

City of Gem Lake
City Council Meeting – March 15, 2016
Meeting Minutes

Mayor Uzpen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmembers Artig-Swomley, Bosak, Kuny and Lindner were present. Others in attendance: Justin Gese S.E.H., Nate Fair, Landmark Development, Beth and Tom Hansen, residents, City Attorney, Patrick Kelly and Susette Parenteau.

March 15, 2016, Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Artig-Swomley, seconded by Councilmember Bosak to approve the Agenda for March 15, 2016, motion passed. Agenda approved.

Minutes

Councilmember Artig-Swomley made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Lindner to approve the minutes for the February 16, 2016, City Council meeting with a change to the wording in newsletter ideas – from history on water to history of water project, motion passed. Minutes approved.

Committee Reports

None

Old Business

Newsletter ideas: Blake Huffman, County Commissioner lead story, Waste Management recycling report, trash to treasure reminder, rain garden seminar, flag pole update, water project construction starting in April, schedule on construction project, severe weather awareness, Montessori school history.

New Business

Blake Huffman, Ramsey County Commissioner, update

Commissioner Huffman updated the council on current projects taking place in Ramsey County – roads, Highway 96, Vadnais Sports Center, a newly created division within Ramsey County – Economic Development Authority, Shoreview library, Rice Creek Commons, Resource Recovery facility purchased by Ramsey/Washington Counties, Public Safety – chair of the Metropolitan Emergency Services Board and update on the Rush Line Corridor.

Resolution 2016-04- Waste Management Contract Extension for Six Months

A motion was made by Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Bosak to approve Resolution 2016-04 – Waste Management Contract extension, motion passed.

Resolution 2016-05 Replotting of 1401/1433 Goose Lake Road

Beth and Steve Herzog, 1433 Goose Lake Road purchased the property next to them at 1401 Goose Lake Road. They wish to take two acres from 1401 and add it to 1433 Goose Lake Road. Ramsey County requires a recommendation/approval from the City of Gem Lake to allow this to happen.

Councilmember Artig-Swomley made a motion to approve Resolution 2016-05, seconded by Councilmember Lindner, motion passed.

Motion to Renew Interim Use Garden Permit for Hansen, LLC

A motion was made by Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Artig-Swomley to approve the Garden Permit for County Road E, Garden Overlay District, effective 3/15/2016-3/15/2017, motion passed.

Motion on Liability Insurance to not waive the limits

A motion was made by Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Artig-Swomley to approve the motion to not waive the insurance liability limits. Motion passed.

Flag Pole Discussion

A brief discussion about installing a flag pole at City Hall took place. Council decided that the flag would have extra stitching and the pole would have a dark bronze finish. Council instructed Ms. Tessier to contact the electrician to start the process. A motion was made by Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Bosak to approve \$5,000 for the City Hall flag pole, motion passed. Noted that White Bear Township would pay 25% of the costs. Mayor Uzpen thanked Councilmember Artig-Swomley for her work in coordinating the project.

Claims for March, 2016

A motion was made by Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Bosak to approve the claims for March, 2016. Motion passed.

Monthly Financial Reports

Accepted.

Open Items for the Councilmembers to Bring up

Councilmember Artig-Swomley has created a book of her past articles from the Gem Lake News. Several citizens have requested a copy. Council directed Ms. Tessier to have 20 copies made of the booklet and offer them for sale at the City offices.

Currently the gambling fund balance is \$4,400.00. Part of the funds will be spent on any scholarship applications that the City receives in 2016, \$1,500 - \$2000.00 will be earmarked to be sent to Willow Lane School.

Discussion took place about John Birkeland's property and the possibility of it being sold to a developer in the future. It was suggested that when and if this takes place the City hire Mark Putnam to oversee the process. Two City Councilmembers would work with Mr. Putnam when and if this happens. The ordinance or ordinances governing the potential development would state that the costs of Mr. Putnam would be billed directly to the developer.

Councilmember Lindner is working on updating the ordinances. They have had one meeting so far. He will update the Council on their progress at May, 2016, workshop.

Councilmember Kuny has been receiving calls from citizens, etc. thinking that her phone number is City Hall. She asked to have the City Hall phone number on our website in bigger numbers to eliminate the confusion as to what is the number for City Hall. Ms. Tessier will change the information on the website.

Presentations from the Public

Tom Hansen, Gem Lake resident, currently has an 18 acre property for sale on County Road E that Landmark Development has submitted an application for a proposed development. Mr. Hansen thanked the council for their hard work and asked the City to be flexible in their consideration of the development. He talked about the past history of the property and the potential developments that have come and gone and his scenarios as to why that may have happened. He shared a story about his past work on the Gem Lake City Council specifically about IC Systems desire to build on his property in Gem Lake in the 1980's and his experience with recusing himself and then actually having to resign from the Council. He thanked the council for their hard work and appreciated their challenges with the process.

Nathan Fair, Landmark Development addressed the Council in regard to Landmark Development's current application process. He handed out a revised site plan to the Council. After conversations between the Council and Mr. Fair, the Council recommended that Landmark Development attend the City Council workshop on April 11, for an informal one hour discussion about a revised sketch plan and density. Councilmember Lindner and Bosak asked if Landmark could bring potential house plans and home placement to the workshop. Mr. Fair agreed.

Next Meetings

April 11, 2016, City of Gem Lake Workshop meeting, 7:00 p.m. City Hall, 4200 Otter Lake Road
Next City Council meeting, Tuesday, April 19, 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Being there no further business, following a motion by Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Bosak, Mayor Uzpen adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Gloria Tessier