



City of Saint Paul

City Council Meeting Minutes - Final

City Hall and Court House
15 West Kellogg Boulevard
Council Chambers - 3rd
Floor
Katie Burger, Executive
Assistant, 651-266-8560

*Council President Russ Stark
Councilmember Dan Bostrom
Councilmember Amy Brendmoen
Councilmember Rebecca Noecker
Councilmember Jane L. Prince
Councilmember Dai Thao
Councilmember Chris Tolbert*

Wednesday, February 8, 2017

3:30 PM

Council Chambers - 3rd Floor

ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Council President Stark at 3:31 p.m.

Present 6 - Councilmember Dan Bostrom, Councilmember Amy Brendmoen,
Councilmember Dai Thao, City Council President Russ Stark,
Councilmember Rebecca Noecker and Councilmember Jane L. Prince
Absent 1 - Councilmember Chris Tolbert

CONSENT AGENDA

Note: Items listed under the Consent Agenda will be enacted by one motion with no separate discussion. If discussion on an item is desired, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Item 14 was withdrawn.

Councilmember Noecker moved approval of the Consent Agenda as amended.

Consent Agenda adopted as amended

Yea: 6 - Councilmember Bostrom, Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, City Council President Stark, Councilmember Noecker and Councilmember Prince

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Councilmember Tolbert

- 1 **RES 17-232** Authorizing the City of Saint Paul to initiate a Rice and Larpenteur gateway area planning study in collaboration with the City of Roseville and the City of Maplewood.

Adopted

- 2 **RES 17-211** Preliminary Order setting a date for the City Council public hearing for March 1, 2017 to consider approval for the installation of medians and dedicated turn lanes along Snelling Avenue from Ford Parkway to Randolph Avenue. (File No. 19225, Assessment No. 175208)
Adopted
- 3 **RES 17-242** Authorizing the issuance and direct placement of a Revenue Note (Recycling Cart Project), Series 2017, to finance the acquisition of recycling carts for use in the recycling program.
Adopted
- 4 **RES 17-227** Renaming the portion of Main Street between Old Sixth Street West and Tenth Street West to be Dorothy Day Place.
Adopted
- 5 **RES 17-220** Approving the Mayor's appointments of Daniel Miller and Kara Younkin Viswanathan, and reappointments of Thomas Saylor, Joyce Maddox, and Marilyn Porter to serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals.
Adopted
- 6 **RES 17-248** Approving the Mayor's appointment of Raymond Hess to serve on the Capital Improvement Budget Committee.
Adopted
- 7 **RES 17-159** Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation to expend an amount not to exceed \$15,000 for the purpose of providing refreshments, marketing materials, and other incentives for various activities, programs, and events throughout 2017.
Adopted
- 8 **RES 17-184** Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation, Como Park Zoo and Conservatory, to purchase food in 2017 to be used for educational programs, not to exceed \$8,000.
Adopted
- 9 **RES 17-185** Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation, Como Park Zoo and Conservatory Volunteer Services, to purchase items in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 for Volunteer Recognition events in 2017.
Adopted
- 10 **RES 17-225** Authorizing the Department of Parks and Recreation, Como Park Zoo and Conservatory, to accept donations of refreshments and services in an amount not to exceed \$4,000 from Lancer Hospitality and Como Friends through attending and participating in relationship building, appreciation, and recognition events in 2017.
Adopted

- 11 **RES 17-226** Authorizing the Como Park Zoo and Conservatory to accept "in-kind" donations of plant and animal related goods, whose individual value is under \$100, from various sources during the calendar year of 2017.
Adopted
- 12 **RES 17-149** Approving and allocating the 2017 funding recommendations for Capital Project Investments in the amount of \$750,000 from the annual sales tax revenue Pay-Go Economic Development Fund budgeted to the Commercial Vitality Zone Program, and a swap of \$100,000 from the HRA loan fund for 2016 and 2017 CVZ pre-development funding.
Adopted
- 13 **RES 17-205** Approving adverse action against the Liquor On Sale-2AM Closing license held by 411 Minnesota Street, LLC, d/b/a Doubletree By Hilton Saint Paul.
Adopted
- 14 **RES 17-207** Approving adverse action against the Auto Repair Garage license held by Hertz Corporation, d/b/a Hertz Rent A Car at 1420 Davern Street.
Withdrawn
- 15 **RES 17-223** Waiving the 45-day notice requirement to issue a Wine On Sale and a Malt On Sale (Strong) license to RAH'MN, LLC, d/b/a RAH'MN (License ID #20160004114) at 300 Snelling Avenue South.
Adopted
- 16 **RES 17-234** Authorizing the Office of Technology and Communications to enter into an agreement, with an indemnification clause, with CenturyLink for communication services with deviations from terms specified in Resolution 15-1201.
Adopted

FOR DISCUSSION

Councilmember Tolbert joined the meeting.

- 17 **SR 17-10** Report from Public Works on the roll-out of the new recycling program.
- Ellen Biales, Public Works, gave a staff report. She said the new program had resulted in an increase in the amount of material collected, and in new participants. She said five key challenge areas had been identified and would be addressed. She provided more details on issues related to data and to pick-up location change issues.*
- Councilmember Tolbert said he'd been a supporter of the program changes, but had been hearing a lot of frustration from constituents about a number of issues including missed pick-ups. He asked whether Eureka would be paid for households that were missed. Ms. Biales said they had made expectations clear to Eureka but did expect that with a transition of this size it would take some time to ramp up into the program.*

She said the new contract did allow for some liquidated damages if they chose to go that route, but she didn't feel they were there yet, and that action would require a certain degree of review. Councilmember Tolbert asked whether there were Eureka representatives present. He said he was frustrated and his constituents were frustrated, and he asked how Eureka planned to fix it.

Kate Davenport, Eureka Recycling, reviewed a number of challenges being faced and how they were being addressed.

Council President Stark said he appreciated hearing about progress and hearing it from constituents as well. He said much of the frustration he heard from constituents was over repeated misses and being unable to reach anyone at Eureka. He said recognizing that there were going to be some challenges, as long as these things were being worked out, he felt they'd be in good shape. He said it was good to hear that more material was being collected and the problems were being addressed.

Councilmember Noecker asked how Eureka had prepared for constituent services response and how they scaled up to meet the anticipated demand. Ms. Davenport said they had doubled customer service staff in November at the time of the cart roll-out but were not prepared for the volume of calls after the program roll-out. She said they brought in temporary help during the first week, and worked with the City on creating the message constituents heard when they first called to filter the type of calls. She said the call wait time was down to 3 minutes at the time she'd left the office prior to the meeting. She acknowledged that there were times during the first week when there was a significant wait time but they staffed up as quickly as they could and tried to create other communication pathways for residents. She said they had maintained the increased level of staffing and were working with their teams on their plan going forward.

Councilmember Thao asked whether all carts had been delivered. Ms. Davenport said there were still about 350 to be delivered, and they had a team working on it. Ms. Biales said they had extended the contract with Cascade, the company that produced, assembled and delivered the carts. She said Eureka was taking over maintenance of the carts, including delivery, and they were working on that. Councilmember Thao questioned the policy of tagging of incorrectly placed carts but leaving the materials. Ms. Davenport explained the circumstances that would lead them to leave a tag and leave materials uncollected. Councilmember Thao said taking the time and energy to leave a note, but not to remove recycling just caused animosity. He asked what would be done with carts that contained trash. Ms. Davenport said, per the contract, the cart would be tagged or, if the trash wasn't discovered until after the cart was dumped, the resident would receive a letter. Ms. Biales said if it was a chronic problem, Public Works had communication to send out to the household, and if trash remained in the cart for a long period, there was a code enforcement mechanism for addressing it. Ms. Davenport noted that leaving materials behind because of trash was the same procedure that was used when they were servicing recycling bins.

Councilmember Tolbert said he was glad Eureka had identified the problems but he now wanted to see them resolved. He said Eureka didn't plan ahead, the problems should have been identified first, and Eureka needed to figure out how to resolve this quickly. He said if Eureka didn't figure out how to resolve the problems within the 90 days specified in the contract, the City would have to look at other options and what the legal options were. He said he didn't feel Eureka was fulfilling the contract, and he hoped the bill for the first month would only include the number of units actually serviced.

In response to a question from Councilmember Prince, Ms. Biales said they did not have the capacity to take special orders at the time of the original cart delivery, but residents could begin requesting smaller or larger carts beginning April 15. She said they had made cart size accommodations on an emergency basis for people with

significant space issues.

Councilmember Bostrom said he didn't think there was anything that required a person to take a cart out every week. He asked whether January was the right time to roll the program out. Ms. Biales said they had questioned that decision themselves, but January was chosen in part because it coincided with the conclusion of the former contract with Eureka. She said other times of the year had issues as well, and while there were snow and ice-related challenges the first week, recycling was going to happen year-round and it was good to see what kind of challenges there were going to be.

Councilmember Prince said she appreciated the memo explaining that churches and businesses and so forth were no longer going to receive service from the City, and that was turning out to be a surprise for some of those organizations. She said it had been suggested to those organizations that they work with their trash haulers, but in a couple of cases organizations were told the trash hauler would just throw the recycling in the trash. Ms. Biales said haulers had a legal obligation to recycle the materials. Ms. Davenport said Eureka or the City could provide a list of haulers that provided recycling pick-up.

Councilmember Thao said he would like Eureka to come back in 30 days with a status update. Ms. Davenport said they'd be happy to.

Councilmember Noecker asked whether Eureka anticipated having the capacity to handle churches and small non-profits at some point. Ms. Davenport said they did anticipate being able to accommodate them, but suggested that folks call their garbage hauler first. She said that wasn't their primary area, in terms of being a commercial contractor, but they were happy to look at it if it was requested. She said they had been tracking organizations who had contacted them.

Councilmember Thao asked whether containers had been delivered to public housing. Ms. Biales said all of the public housing locations had been addressed. She said some of the data they had received for address data was from Ramsey County, and public housing addresses weren't necessarily in that data. She said that was a missed set of data that needed to be added, but they had all received their carts. Councilmember Thao said he didn't want them to be last on the list because they were public housing. Ms. Biales and Ms. Davenport said public housing was prioritized first.

Council President Stark said his sense was that if everything was going smoothly, the 30-day status report could be a written one.

In response to a question from Councilmember Bostrom, Ms. Davenport said they had a fleet of about 20 trucks. In response to a question from Councilmember Thao, she said that was in the same range as other similarly sized cities.

Received and filed

ORDINANCES

An ordinance is a city law enacted by the City Council. It is read at four separate council meetings and becomes effective after passage by the Council and 30 days after publication in the Saint Paul Legal Ledger. Public hearings on ordinances are held at the third reading.

Second Reading

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| 18 | Ord 17-3 | Amending Chapter 61 of the Legislative Code pertaining to Zoning Fees. |
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Laid over to February 15 for third reading/public hearing

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Brendmoen moved adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.

Yea: 7 - Councilmember Bostrom, Councilmember Brendmoen, Councilmember Thao, Councilmember Tolbert, City Council President Stark, Councilmember Noecker and Councilmember Prince

Nay: 0

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