

Approved Minutes Special Council Meeting February 26, 2008

Mayor Slavik called a Special Meeting of the Plymouth City Council to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Medicine Lake Room of City Hall, 3400 Plymouth Boulevard, on February 26, 2008.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Slavik, Councilmembers Murdock, Black, Hewitt, Bildsoe, Stein, and Willis (5:20 p.m.).

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Ahrens, Police Chief Goldstein, Community Development Director Juetten, Building Official Ryan, Police Officer Haseman, Park and Recreation Director Blank, City Attorney Knutson, and City Clerk Engdahl.

Plymouth-New Hope Little League Proposal

Members of the Plymouth-New Hope Little League Board met with the Council to discuss their request for construction of a park shelter building and concession stand at Zachary Park.

In 2006, the City completed some major renovations at the facility totaling \$850,837, of which the Plymouth-New Hope Little League agreed to pay \$250,000. As of December 31, 2007, Plymouth-New Hope Little League has a \$50,000 outstanding balance due to the City.

The current request from the Plymouth-New Hope Little League is that the City would purchase all construction materials for a new park shelter building and concession stand while the Plymouth-New Hope Little League would be responsible for obtaining volunteers to construct the building. It's estimated that the materials would cost \$100,000 to \$150,000 in addition to building permit fees. There was a similar project with Wayzata Youth Baseball at Greenwood Park where the City's cost was capped at \$30,000. The completion goal for this project would be mid season. It was noted that the City of New Hope isn't participating with this specific project as the field is on City of Plymouth property, and 75% of the youth are from Plymouth. However, the Plymouth-New Hope Little League utilizes the City of New Hope's baseball fields for practices.

The Plymouth-New Hope Little League is proposing the following funding formula:

\$50,000 outstanding balance due to the City
\$125,000 materials cost for the proposed building
Minus \$30,000 for City's contribution

The total project cost would be \$145,000 which the Plymouth-New Hope Little League would make payments to the City in 2008-2013. The Plymouth-New Hope Little League noted that a number of grants that they applied for didn't materialize which is why they currently owe the balance of \$50,000 to the City.

In discussing the proposal, some Councilmembers felt the outstanding debt of \$50,000 should be paid prior to making future commitments. The Council requested that this item be on the March 11 Council agenda and staff provides further information on the proposed payment schedule and what that would mean to the City (i.e. what park projects could be delayed in 2009).

Code Enforcement

Staff provided a report on the current rental dwelling program that included application and inspection processes, conduct on licensed premises, and the Police Department's assistance and enforcement. Staff requested to amend the current ordinance to further enhance the enforcement efforts by:

1. Expanding the types of unlawful violations by adding other types of offenses (i.e. keeping or harboring of a dangerous or potentially dangerous animal, the consumption of alcohol by minors, indecent exposure, assault with the exception of domestics, criminal damage to property, contributing to the need for protection or services or delinquency of a minor, and public nuisance violations).
2. Requiring all rental property owners/managers to attend mandatory Crime Free Multi Housing training offered by the Police Department. This training would include topics related to screening, Section 8, leases and convictions, and working with the police.

The Council supported this recommendation and directed staff to prepare an ordinance for a future Council meeting.

Excessive Nuisance

Staff discussed an Excessive Nuisance Service Call Program for both rental and owner occupied dwellings for addressing chronic issues at a particular residence. This program would allow police and public officers an enhanced ability to efficiently and effectively enforce the law. The City would collect service call fees from the owner or occupant, or both, of real property to which police and public officers are repeatedly called to response to nuisance violations that interfere with quality of life issues and unduly divert law enforcement resources from general crime prevention and detection activities. A notice would be delivered to the property and its owner, and it would identify the type and specific location of the nuisance, as well summarize the evidence of the nuisance occurring on the property. This notice would serve as a warning, and any future calls would subject the property owner and occupant to a service call fee in the amount of \$250 or more, up to \$2,000 based on the actual cost of the law enforcement response.

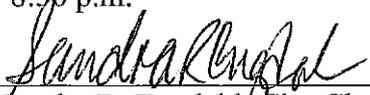
The majority of Council supported this concept and directed staff to prepare an ordinance for a future meeting.

Point of Sale Inspections

The Council discussed whether the City should implement point of sale inspections whether the inspections would be completed by City inspectors or independent licensed evaluators. Some of the Councilmembers supported this type of program, but due to the state of economy, decided that presently, this wouldn't be the best time to implement this type of program. Therefore, the Council suggested that staff review this further and assemble materials that could be reviewed by the Council in nine to 12 months.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.



Sandra R. Engdahl, City Clerk