing Inc. for \$11,405.96. All voted in favor of the motion. (5-0)

Planning/Community Development Director Ondich reviewed the 2016 City Wide Clean Up Event Recycling Program Agreement. The dates for the 2016 Clean Up Event will be Friday, April 29th for the Le Sueur County side of the City and Friday, May 6th for the Scott County side of the City. Scott County has made available sub-grants to help pay for our clean up event expenses. A maximum of \$1,080.00 has been made available this year to the City to help off-set our costs which Staff estimated for 2016 would be closer of \$2,500.00 including printing flyers and for staff labor costs to pick up tree trimmings. This year the residents are asked to contact the City to pick up their tree trimmings rather than have Staff canvas the City looking for them which might bring the cost down a bit.

Council Member Jirik suggested checking to see if there is any interest for a shredding place for residents next year and the cost.

It was moved by Bruzek and seconded by Nickolay to approve the 2016 City Wide Clean-Up Event - Recycling Program Agreement with Scott County. All voted in favor of the motion. (5-0)

City Administrator Johnson reviewed the Ordinance Amending Chapter 52, Title V of the New Prague City Code of Ordinances Relating to Sanitary Sewer Charge Calculations. The Ordinance identifies that there is a monthly base rate plus a rate per 1,000 gallons of metered water as determined by Council Resolution on an annual basis. It addresses how residential rates are calculated using water usage for the months of November, December and January; it addresses those customers who have a "zero" water consumption usage in at least one month during the calculation period; it addresses in multiple residential dwellings that there shall be a sanitary sewer base rate multiplied by the number of residential units being served; and it provides for secondary water meter at personal expense for purposes of irrigation that will not be subject to any sanitary sewer charges. This Ordinance was introduced at the March 7, 2016 Council meeting. Slight revisions were made to the layout and numbering of the Ordinance paragraphs to enhance reformatting for readability and understanding. The City Attorney has reviewed the changes and is ok with the slight modifications.

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It was moved by Nickolay and seconded by Ryan to approve ORDINANCE NO. 289 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 52, TITLE V OF THE NEW PRAGUE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO SANITARY SEWER CHARGE CALCULATIONS.

Upon roll call the following vote was recorded:

	<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>
Nickolay	<u>x</u>	_____
Bruzek	<u>x</u>	_____
Jirik	_____	<u>x</u>
Ryan	<u>x</u>	_____
Tuma	<u>x</u>	_____

Motion carried. (4-1)

City Administrator Johnson presented dates for a Special City Council meeting in April to discuss the process to review future needs of the outdoor swimming, future needs for community recreational athletic facilities, etc. Consensus of the Council is to meet on Tuesday, April 26th at 6:00 in City Hall Council Chambers.

City Administrator Johnson updated the Council on the School District CEC/Swimming Pool Bids and City share of the indoor pool project. The bid for this project was awarded to Met-Con of Faribault by the School Board on Monday, March 14, 2016 with the understanding that the City's share of the project is at \$1,100,000 and includes the zero depth entry community/current pool, fenced outdoor plaza, and related other swimming pool elements. The City will still be responsible for the floatable play elements, water basketball and volleyball, and aqua climbing wall elements that will need to be had prior to the opening of the indoor pool.

City Administrator gave an overview of the Coalition of Greater MN Cities (CGMC) advocacy program and membership dues. The membership dues are based on population and phased in for new members. The first year dues are at 25%, second year 50%, third year 75% and fourth year they are full dues. The phase in dues has been a good way for Cities to "try out" CGMC for a couple of years before making a full commitment. Consensus of the Council is to have someone from the Coalition attend a future City Council meeting to get more information about the organization.

City Administrator Johnson reviewed the topic of possible golf discount for City Employees. The City previously provided a golf membership (free individual membership) to all full-time City employees under the City's Personnel Policy and in the Police Union Agreement. On December 1, 2014, the City Council unanimously voted to discontinue providing the golf membership benefit to all full-time City Employees. Discussion included: was this an appropriate public expense; was the benefit taxable to the employee; did the employees need this benefit; was the golf course being deprived of needed membership revenues; who should have been covered or included under this policy; were there any health benefits to the employee; etc.

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Council Member Tuma stated it is a reasonable amenity to offer Staff at no cost to the City. It gets people outdoors and provides for a stronger workplace and work team. She suggested possibly a recreational pass to use at a certain time of the day. This could include golf and maybe also include the pool.

City Administrator Johnson noted to be careful on what we provide that if it is the value of a golf membership there are some issues we run into on the auditing standpoint. We will have to do a 1099 on that to go back to the employee.

Council Member Bruzek stated it is a nice thing to do but has reservations because of the tax issue and the Council just disallowed this over a year ago. To go back and change it looks like the Council doesn't know what they are doing.

Mayor Nickolay suggested a special reduced rate with a special employee card, reduced green fee rate or 10 round pass at a reduced rate.

Council Member Ryan suggested checking with the Golf Board to see what their thoughts are.

Council Member Jirik stated she is appreciative of the City Employees but she has a hard time saying they should get golf privileges. It is not fair to our residents.

Consensus of the Council is to check on what other Cities are doing that have public golf courses.

Candidate for Minnesota Senate District 20 - Mark Bartusek informed the Council that he is seeking the Republican endorsement for the Senate District 20 and if he gets the endorsement would appreciate the Council's support.

It was moved by Bruzek and seconded by Jirik to approve the following consent agenda items:

- A. Approve the March 7, 2016 meeting minutes
- B. Approve claims for payment
- C. Approve monthly financials
- D. Approve Chamber of Commerce Annual New Prague ½ Marathon and Related Fun Runs for May 7, 2016

All voted in favor of the motion. (5-0)

City Administrator Johnson informed the Council that the 2016-2017 liquor license renewal application was received from Desperate Measurer Karaoke Inc. d/b/a JT's Hideaway. They have paid their renewal fees and are current with their property taxes. However, there is a late utility payment due and the payment of the \$2,000 liquor fine imposed by the Council on February 16, 2016 (due by March 22, 2016) has not been paid. Also, City Staff had not received verification of the Applicant's liquor liability insurance for 2016-2017. (copy in process of being provided).

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It was moved by Jirik and seconded by Nickolay to approve the 2016-2017 Liquor Licenses for Desperate Measurer Karaoke Inc. d/b/a JT's Hideaway contingent on payment of late utility bill, payment of the \$2,000 liquor fine and verification of the liquor liability insurance for 2016-2017. All voted in favor of the motion. (5-0)

Planning Technician Hruby reported that the applications for the Board and Commission vacancies are due on April 11, 2016 and asked when the Council would like to schedule the interviews of the applicants.

Consensus of the Council is to schedule the Board and Commission interviews on April 18th before the City Council meeting.

Council Member Ryan suggested changing the meeting time of the City Council meetings from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on a trial period.

It was moved by Ryan and seconded by Tuma to change the meeting time of the City Council meetings from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. starting the first meeting in May and to evaluate the change at the last meeting in September. All voted in favor of the motion. (5-0)

It was moved by Nickolay and seconded by Bruzek to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion. (5-0)

Charles L. Nickolay, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michael J. Johnson
City Administrator