



City Council

Regular Meeting

~ Minutes ~

1408 Lake Street South
Forest Lake, MN 55025
www.ci.forest-lake.mn.us

Karin Derauf, Deputy City Clerk

Monday, August 14, 2023

7:00 PM

City Center - Council Chamber

[City of Forest Lake - Livestream and Recorded Meetings](#)

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Mara Bain	Mayor	Present	
Sam Husnik	Councilmember	Present	
Hanna Valento	Councilmember	Present	
Leif Erickson	Councilmember	Present	
Blake Roberts	Councilmember	Present	

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Approve the Agenda (Action)

Comments:

Motion to: Approve the Agenda

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Hanna Valento, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Sam Husnik, Councilmember
AYES:	Bain, Husnik, Valento, Erickson, Roberts
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	

5. Open Forum – Citizen Petitions, Requests, and Concerns

The Open Forum is available for residents to express personal opinions for any item of business.

Please limit your comments to three (3) minutes.

Comments: David Narow, Resident, commented on lift station 3C and would like to see the easement to the property. Karen Morehead, Resident, also commented on the lift station and easements to the property.

6. Consent Agenda Considerations (Action Items)

Comments:

- a) Approve City Bills
- b) Approve Minutes from July 25, 2023 Special Council Meeting



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- c) 2023 Forest Lake Airport Apron Expansion Project – Contractor Request for Payment No.1
- d) 2022-2023 Lift Station and Force Main Improvements – Contractor Request for Payment No. 8
- e) 2023 Crack Filling and Seal Coat Project – Contractor Request for Payment No. 2
- f) 2023 Street Pavement Maintenance Project – Contractor Request for Payment No. 1
- g) North Shore Circle Utility and Street Improvements – Contractor Request for Payment No. 8
- h) 31 2nd Ave NE - Signage Changes in Front of Business Property
- i) Burden of Youth – Outdoor Entertainment Permit for 08-24-23
- j) FLAAA – Community Night Event - Outdoor Entertainment Permit for 08-22-23
- k) American Legion – 1 to 4-Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License for 08-22-23
- l) Arts in the Park Entertainment Performance Agreements
- m) 20413 Everton Trl N – Easement Encroachment Agreement

Motion to: Approve Consent Agenda Items 6. a. through 6. m.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Sam Husnik, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Hanna Valento, Councilmember
AYES:	Bain, Husnik, Valento, Erickson, Roberts
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	

7. Regular Agenda (Action Items)

a. Resolution 08-14-23-01 - Ingersoll Ponds - Preliminary Plat and Final Plat for PID 23.032.21.22.0002

Comments: Community Development Director, Abbi Wittman, provided information on a preliminary and final plat for Ingersoll Ponds PID 23.032.21.22.0002. She noted there are no public improvements proposed, and asking for a fee in lieu of parkland dedication. She commented that Staff would like to see a trail through the development. She noted there was a neighborhood meeting that was held and the residents are in favor of the plat.

Motion to: Approve Resolution 08-14-23-01 - Ingersoll Ponds - Preliminary Plat and Final Plat for PID 23.032.21.22.0002 with the Twelve (12) Conditions as Presented



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RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Sam Husnik, Councilmember
SECONDER: Blake Roberts, Councilmember
AYES: Bain, Husnik, Valento, Erickson, Roberts
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

8. Discussion

a) 2nd Quarter Budget Report

Comments: Finance Director, Kevin Knopik, presented information to the Council regarding the 2nd quarter financial update. He noted that providing quarterly reports identifies trends and planning opportunities for the following year. He commented on the general fund revenue and expenditures, and enterprise funds revenue and expenditures including surface water management, water, and sewer funds.

b) Hiring of Code Enforcement Officer (*Presented for Discussion*)

Comments: City Administrator, Patrick Casey, presented information on the hiring of a Code Enforcement Officer. Councilmember Husnik commented that he thinks the City needs to have dedicated Code Enforcement for the City. City Administrator Casey noted that Staff could post the position and have someone in place by October, 2023. Councilmember Roberts commented that he would like to see the full picture of “asks” for the 2024 budget. City Administrator Casey noted that the Council would get the full picture at the next workshop meeting on Monday, August 21, 2023. Mayor Bain commented that there will be many asks and indicated that she would like to delay the conversation about hiring a Code Enforcement Officer until she sees all the positions being asked for in relation to the general budget.

c) Cannabis Law and Proposed Ordinances

Comments: City Attorney, Amanda Johnson, provided information on the new cannabis legislation summary and related proposed ordinances. She gave the background of hemp-derived cannabinoids and also commented that the City’s response was to pass a moratorium on cannabinoids which is scheduled to expire in December 2023.

City Attorney Johnson commented on the new 2023 cannabis law and the Office of Cannabis Management, noting that licensing is set to begin January 2025. She also commented on the related tax, reduced criminal penalties, change to a schedule II-controlled substance and a grant program that was created. She provided a diagram of the regulatory structure and commented on the different types of businesses that could potentially be licensed. She discussed current local control and the city role in regulation.



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City Attorney Johnson presented proposed ordinance information including an interim ordinance to place a moratorium on cannabis sales, etc., until January 2025. She noted that the ordinance would not affect the businesses who were selling hemp-derived edibles before the current moratorium was put in place. She also presented a cannabis use ordinance in relation to prohibition of use in public places.

Councilmember Husnik asked about private businesses or properties and if they can have their own policies on cannabis use. City Attorney Johnson commented that the proposed ordinance can reflect use spaces and can be limited to public property, however, it can also include private businesses where the public is allowed to go, for example, a restaurant parking lot. She commented on the broad scope of the City of Stillwater's ordinance.

City Attorney Johnson mentioned that City's can have a municipal cannabis store. She indicated the reasons to have a municipal store including compliance practices. She also mentioned time, place, and manner of restrictions.

Councilmember Husnik commented that he would like to move forward with the presented cannabis use ordinance. Councilmember Roberts commented on property rights, and asked Chief Peterson on what he would like to see for restrictions. Chief Peterson commented on when the law went into effect on August 1, 2023. Mayor Bain commented that she is in favor of limiting use in public spaces. Councilmember Roberts indicated he was in favor of limiting use in public spaces. Councilmember Valento commented she is in favor of the interim ordinance. The consensus with Council is in favor of the interim ordinance and in favor of restricting cannabis use in public spaces. The consensus was also to research a municipal cannabis store. There was general discussion regarding zoning and conditional use permits and conditions of licensing.

9. Staff Updates

Comments: Community Development Director Wittman commented on the planning zoning push to get things done before the construction season. She also commented on the training for the EDA and thanked the members for participating. Finally, she commented on the corn feed and the needed volunteers for the event. City Engineer Goodman commented on the lift station project that was commented on earlier in the Open Forum. He noted that there is a drainage and utility easement on the property. He cited the process they follow to ensure the property owners get the notifications. He also provided historical information on the lift stations. He also commented about the Open House at the City Center on Monday, August 21, 2023, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. regarding CSAH 32. Chief Peterson commented on the success of recent community events that have been attended by Police and Fire Staff.

10. Mayor and City Council Updates

Comments: Councilmember Roberts commented that he would like to see more outreach and communication for projects and notifying the residents. He also commented that he has been



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working with Staff and the County for lighting the Broadway Street bridge. Councilmember Husnik commented that he attended the Airport Fly-In and it was a good way to showcase the airport. Councilmember Erickson commented that he also attended the Fly-In. Mayor Bain commented on the EDA Workshop earlier in the evening, and also that she attended the Joint Fire Board Meeting.

11. Adjourn

Motion to: Adjourn

Comments:

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Leif Erickson, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Hanna Valento, Councilmember
AYES:	Bain, Husnik, Valento, Erickson, Roberts
ABSENT:	