

City of Gem Lake
City Council Meeting – January 19, 2021
Meeting Minutes

Acting Mayor Artig-Swomley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmembers Amlee, Cacioppo, and Johnson were present. Also present: Justin Gese, City Engineer, Emily Jennings, S.E.H., City Attorney Patrick Kelly, and a number of call-ins not identified.

Swearing in of New Councilmembers and Mayor

Acting City Clerk Gloria Tessier swore in the new councilmembers Amlee, Johnson and Mayor Artig Swomley.

January 19, 2021, Agenda

Mayor Artig-Swomley stated that the agenda needs to be modified with the addition of voting on a CUP for an accessory structure and the addition of the police and fire contract documents. A motion was made by Councilmember Cacioppo, seconded by Councilmember Amlee to approve the agenda with the items added, Voice vote taken, all voted yes, motion passes. Agenda approved.

Minutes

A motion was made by Councilmember Cacioppo, seconded by Councilmember Amlee to approve the December 15, 2020, City Council minutes. Voice vote taken, all voted yes, motion passes, minutes approved.

Committee Reports – Planning Commission

Commissioner Johnson gave an overview of the Planning Commission meeting on January 5th, 2021. The commission discussed accessory structure building heights changing the height to 25 feet in the executive residential district and 20 feet in the remaining zones. Discussed a variance and CUP for an accessory structure located on XXX Goose Lake Road, commission voted to deny the variance because it didn't meet any practice difficulties. The planning commission approved the CUP. Councilmember Amlee asked if this application was to avoid an RV sitting in the driveway. Yes, stated Commissioner Johnson. Councilmember Amlee liked the idea.

Old Business

Newsletter finished and ready to go. Next issue, goals for 2021, article on Councilmember Amlee.

Public Hearing – None

New Business

Scheuneman Road – Storm Water Proposal – Emily Jennings, Justin Gese, S.E.H.

Ms. Jennings discussed drainage and culverts on Scheuneman Road, an unusual amount of snow in the spring of 2019 caused some minor flooding. Discussed proposal for Scheuneman Road in the residential district. A vote was taken, all members voted yes, council voted to accept the proposal.

MS4 Report Update- Emily Jenings, S.E.H.

Ms. Jennings discussed the MS4 report, provided an overview of the report and the new requirements that have been added. Councilmember Cacioppo made a motion to accept the report, seconded, by Councilmember Amlee. Motion passes, MS4 report accepted.

Developers Agreement Update – Gem Lake Villas – Justin Gese, S.E.H.

Agreement in a holding pattern, trees and some new reseeding needs to be take place in the spring, 2021. Treetrust, who will be planting the trees from the Water Gremlin Agreement, will coordinate with planter from the Gem Lake Villas.

Goals for 2021 – Mayor Artig-Swomley

Mayor Artig-Swomley gave an overview of the goals for 2021. Councilmember Cacioppo made a motion to accept the goals, Councilmember Johnson seconded. Motion passed. Goals accepted for 2021.

Code of Conduct/Conflict of Interest Discussion

Mayor Artig-Swomley gave an overview of the code of conduct/conflict of interest document. Councilmember Amlee made a motion to approve the code of conduct form, Councilmember Cacioppo seconded, form approved. Discussion continued about the conflict of interest document, drafted for the City of Taylor Falls, Councilmember Cacioppo made a motion to accept the document, deleting all references to Taylors Falls, changing to City of Gem Lake and deleted the last paragraph, Councilmember Johnson seconded. Conflict of interest accepted with changes. Mayor Artig-Swomley asked the council and planning commission to sign the document and email it to the City Clerk.

Meeting Protocol

Reviewed the Meeting Protocol, Roberts Rules of Order, 7:00 p.m., third Tuesday of each month, meeting location Heritage Hall, 4200 Otter Lake Road, follow the protocol guidelines set forth on July 18, 2017.

Police and Fire Contract Addendum 2021

A motion was made by Councilmember Cacioppo, seconded by Councilmember Amlee to continue fire services with the City of White Bear Lake. Police contract is not signed yearly and continues. Motion passes, Police and Fire contract addendum approved.

Discussion on Accessory Structure Ordinance Change Protocols

A motion was made by Councilmember Cacioppo, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to approve the CUP application for XXXX Goose Lake Road. Motion passes. The council discussed accessory structure building heights changing the height to 25 feet in the executive residential district and 20 feet in the remaining zones. A motion was made by Councilmember Amlee, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to approve the changes to ordinance 131, accessory structure heights. Motion passes.

Zoning Administrator Position

Council agreed to appoint Tom Riedesel, White Bear Township Planner as the zoning administrator for the City of Gem Lake.

Code Enforcement Officer Position

In 2021 the city will be hiring a code enforcement officer. Salary schedule and hours of work to be decided.

Zoning Compliance Permit Application – Cypher Side, 1591 County Road E, 1601 County Road E

1591 County Road E has applied to have a dance studio at this location. Business is acceptable within the parameters of the ordinance, will have merchandise available for sale. 1601 County Road E, possible purchase in process.

Resolution 2021-001 2021 Appointments

A motion was made by Councilmember Cacioppo, second by Councilmember Amlee to approve the 2021 appointments with the following changes: change the backup Mayor to Vice Mayor; data practices responsible authority to Kelly and Lemons; Emergency Services Director – vacant; Zoning Administrator: Tom Riedesel, White Bear Township. Motion approved.

Resolution 2021-002 – Appointments of Planning Commission Members

A motion was made by Councilmember Amlee, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to approve the appointment of Stephanie Farrell and Joshua Patrick to the Gem Lake Planning Commission. Motion approved.

Resolution 2021-003 - Annual Rate Structure for Services Provided by White Bear Township

A motion was made by Councilmember Cacioppo, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to table the item until the February, 2021, City Council meeting.

Approval of Change to 2021 Fee Schedule – Liquor License Fee

A motion was made by Councilmember Johnson, seconded by Councilmember Cacioppo to invoice liquor license fees on a quarterly basis. A vote was taken, all yes, Councilmember Amlee abstained. Motion passes.

Claims

A motion was made by Councilmember Cacioppo, seconded by Councilmember Amlee to approve the claims for January, 2021. A voice vote was taken, all voted yes. Motion passes.

Monthly Financials

Approved

Presentations from Public

Dave Woods, resident of Villas of Gem Lake, requested a review of the city sewer and water rates for the Villas of Gem Lake.

Councilmembers

February, 2021, meeting will be virtual.

Next Meetings/Workshop

City Council, Tuesday, February 16, 2021, Workshop, February 8, 2021, cancelled

Adjournment

Being there no further business, following a motion from Councilmember Cacioppo, seconded by Councilmember Amlee, the meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Gloria Tessier.