

City of Gem Lake
City Council Meeting – June 16, 2020
Meeting Minutes

Acting Mayor Artig-Swomley called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Councilmembers Cacioppo, Kuny and Lindner were present. Note: meeting was held via a telephone conference call due to the COVID-19 virus and the Declaration of Emergency from President Trump and Governor Walz. Also present: City Attorney Patrick Kelly and Justin Gese, City Engineer, Ben Johnson and Don Cummings, Planning Commission, Nathan Fair, Hanson Homes and resident Rick Bosak.

June 16, 2020, Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Cacioppo to approve the agenda. Voice vote taken, all voted yes, motion passes. Agenda approved.

Minutes

A motion was made by Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Cacioppo to approve the May 19, 2020, City Council minutes. Voice vote taken, all voted yes, motion passes, minutes approved.

Committee Reports – Planning Commission

No report.

Old Business

Newsletter – Gem Lake Garden Permit, Memorial ideas for Mayor Uzpen, Businesses in Gem Lake and the pandemic, MS4, scholarship update, leadership changes/elections.

New Business

Resolution 2020-008 – Appointment of Gem Lake Mayor to Serve Remainder of 2020 term

A motion was made by Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Cacioppo to appoint Councilmember Gretchen Artig-Swomley as Mayor to finish out Mayor Uzpen’s term. Voice vote taken, all voted yes, Resolution approved.

Resolution 2020-010 – Resignation of City Councilmember Artig-Swomley

A motion was made by Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Cacioppo to accept the resignation of Councilmember Artig-Swomley and declare a vacancy of her position. A voice vote was taken, all voted yes, resignation accepted. The councilmember vacancy will be published in the June/July 2020 issue of Gem Lake News.

City Council Payroll

The council agreed that Acting Mayor Artig-Swomley would receive mayoral pay for the second quarter of 2020.

Resolution 2020-009 Designation of Polling Places for 2020

A motion was made Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Cacioppo, to approve Resolution 2020-009, Designation of Polling place for 2020 Voice vote taken, all voted yes, resolution approved.

2020/2021 Budget Discussion

In preparation of the 2020/2021 budget, in which former Mayor Uzpen was a financial guru at, Mayor Artig-Swomley has invited finance director Tom Kelly to the July, 2020, City Council meeting to start the budgeting process.

Gem Lake Villas Discussion/Status

Hansen Homes has requested that they be allowed to finish the paving of the road before all the homes are completed. The development agreement states that the last home must be completed before the final layer of asphalt is laid and the road is turned over to the City of Gem Lake. Justin Gese, City Engineer would work with the developer to finish the punch list items. Attorney Kelly requested that Nathan Fair, with Jonathan Homes/Landmark send a formal request to the City of Gem Lake summarizing what the developer wishes to do in regard to Gem Lake Villas. Mr. Fair stated that Dean Hansen has authorized the completion of the final two homes, excavation of the two basements, by late August. Don Cummings, City of Gem Lake Planning Commission member stated the project continues to move forward and requested that the planning commission perform a formal review this summer of the project. Chair Ben Johnson agreed.

Gem Lake Gardens Zoning Certificate

A motion was made by Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Cacioppo to approve the Gem Lake Gardens Zoning Certificate. Voice vote taken, all voted yes, Gem Lake Gardens zoning certificate approved.

Claims

A motion was made by Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Cacioppo to approve the claims for June, 2020. Voice vote taken, all voted yes. Motion passes, claims approved.

Presentations from the Public

Rick Bosak, Goose Lake road expansion gussets have been comprised due to the increased traffic when repairs were made on the underpass at 35E and Goose Lake Road. Goose Lake Road traffic was increased dramatically during that time period due vehicles (including semis) directed to use Goose Lake road as a detour. Was Ramsey County given state funds for repairs to the road during that time period? Project number 6281-25. City Engineer Justin Gese will contact MNDOT or Ramsey County to find out.

Open Items from the Council Members to Bring Up

Acting Mayor Artig-Swomley briefly discussed a follow up to the last council meeting, re: memorial to Mayor Uzpen, a bench in his honor. Councilmember Lindner, MS4 final report in its final stages. S.E.H. to report at a future council meeting. Planning Commission member Don Cumming agreed, a memorial in Mayor Uzpen's honor would be appreciated.

Next Meetings/Workshop

Workshop, Monday, July 13, 2020, cancelled. Next City Council meeting, Tuesday, July 21.

Adjournment

Being there no further business, following a motion from Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Cacioppo, the meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Gloria Tessier.