



City Council

Regular Meeting

~ Minutes ~

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

Monday, January 8, 2024

7:00 PM

City Center - Council Chamber

[City of Forest Lake – Link to 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)

Motion: Councilmember Valento made a Motion to Approve the Agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Councilmember Roberts. Motion carried 5-0.

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: None.

6. Consent Agenda Considerations (Action Items)

- a. Approve City Bills
- b. Approve Minutes
 - 1) Approve Minutes from December 11, 2023 Regular Council Meeting
 - 2) Approve Minutes from December 11, 2023 Special Council Meeting
- c. Resolutions
 - 1) Resolution 01-08-24-01 – 2024 Designation of Official Newspaper
 - 2) Resolution 01-08-24-02 – 2024 Designation of Depositories for Funds
 - 3) Resolution 01-08-24-03 – Designation of Emergency Management Director
 - 4) Resolution 01-08-24-04 Granting Access to Forest Lake First Lake for the 2024 NSSR, Inc. Event
 - 5) Resolution 01-08-24-05 – Granting Access to Forest Lake First Lake for the 2024 Forest Lake Fishing Classic Event
- d. Business Permits
 - 1) Gambling Permits
 - A. Forest Lake Hockey Association – LG 214 and LG 215 Gambling Permits
 - B. Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation – LG 220 Gambling Exempt Permit



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- C. White Bear Ducks Unlimited – LG 220 Gambling Exempt Permit
- 2) Liquor License – Temporary
 - A. American Legion – 1 to 4-Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License for 02-03-2024
- 3) Liquor License Renewals
 - A. American Legion 225 dba American Legion Post
 - B. Apple Minnesota LLC dba Applebee’s Neighborhood Grill & Bar
 - C. Carse Inc. dba Keys in Forest Lake
 - D. Comes Investment Inc. dba Pizza Hut
 - E. DB Liquor LLC dba Liquor Works
 - F. Don Julio Inc dba Don Julio Authentic Mexican Restaurant
 - G. Forest Hills Golf Club Inc dba Forest Hills Golf Club
 - H. Forest Lake 2000 LLC dba Cub Foods
 - I. Forever Green Liquors LLC dba Westlake Warehouse Liquors
 - J. Foursome Golf Management Group LLC dba Castlewood Golf Course
 - K. Horizon Enterprise LLC dba Circle E Wine & Spirits
 - L. Karmon Incorporated dba Karls Korner
 - M. Muddy Cow Forest Lake dba Lone Oak Grill
 - N. Pizza Pub of Forest Lake LLC dba Pizza Pub
 - O. Rasa Ruela LLC dba Rancho Loco Mexican Bar & Grill
 - P. Tanners Brook LLP dba Tanners Brook Golf Club
- 4) Tobacco License Renewals
 - A. Forest Lake 2000 LLC dba Cub Foods
 - B. Forest Lake E-Cig dba Fog E-Cig
 - C. Forest Lake Tobacco Inc – 221 12th St. SW
 - D. Forever Green Liquors LLC dba Westlake Warehouse Liquors
 - E. Holiday Stationstores LLC #236
 - F. Horizon Enterprises LLC dba Circle E Wine & Spirits
 - G. Karmon Incorporated dba Karls Korner
 - H. SBD Collective LLC dba Nothing but Hemp
 - I. Tanners Brook LLP dba Tanners Brook Golf Club

Motion: Mayor Bain made a Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda Items 6.a. Motion seconded by Councilmember Husnik. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion: Mayor Bain made a Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda Items 6.b. Motion seconded by Councilmember Valento. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion: Mayor Bain made a Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda Items 6.c. Motion seconded by Councilmember Erickson. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion: Mayor Bain made a Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda Items 6.d. Motion seconded by Councilmember Husnik. Motion carried 5-0.

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7. Regular Agenda (Action Items)

a) Ordinance No. 733 – Nuisance Ordinances

City Attorney Amanda Johnson provided an overview of the changes made to the new ordinance for public nuisances, abatement, and administrative citations. Johnson noted the code enforcement officer may be implemented in 2025. The administrative citations were established by the fee schedule approved at the previous City Council meeting.

Councilmember Husnik stated this is a complaint-based system.

Mayor Bain clarified that outdoor boat storage was allowed in the ordinance.

City Attorney Amanda Johnson agreed that the system is a complaint-based system that the City will triage to find the worst offenders and resolve situations.

Councilmember Roberts shared concerns with the portion about stacking wood.

City Attorney Amanda Johnson shared other cities do not specifically refer to firewood. Johnson shared this could be helpful when a resident breaks multiple ordinances.

Councilmember Roberts noted since this is a complaint-based system, it will not turn into a neighbor attacking a neighbor about small issues.

Motion: Councilmember Husnik made a Motion to Adopt Ordinance No. 773 that repeals and replaces the City's existing public nuisance, administrative citation, and abatement ordinances. Motion seconded by Councilmember Roberts. Motion carried 5-0.

b) Encroachment Agreement Relating to Outlot D, Forest Hills Farms 1st Addition, in the City of Forest Lake, Washington County, Minnesota

City Attorney Amanda Johnson reviewed the encroachment agreement for Outlot D. The encroachment agreement covers a small portion of Outlot D for Forest Hills Farms to use.

Mayor Bain stated this topic has been well-vetted.

Motion: Mayor Bain made a Motion to Approve Encroachment Agreement Relating to Outlot D, Forest Hills Farms 1st Addition, in the City of Forest Lake, Washington County, Minnesota. Motion seconded by Councilmember Erickson. Motion carried 4-0-1 (Roberts abstained).

c) Earned Sick and Safe Time Policy

City Administrator Patrick Casey reviewed the new sick and safe time policy based on the new law passed during the 2023 legislative session by the State of Minnesota. Casey noted the changes to the sick time policy for all employees. There may be changes in the future when working with unions.

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Councilmember Erickson asked if the sick time hours are paid out at the end of the year.

City Administrator Casey confirmed the sick time hours are not paid out.

Motion: Councilmember Husnik made a Motion to Approve the earned sick and safe time policy as presented in line with the State statute.

Motion seconded by Councilmember Valento. Motion carried 5-0.

d) Acting Mayor Appointment (presented during meeting) – Mayor Bain

Mayor Bain asked Councilmember Husnik to serve as the Acting Mayor.

Motion: Mayor Bain made a Motion to Appoint Councilmember Husnik as the Acting Mayor.

Motion seconded by Councilmember Valento. Motion carried 4-0 (Husnik abstained).

e) Council Liaison Appointments (presented during meeting) – Mayor Bain

Mayor Bain shared the Council Liaison Appointments list. There were no changes to this list from 2023. There is a staff review in process and Mayor Bain suggested putting a pause on the Personnel Committee so City Council may review these decisions.

Motion: Councilmember Valento made a Motion to Approve the Council Liaison Appointments as presented by Mayor Bain.

Motion seconded by Councilmember Husnik. Motion carried 5-0.

8. Discussion

None.

9. Staff Updates

City Attorney Amanda Johnson provided an update on the Lakeview Farms and Forest Hills Farm. The deeds have been signed and the association president is coming in tomorrow to sign the agreement.

Finance Director Kevin Knopik shared the utility bills were electronically sent last week. The paper bills will be sent out this week.

10. Mayor and City Council Updates

Councilmember Husnik attended the EDA meeting tonight and the school board meeting last week. The school board collected approximately \$34,000 in donations.

Councilmember Erickson asked about a fence damaged over the weekend due to a car accident.

City Administrator Patrick Casey shared there were some repairs to the fence today and it should be fully repaired by the end of the week.



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Councilmember Erickson asked for the status of the shoreline study paid for in the City bills.

Community Development Director Abbi Wittman stated they have recommendations from the consultant, but they have not been presented to the City Council because it recommends acquisition of private land. City Administrator Casey and Community Development Director Wittman have reached out to the private landowners first.

Mayor Bain shared there was discussion of City property to sell in the EDA meeting tonight.

11. Closed Session

Motion: Mayor Bain made a Motion to Move into Closed Session Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §13D.05 Subdivision (b) for a confidential attorney-client discussion regarding threatened litigation re contract dispute with Taylor West contract for the Downtown Stormwater BMP's 0N1.126684. Motion seconded by Councilmember Erickson. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion: Mayor Bain made a Motion to Move into Closed Session Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §13D.05 Subdivision (b) for the annual performance evaluation of City Administrator Patrick Casey Motion seconded by Councilmember Erickson. Motion carried 5-0.

Closed Session ended.

Council reconvened the regular meeting to Adjourn.