

CITY OF ST. FRANCIS
ST. FRANCIS, MN

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

April 21, 2008

6:00 pm

Mayor Dressen said before he called the meeting to order, he would like to apologize for the council's actions at the last city council meeting. The City Council adopted by resolution a Pledge and a Code of Conduct for the City Council to follow. I believed we failed at a number of the pledges, all of us. We will bring order back to the meetings. In the future, the council will get one warning if there is any disturbance or misconduct by a council member and the second occurrence you will be asked to be removed from the council meeting.

1. **Call to Order:** The regular City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Randy Dressen at 6:03 pm at the ISD #15 District Offices.
2. **Roll Call:** Present were Mayor Randy Dressen, Council members LeRoy Schaffer, Steve Kane, Ray Jones, and Tim Brown. Also present was Assistant City Engineer Jared Voge (Bolton & Menk, Inc.), City Attorney Scott Lepak (Barna, Guzy & Steffen), Public Works Director Paul Teicher, Finance Director Gayle Bauman, City Administrator Matt Hylen and City Clerk Barb Held
3. **Adopt Agenda:** MOTION BY BROWN SECOND KANE TO ADOPT THE APRIL 21, 2008 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.
4. **Consent Agenda:** MOTION BY KANE SECOND JONES TO APPROVE THE APRIL 21, 2008, CITY COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA A-H:
 - a. Approve the City Council Minutes – April 7, 2008.
 - b. Accept the Performance Review of Police Officer Nick Steiger and move him to Step 4 on Grade 21.
 - c. Approve the vacancy of the Accounting Clerk/Office Support Staff.
 - d. Approve the Controlled Substance & Alcohol Testing Policy for Commercial Drivers.
 - e. Approve the Controlled Substance & Alcohol Testing Policy for Non-Commercial Drivers.
 - f. Approve the St. Francis Lions 3.2 Malt Beverage Permit for Pioneer Days at Community Park for June 14th – 15th.
 - g. Approve the St. Francis Jaycees Temporary Liquor License for Pioneer Days June 13-15.
 - h. Approve the Payment of Claims for \$323,141.14. Motion carried 5-0.
5. **Petitions, Requests, Applications:**
 - a. **Anoka County Historical Society Presentation:** Former Mayor Ray Steinke and as a current representative of Historical Society thanked the City of St. Francis who helped the Historical Society and Anoka County celebrate the Sesquicentennial in many ways. A video was played

covering events that took place through out the County in 2007 in honor of Anoka County's Sesquicentennial. Steinke thanked the City Council for their time.

b. **Dance Permits:** MOTION BY KANE SECOND SCHAFFER TO APPROVE THE DANCE PERMITS FOR THE ST. FRANCIS JAYCEES JUNE 13TH-14TH; THE PATRIOT LANES JUNE 13TH AND 14TH; AND THE PONDS GOLF COURSE, JUNE 14TH, JUNE 29TH, AND AUGUST 23RD. Motion carried 5-0.

6. **Ordinances & Resolution:**

a. **Ordinance 119, Second Series: Amending Sec. 7.25, Entitled "Recreational Motor Vehicles" (First Reading):** MOTION BY KANE SECOND BROWN TO APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 119, SECOND SERIES AMENDING SEC. 7.25 ENTITLED "RECREATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLES". Schaffer said we just got rid of the snowmobiles out of town. Jones asked if these golf carts would need to be licensed. Lepak said the residents in the restricted area would need to get a permit from the City and provide proof of insurance. Motion carried 4-1. Schaffer voting nay.

b. **Ordinance 120, Second Series: Interim Moratorium on Development for Future Service Area within the City of St. Francis:** This ordinance could be considered an emergency ordinance and can be adopted on the first reading. MOTION BY KANE SECOND BROWN TO APPROVE THE READING OF ORDINANCE 120, SECOND SERIES, INTERIM MORATORIUM ON DEVELOPMENT FOR FUTURE SERVICE AREA WITH THE CITY OF ST. FRANCIS. Motion carried 5-0.

7. **Meeting Open to the Public:** Malcolm Beck, 8717 Hill-n-Dale Drive, actually has a number of things he would like to address. The first one, Mayor you have addressed that at the beginning of the meeting and thanked the Mayor for that. The second item was you have a meeting open to the public, it should be a time when the public addresses the council and not a public debate. In regarding the article in the Anoka County Union last week about contracting with Anoka County for police protection, I am currently on the Anoka County Police Joint Law Enforcement Council. There are some concerns on what is being said about our department and if you have any questions, I would be happy and try to answer them. Regarding going out to businesses, we are working on an EDA.

Schaffer thanked Beck for his information. I am like just a mailman and forwarding information.

Rich Skordahl, 24450 Zion Street, chair of the Planning Commission; as you are all aware, at our April planning commission meeting there were three council members present, we adjourned to error on the side of caution. We, the planning commission, would like some standard of conduct and some direction to follow. At that time, we didn't know the proper prodigal regarding open meeting law violations. Since then, I have received two letters from Council member Schaffer. Skordahl stated I think you think your presence was the reason we adjourned the meeting, it was nothing personal, it wasn't. You were not the last council member to be in attendance. I don't understand

where you think the Secretary of State needs to get involved. We received a letter from City Attorney that explained the open meeting law.

Dressen thanked Rich for his concern and agreed we are lacking on some type of orientation to the commissions on what to do in cases like this.

Schaffer said you got the letter for a clarification. I used the Attorney General because it is cheap.

John Hane, 2665-235th Avenue, too late for the sign up sheet. Hane said he is not sure if you have read recent articles on the city of Maplewood or not. The League of MN Cities is looking at increasing their rates significantly do to the problems they have been having. Hane stated it is not necessary to contact the Attorney General when we have our own legal council. I do not appreciate being flooded with these letters from you (Schaffer). This is not a good representation of our City. Hane asked Schaffer our these being paid on your be-half. Schaffer said what letter do you have there. Hane said it is the Attorney General's opinion on the open meeting law. The Attorney General is an unbiased party , I am not sure the intention of our legal, might be bias. Schaffer said he wants a second opinion and no City money has been spent on the letters. Hane said this not playing well together does not look good for the City. Hane thanked the City Council.

8. Reports of Consultants & Staff Members:

Engineer: No report.

Attorney: No report.

Staff: Fire Dept: No report.

Water-Wastewater: No report.

Streets/Parks: No report.

Liquor Store: None.

Police Dept: No report.

City Administrator Report: Authorization to fill the Accounting Clerk/Office Support Staff Position: Currently we have a vacancy and staff has discussed trying two part time employees in lieu of one full-time employee. We would average under 40 hours total between the two individuals. The two part time positions would be an accounting clerk and also a office support staff. As part time staff, the city council has the authority to set the salary. **MOTION BY KANE SECOND BROWN TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO ADVERTISE FOR TWO PART TIME OFFICE STAFF.** Jones said could it be less than 40 hours. Schaffer asked how many. Hylen said we will stay within budget, only do hours that are needed to do the job. Motion carried 5-0.

EDA: The Charter Commission will meet next week to discuss this further. Will bring back more information when available.

9. **Reports from Council Members:** Schaffer contacted two businesses.

Kane said first of all, I make my apologies referencing Mayor Dressen's opening comments. This past week I attended a Loss Control Seminar presented by the League of MN Cities. Kane attended one of the sessions, which was held on Open Meeting Laws. Kane explained what he learned from the session.

Jones would like to make a comment that he heard from a resident regarding the gravel we have in our ditches. Hulen said I erred by not introducing our new Public Works Director Paul Teicher. Teicher commented we have been working on that concern. We are trying to look at different pieces of equipment that will keep man-hours down and do the job.

Schaffer said I have heard from a constituent regarding Tamarack Street and how it was ripped up after tree trimming.

10. **Report from Mayor:** None.

11. **Old Business:** Mr. Beck brought this up earlier about the police contracting with Anoka County. Dressen stated let's take a vote on whether or not we should get a proposal from Anoka County for police protection. **MOTION BY JONES SECOND SCHAFFER AUTHORIZING STAFF TO GET A PROPOSAL FROM ANOKA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FOR POLICE PROTECTION.** Jones asked what are we going out for. Dressen said the same or close to what we currently have. Schaffer said get two proposals one for 24 hours and what we currently have. Motion failed 2-3. Brown, Kane and Dressen voting nay.

12. **New Business:** None.

13. **Adjournment:** The Regular City Council meeting adjourned at 6:53 pm.