

Adopted Minutes Regular Council Meeting June 22, 2010

Mayor Slavik called a Regular Meeting of the Plymouth City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 3400 Plymouth Boulevard, on June 22, 2010.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Slavik, Councilmembers Murdock, Bildsoe, Johnson, Black, and Willis.

ABSENT: Councilmember Stein.

STAFF PRESENT: Administrative Services Director Portner, City Attorney Knutson, Park Director Blank, Fire Chief Kline, Police Chief Goldstein, Public Works Director Cote, Planning Manager Senness, and City Clerk Engdahl.

Plymouth Forum

There was no one present to address the Council.

Presentations and Public Information Announcements

(4.01) CenterPoint Energy's Community Partnership Grant

Jay Hibbard, Area Manager for CenterPoint Energy, spoke of the partnership grant that they are awarding the City. He presented a check the Council in the amount of \$800 which will be used to purchase fire pagers.

Motion was made by Councilmember Willis, and seconded by Councilmember Johnson, to adopt a Resolution Accepting Grant from CenterPoint Energy Company to the Fire Department (Res2010-152). With all members voting in favor, the motion carried.

(4.02) Swear in Police Officer Alan Shrode

City Clerk Engdahl administered the oath of office to Police Officer Shrode.

(4.03) Recognition to Office Support Representative Dorothy Aksteter

The Council recognized retiring Office Support Representative Dorothy Aksteter for her 10 years of service to the City. Mayor Slavik read a proclamation declaring June 24 as "Dorothy Aksteter Day."

Mayor Slavik reminded everyone of Music in Plymouth on June 30 as well as the 5k run on June 26.

She announced that Plymouth came in first in the highest total steps for the Step to It Challenge, which was a friendly competition between 18 cities.

She also announced that she will be running for reelection to the Mayor's position for another four year term.

Approval of Agenda

Item No. 6.08 under the Consent Agenda was removed from the agenda.

By request of applicant, item No. 8.2 under General Business was tabled to July 13.

Motion was made by Councilmember Bildsoe , and seconded by Councilmember Black, to approve the amended agenda. With all members voting in favor motion carried.

Consent Agenda

By request of Councilmember Willis, item No. 6.05 was removed from the Consent Agenda and placed under General Business as item No. 8.2.

Motion was made by Councilmember Bildsoe, and seconded by Councilmember Murdock, to adopt the amended Consent Agenda that included the following items:

(6.01) Approval of Regular Minutes from June 8.

(6.02) Resolution Approving Disbursements ending June 12, 2010 (Res2010-153).

(6.03) Resolution Approving a Conditional Use Permit to allow an Adult Daycare for Community Connections Partnership for Property located at 3431 Highway 169 (2010037 – Res2010-154).

(6.04) Resolution Awarding Contract for 36th Avenue Landscape Enhancements Project (8104 – Res2010-155).

(6.05) (This item was removed from the Consent Agenda and placed under General Business as item No. 8.2).

(6.06) Resolution Approving Payment No. 1 and Final for 2010 Crack Repair Program (10011 - Res2010-156).

(6.07) Resolution Approving Receiving Engineering Proposals and Designating the Engineer for Well No. 17 (10024 – Res2010-157).

(6.08) (This item was removed from the Consent Agenda).

(6.09) Resolution Extending the Licensed Premises for Old Chicago, 3505 Vicksburg Lane (Res2010-158).

With all members voting in favor, the motion carried.

Public Hearings

There were no public hearings.

General Business

(8.1) Site Plan Amendment for a Parking/Drive Aisle Addition at Birchview Elementary School (2010023)

Planning Manager Senness gave the report. The proposed site plan amendment involves constructing a new parking lot and a new parent/child turn around area. In addition, by request of area residents, there would be no parking on the north side of 5th Avenue west of Ranchview Lane.

Terry Rey, 15610 5th Avenue North, stated he doesn't support the current plan. He stated the school district is trying to provide additional safety for the children and diminish the traffic problem. However, these efforts would be increasing the traffic problem by funneling everyone to 5th Avenue for the student drop off area. Part of the wooded area that faces his home would be removed for the main parking lot. He stated there would be new bushes and trees that would be planted along 5th Avenue, but they can't replace his current view across the street. He stated perhaps they could consider diagonal parking on 5th Avenue that would use some space that wouldn't be wooded and be able to utilize that space better without removing any trees. He's not confident that parents would adhere to the speed limit when they come down 5th Avenue. Therefore, perhaps rather than using the Ranchview Lane bus stop, the bus traffic could come down 5th Avenue, as they are professional drivers who would follow the speed limit, and this would limit the tire traffic footprints on that road.

Councilmember Murdock stated that she supports student safety, but she has some concerns due to being contacted by a number of 5th Avenue residents. She asked if there would be more or less blacktop along 5th Avenue and is no parking on both sides of 5th Avenue an option. Planning Manager Senness replied there would be one additional paved driveway access onto 5th Avenue

than what there is currently. Regarding the no parking on both sides of 5th Avenue, that could be discussed with the school district.

Councilmember Murdock asked if there would be a way for vehicles to drive behind the school so the majority of the traffic wouldn't be on 5th Avenue. Planning Manager Senness replied that was an option the school district explored, but it didn't accomplish their goals.

Dr. Tom Koch, principal at Birchview Elementary, stated they've been working on this project for several years and trying to address significant safety issues for students. He stated they wouldn't be increasing the amount of traffic on 5th Avenue. Regarding eliminating parking on both sides of 5th Avenue, that would be a hardship for families who are attending activities at the school during the day. Their intention is to promote safety with the proposed design of the project.

Brenton Boelter, project manager for this project, stated they considered a number of options for this project, but all of them created challenges and competing interests. They tried to find middle ground to appease most of the interest at the site.

Jennifer Peterson, 500 Ranchview Lane North, agreed that something needs to be done. The amount of traffic on 5th Avenue at the beginning and end of the school day is awful. She stated the new parking on Ranchview Lane has helped. She noted the increased walkers to the school. She stated that the current traffic situation on 5th Avenue isn't good. She indicated her support for the project, but she suggested flipping the parking lot and parent/child turn around.

Public Works Director Cote stated regarding Mr. Rey's suggestion to construct diagonal parking on 5th Avenue, 5th Avenue would need to be reconstructed after it's recently been reconstructed.

Councilmember Murdock asked if the Ms. Peterson's suggestion of flipping the two lots would cause less in tree loss. Mr. Boelter replied they looked at that option. One of the primary entrances to the school is at the northwest corner of the building, and if children weren't dropped off closest to that entrance, that would create safety problems. Dr. Koch agreed and stated the northwest corner and the east side of the building, where the buses unload, are the two main entrances. He noted that there is an unloading dock near the northeast corner of the building and if children were dropped off in that area, they would be concerned about safety and supervision in that area.

Councilmember Bildsoe asked if they considered moving the lots further to the west. Mr. Boelter stated they didn't look at moving the parking lots further to the west as that would impact the ball field. He stated the proposed plan wouldn't increase the amount of traffic on 5th Avenue as the majority of the traffic is occurring there now. He stated the existing parking lot is striped with 66 parking stalls. If they were to reconstruct the parking lot and to just to put back the same number of parking spaces, they would need to widen the drive aisles and parking spaces to meet the City's ordinance.

Councilmember Johnson asked if staff has looked at deviating from the ordinance and/or if there are similar parking lots. Planning Manager Senness replied staff hasn't looked at other smaller

size parking lots. The school district is currently 12 parking spaces under the ordinance requirement, and the proposed plan would add those 12 parking spaces.

Councilmember Murdock asked if the parking lots were flip flopped and moved further to the west, could the lots be narrower and deeper so some of the parking spots would actually go behind the school to some degree. Mr. Boelter replied this suggestion could be reviewed, but they would be revisiting some of the complications with previous options they reviewed regarding the handling of storm water runoff on the site. He noted that the property is in two watershed districts which creates challenges. He noted the proposed rain garden that would be constructed with the proposed plan to treat the additional storm water runoff. They are unable to address the additional storm water runoff on the west side of the school property.

Motion was made by Councilmember Black, and seconded by Councilmember Willis, to adopt a Resolution Approving a Site Plan Amendment for Inspec. Inc. to allow Reconstruction of the North and East Parking Lots and to Construct a Parent/Child Staging Area at Birchview Elementary School located at 425 Ranchview Lane North (2010023 – Res2010-159) and a Resolution Authorizing the Installation of “No Parking” Signs on the North Side of 5th Avenue West of Ranchview Lane (Res2010-160).

Councilmembers Black and Willis stated that there is no perfect solution, but the proposed plan before them is the best solution.

Councilmember Murdock disagreed and stated there were other alternatives that were discussed this evening that could be looked at a little closer. Therefore, she wouldn't be supporting the motion.

Mayor Slavik stated if the proposed plan would be modified, there could potentially be problems with the loading dock area. The goal is to get the children in and out of school in a safe manner.

Councilmember Johnson stated the athletic associations utilize the ball field, so there is a need to retain that ball field.

There being no further discussion and with all members voting in favor but Murdock, the motion carried.

(8.2) South Shore Drive Rehabilitation Project (10002)

Councilmember Willis asked if there is a special assessment for the lateral benefit for the City of Medicine Lake. Public Works Director Cote replied not at this time, but if they desire to access that service in the future, they would subject to another agreement where they could pay an assessment.

Councilmember Willis indicated his desire to note this discussion in the minutes for future city councils. First, utility lines will be installed with this project that will also benefit the City of Medicine Lake for two reasons—that in the future, if they desire to connect to the lines for

services, the City will have to address the lateral benefit charge. Secondly, by virtue of installing a second fire hydrant – the fire department will have use of a fire hydrant at no cost.

Motion was made by Councilmember Willis, and seconded by Councilmember Black, to adopt a Resolution Approving Plans and Specifications and Ordering Advertisement for Bids for South Shore Drive Rehabilitation Project (10002 – Res2010-161) and a Resolution Approving the Joint Powers Agreement between the City of Plymouth and the City of Medicine Lake for the South Shore Drive Rehabilitation Project (10002 – Res2010-162).

Mayor Slavik noted the email correspondence received by the Council today regarding the installation of speed humps on South Shore Drive, of which that resident doesn't support. She stated the speed humps are currently there, and they will be put back in. Councilmember Johnson added that the requests for the speed humps came from residents in the area. She will continue to support the replacement of the speed humps.

Mike Wittkop, 10805 South Shore Drive, stated he has a couple of concerns. First, when they cleared the lot for the Habitat for Humanity home, they cleared 25 trees on his property. Secondly, he was hoping to get connected to City sewer and water. Third, there was discussion last winter about whether there would be any movement in property lines. His fence goes right up to the roadway, and he's concerned whether his fence will need to be relocated. Public Works Director Cote stated as the project currently stands, there will be no additional right-of-way needed so his fence won't need to be relocated. Regarding connecting to City sewer and water, Mr. Wittkop needs to submit his request to the City of Plymouth and pay the applicable charges.

There being no further discussion and with all members voting in favor, the motion carried.

Without objection, Mayor Slavik reported on the request of Hennepin County for a study session with the Council to discuss their new communication site. Staff was directed to contact the county to schedule a study session that would be prior to a regular meeting and prior to when the County Board make their decision in September.

Reports and Staff Recommendations

There were no reports and staff recommendations.

Adjournment

Mayor Slavik adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.



Sandra R. Engdahl, City Clerk