



COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS THE CITY OF NEW BRIGHTON

Pursuant to notice thereof, a hybrid meeting of the New Brighton City Council was held Tuesday, November 22, 2022 at 6:30 pm in the New Brighton Council Chambers.

Present: Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas, Councilmembers Abdulle, Allen (attending remotely), Axberg and Dunsworth

Absent:

Also Present: Devin Massopust-City Manager, Sarah Sonsalla-City Attorney, Anthony Paetznick-Public Safety Director, Matt Farmer-Sergeant, Terri Spangrud-City Clerk

Call to Order

Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment Forum

Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas opened the Public Forum for comments from the public. There were no comments from the public.

Approval of Agenda

Approval of the November 22, 2022 Council Agenda.

Motion by Councilmember Abdulle, seconded by Councilmember Axberg to approve the agenda as submitted.

A roll call vote was taken.

5 Ayes, 0 Nays-Motion Carried

Special Order of Business

1. Recognition of Representative Connie Bernardy for her service to New Brighton.

Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas read a proclamation in full for the record that recognized Representative Connie Bernardy for her dedicated service to the City of New Brighton.

Representative Connie Bernardy thanked the Council, staff members and volunteers for all they do on behalf of the community. She stated it has been an honor to serve this community and she appreciated the partnership she had with the City of New Brighton.

Councilmember Abdulle thanked Representative Bernardy for fighting for the communities interests and for advocating for multi-modal transportation options for the residents of New Brighton.

Councilmember Dunsworth offered a heartfelt thanks to Representative Bernardy for all she has done for the City of New Brighton.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment Forum

Approval of Agenda

Approval of the
November 22, 2022
Agenda.

Special Order of Business

1. Recognition of
Representative Connie
Bernardy for her service to
New Brighton.

Councilmember Allen thanked Representative Bernardy for being a champion for the City.

Councilmember Axberg thanked Representative Bernardy for always being accessible and for advocating on behalf of the community.

Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas explained she appreciated how earnestly Representative Bernardy cared for the community. She then presented representative Bernardy with a street sign that said Bernardy Way.

2. Recognition of the Service of Election Judges.

Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas read a proclamation in full for the record recognizing the 156 election judges for their dedicated service to the community.

City Clerk Spangrud thanked all of the election judges that applied and were trained to serve for this year's election.

Councilmember Axberg thanked all of the election judges for their service to the community and thanked staff for all of their hard work on the recent election.

City Manager Massopust commended City Clerk Spangrud for administering another safe and efficient election in the City of New Brighton. A round of applause was offered by all in attendance.

Consent Agenda

1. Consider Approval of Payments.
2. Approve City Council Minutes:
 - a. October 25, 2022 City Council Meeting Minutes.
3. Accept Receipt of Commission Minutes:
 - a. September 12, 2022 Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes.
4. Consider Approval of Agreement for Ramsey County Law Enforcement Mutual Aid.
5. Consider Resolution to Apply for 2023 Score Grant Funds and Establishment of the 2023 Recycling Service Charge.
6. Consider Approval of Agreement with City of St. Paul for Ramsey County Traffic Safety Initiative (RCTSI).
7. Consideration of Resolution Certifying Delinquent Utility Accounts and Past Due Miscellaneous Receivables Invoices to be Payable with 2023 Property Taxes.
8. Consideration of Amendment 1 to the Professional Services Agreement with Kodet Architectural Group for and Addition and Remodel to the Maintenance Facility.
9. Consider Property Easements/Exchange/Payments as required for City Project 21-9, Old Highway 8 Improvement Project.
10. Consider Senior Deferral of 2022 Special Assessment for 2021 Street Rehabilitation Project.
11. Consider Resolution Ordering the preparation of a Feasibility Study for Project 23-1, 2023 Street Rehabilitation and consider professional services agreement with American Engineering Testing, Inc. for geotechnical services.

2. Recognition of Service of Election Judges.

Consent Agenda

1. Consider Approval of Payments.
2. Approve City Council Minutes:
 - a. October 25, 2022 City Council.
3. Accept Receipt of Commission Minutes:
 - a. September 12, 2022 Public Safety Commission.
4. Approve Agreement for Ramsey County Law Enforcement Mutual Aid.
5. Consider Resolution to Apply for 2023 Score Grant Funds and Establishment of the 2023 Recycling Service Charge.
6. Consider Approval of Agr. with St. Paul for Ramsey County Traffic Safety Initiative (RCTSI).
7. Consider Resolution Certifying Delinquent Utility Accounts and Past Due Misc. Receivables Invoices to be Payable with 2023 Property Taxes.
8. Consider Amendment 1 to the Prof. Services Agr. with Kodet Architectural Group for and Addition and Remodel to the Maintenance Facility.
9. Consider Property Easements/Exchange/

12. Consider Approval of Addendum to Lease Agreement with Rise for space at NBCC.
13. Consider Purchase of F-250 with Snow Plow.
14. Resolution to Consider Support for New Brighton's Submittal of the Old Highway 8 Active Transportation Grant.
15. Consider approval of tobacco license for E&M Corporation (Clocktower Liquor).
16. Consider approval of agreement with WSB Inc. for Design and Engineering Services for Totem Pole Park.
17. Authorize Staff to sign a Letter of Intent with Krause Anderson for Construction Services Using the Sourcewell Contract.
18. Consider Approval of Final Payment to Romtec Inc. for the Sunny Square Picnic Shelter Building.
19. Consider Resolution Approving Membership Agreement and Bylaws of Better Health Collective through Sourcewell.

10. Consider Senior Deferral of 2022 Special Assessment for 2021 Street Rehabilitation Project.

11. Consider Res. Ordering the preparation of a Feasibility Study for Project 23-1 and consider professional services agr. with American Engineering Testing, Inc. for geotechnical services.

12. Consider Approval of Addendum to Lease Agreement with Rise for space at NBCC.

13. Consider Purchase of F-250 with Snow Plow.

14. Resolution to Consider Support for NB's Submittal of the Old Highway 8 Active Transportation Grant.

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16. Consider approval of agr. with WSB Inc. for Design and Engineering Services for Totem Pole Park.

17. Authorize Staff to sign a LOI with Krause Anderson for Construction Services Using the Sourcewell Contract.

18. Consider Approval of Final Payment to Romtec Inc. for the Sunny Square Picnic Shelter Building.

19. Consider Resolution Approving Membership Agr. and Bylaws of Better Health Collective through Sourcewell.

Public Hearing

1. Provide an Opportunity for Public Comment Regarding UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) for Public Safety.

Motion by Councilmember Dunsworth, seconded by Councilmember Abdulle to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

A roll call vote was taken.

5 Ayes, 0 Nays - Motion Carried

Public Hearing

1. Provide an Opportunity for Public Comment Regarding UAV (unmanned aerial vehicle) for Public Safety.

City Manager Massopust indicated Public Safety Director Paetznick would be presenting this item to the Council.

Public Safety Director Paetznick stated for over a year, the Public Safety Commission has been reviewing a proposed police drone and is forwarding the topic to the City Council for the statutory required public comment opportunity. This public hearing is twofold: first, for Council to hear before making a UAV purchase (recommendation anticipated at the December 13, 2022 meeting); and second, for the Chief Law Enforcement Officer (CLEO) to hear for purposes of policy and procedure. He commented further on the public comment survey results, on how a UAV would benefit the Public Safety Department and asked for questions or comments.

Motion by Councilmember Dunsworth, seconded by Councilmember Axberg to open the Public Hearing.

A roll call vote was taken.

5 Ayes, 0 Nays - Motion Carried

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:05 p.m.

Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas asked for additional comments, there were none.

Motion by Councilmember Abdulle, seconded by Councilmember Dunsworth to close the Public Hearing.

A roll call vote was taken.

5 Ayes, 0 Nays - Motion Carried

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:06 p.m.

Councilmember Abdulle requested further information from staff on what were authorized uses for a drone. Public Safety Director Paetznick described the uses that were authorized per State Statute and do not require a warrant.

Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas questioned what feedback staff received from the Public Safety Commission. Sergeant Farmer explained the Public Safety Commission questioned how the drone would be used and offered many positive comments about the proposed drone program.

Councilmember Allen recalled the Public Safety Commission questioned how long the data would be stored and wanted to be assured drones were not looking into houses, unless there was an active investigation.

Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas asked if Ramsey County had a drone program. Public Safety Director Paetznick reported Ramsey County and the City of Roseville have drone programs. He explained Maplewood, North St. Paul and St. Paul were in the process of starting their own drone programs. He understood that the organizations with drones were using them frequently and were assisting with reducing the number of use of force incidents. Sergeant Farmer commented on how the policing environment has changed over the past several years and noted there was a push to put time and space between officers and suspects to reduce the use of force incidents. He explained drones have been a great tool for departments to utilize to keep residents safe, while also respecting the sanctity of life for all residents in New Brighton.

Public Safety Director Paetznick indicated the proposed drone would be utilized by both the Public Safety Department and the Fire Department because this would be a valuable tool for both departments.

Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas questioned how the drone would be used through a mutual aid agreement. Public Safety Director Paetznick described how the drone would be used per the current mutual aid agreement within one of the nine permitted categories.

Councilmember Abdulle suggested the Public Safety Department consider how to communicate or engage with the public when the drone was deployed and what information can be shared with the public. Public Safety Director Paetznick stated department staff was considering how to engage the public on when the drone was deployed and to be sure the public knows when the drone can and cannot be deployed.

Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas commented she appreciated all of the work the Public Safety Department had done on the drone program and she fully supported the program moving forward.

Council Business

1. Consider Ordinance 894: Catalytic Converter Possession.

City Manager Massopust indicated Public Safety Director Paetznick would be presenting this item to the Council.

Public Safety Director Paetznick stated in a further effort to address catalytic converter thefts in the community, Public Safety is recommending that New Brighton join other metro cities in enacting a possession ordinance for local law enforcement authority. Both the City Attorney and municipal prosecution law firms have reviewed the proposed language. He commented further on the proposed Ordinance and recommended approval.

Council Business

1. Consider Ordinance 894: Catalytic Converter Possession.

Councilmember Dunsworth asked if the City had any scrapyards in town that was buying catalytic convertors. Public Safety Director Paetznick stated he was not aware of any scrap buyers in town.

Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas questioned how often New Brighton officers would benefit by having this Ordinance in place. Public Safety Director Paetznick reported his officers were looking forward to having this Ordinance in place as another tool to deter catalytic convertor crimes.

Councilmember Allen stated there needed to be more regulation at the State level. He reported this crime was a big financial burden for residents that have been victimized.

Councilmember Abdulle indicated he supported this Ordinance and believed it would be a valuable tool for the Public Safety Department.

Councilmember Abdulle asked what type of education the Public Safety Department would be doing to inform the public this crime was illegal. Public Safety Director Paetznick discussed how the department would be introducing the new Ordinance to the public in order to spread the word.

Motion by Councilmember Dunsworth, seconded by Councilmember Allen to adopt Ordinance 894 regarding Catalytic Convertor Possession .

A roll call vote was taken.

5 Ayes, 0 Nays-Motion Carried

Commission Liaison Reports, Announcements and Updates

**Commission Liaison
Reports,
Announcements and
Updates**

Devin Massopust

City Manager Massopust reported City offices would be closed on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25 for the Thanksgiving holiday. He noted the Council would be holding a Council worksession on Tuesday, December 6 in the Council Chambers with the Truth In Taxation Hearing scheduled for 6:30 p.m. He commented further on the committee that was being formed for the Climate Action Plan Planning Team.

Graeme Allen

Councilmember Allen reported the Public Safety Commission met on Monday, November 14 and the group discussed the Allina EMT services that were provided to the community.

Emily Dunsworth

Councilmember Dunsworth reported PREC discussed the Community Survey at their meeting on Wednesday, November 2. She encouraged residents to visit Meadowood Park as the gnomes were out. She noted the most recent edition of the Park and Recreation brochure had been mailed out and registration was open. She stated the Sunny Square Park construction was nearing completion. She indicated a pleasure rink would be installed next year.

Pam Axberg

Councilmember Axberg reported the EDC met offsite on Wednesday, November 2 at the Old Highway 8 Business Center. He thanked staff member Ben Gozola for arranging this tour. In light of Thanksgiving being this week, she offered a special thanks to City staff for the great work they do on behalf of the community.

Abdullahi Abdulle

Councilmember Abdulle reported the Planning Commission met on Tuesday, November 15 where the group discussed Ordinance 893. He explained on November 11 he attended a Veteran's Day event that was hosted by the Ramsey County League of Local Government. He noted he served in the Army National Guard for six years.

Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas

Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas reported CPY would be holding their Winter Gala on Friday, December 2 at the New Brighton Community Center from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. She stated she was happy to report the ice castles would be back in New Brighton again this winter. She commented the next indoor farmers market would be held on Monday, December 14 at the New Brighton Community Center.

Adjournment

Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.


Kari Niedfeldt-Thomas, Mayor

ATTEST:


Terri Spangrud, City Clerk