

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the City Council for the City of St. Joseph met in regular session on Monday, June 7, 2021, at 6:00 PM in the St. Joseph Government Center.

Members Present: Mayor Rick Schultz. Councilors Bob Loso, Brian Theisen, Kevin Kluesner, Kelly Beniek

City Representatives Present: Administrator Therese Haffner, City Clerk Kayla Klein, Finance Director Lori Bartlett, Community Development Director Nate Keller, Public Works Superintendent Ryan Wensmann, Police Chief Dwight Pfannenstein, City Engineer Randy Sabart, City Attorney Susan Dege

Approve Agenda: Theisen made a motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Kluesner and passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda: Schultz made a motion to approve consent agenda; seconded by Kluesner and passed unanimously.

- a. Minutes – **Requested Action:** Approve the minutes of May 17, 2021.
- b. Bills Payable – **Requested Action:** Approve check numbers 057751-057815, Accounts Payables EFT #1987-1989, Payroll EFT 112077-112090, Regular Pay Period 10, 11, 11.01 and Council Pay Period 6.
- c. Bad Habit Brewing Lease Extension – **Requested Action:** Extend the current lease for the former fire hall until July 31, 2021.
- d. Liquor License Renewals – **Requested Action:** Approve the 2021-2022 On/Of Sale Intoxicating, Wine/Strong Beer, Special Sunday, Brewer Taproom, Brewer Off-Sale, and Sunday Growler Off-Sale licenses.
- e. State Bonding Request – **Requested Action:** Approve Resolution 2021-031 Requesting State Bonding Funds.
- f. CVB Strategic Plan – **Requested Action:** Approve the CVB strategic plan.
- g. Transfers – **Requested Action:** Approve the transfers as presented.

Public Hearing – MS4 Annual Report: The National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II Program is a federally mandated program established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to implement and maintain stormwater management activities through a permitting mechanism. The permit requires the City to incorporate six minimum control measures into a storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP). The City is required to submit to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) an annual report of those activities implemented as outlined in the City's SWPPP. The City is also required to have public comment to gain input on the MS4 report.

Schultz opened the public hearing. As no one present wished to speak, Schultz closed the public hearing.

Public Assessment Hearing, 2021 Street & Utility Improvements: The special assessment hearing gives property owners an opportunity to object to the assessments on their properties as well as speak during the hearing. Property owners received notification of the proposed final assessment and an estimated amortization schedule. If the assessment roll is adopted, property owners will have 30 days to prepay all or any part of their assessment interest free.

Bill Zidon, SEH explained the process for how the assessments were calculated, the City's assessment policy, and how property owners are able to pay for their assessment.

Schultz open the public hearing.

Objections were submitted by the following property owners prior to the close of the public hearing: Nicole Storkamp 210 Jasmine LN; Lee & Jacqueline Hoyhtya 306 Jasmine LN; Mary Brutger 608 Jasmine LN; Rochelle LaRue 614 Jasmine LN; River Bats Stadium, LLC 84.53300.0288; petition of 23 other property owners.

Jamie Thelen, St. Joseph Vista, 345 20th Ave SE: Thelen does not object the assessments. As part of the development agreement, receipts will be submitted to the city for the installation of their driveway prior to the assessments being certified.

Steven May, 211 MN ST W: May is concerned about the closure of the alley and how the city would continue to plow the alley.

Tara Burke, 110 Ash St W: Burke asked if the alley to the west of their house be closed from Ash St W to the mid-point of the block.

Loso explained there is a vacation process that would need to take place. The residents can pick up the application at City Hall and a public hearing would be required. If the vacation goes through, the property owners then take possession of that alley. An easement will still be preserved for the public utilities.

Nicole Folkerts, 210 Jasmine LN: Folkerts submitted a petition objecting to the assessment with twenty-three signatures from affected property owners. Folkerts stated that people are hurting right now post-pandemic. Folkerts asked what would happen if the city were to not overlay the streets in Northland.

Sabart responded that if the maintenance work were to be delayed, the street will deteriorate quicker and eventually a full reconstruct will be needed and the assessments will be higher at that time.

Jacqueline Hoyhtya, 306 Jasmine LN: Hoyhtya found the presentation and discussion very helpful. She would like to have had more advanced notice of the improvements and of the assessment hearing.

Craig Kern, 214 Jasmine LN: Kern called attention to the speeds on Jasmine LN and how people are driving fast and using it as a through street. Kern also noted that if streets are getting done then the city should be doing more to maintain the streets.

Elaine Niehaus, 219 MN St W: Niehaus asked who she could contact to pave her driveway. Niehaus was not opposed to the project and assessment.

Loso moved to adopt Resolution 2021-030 Adopting Final Assessment for the 2021 Street & Utility Improvement Project; seconded by Kluesner and passed unanimously.

Street Closure Request, St. Joseph Lions: Schultz spoke on behalf of the St. Joseph Lions, requesting the city waive all fees associated with holding the 4th of July parade. The total estimated cost without volunteers is \$6,150.00. The total estimated cost with volunteers is \$3,150.00.

Discussions were had on where the money would come from as it is not budgeted for. It was ultimately decided to move forward with the parade contingent upon finding enough volunteers to cover the event.

Theisen moved to approve the special event permit, county road closure application, and the waiving of fees contingent upon staff finding enough volunteers to cover the event; seconded by Kluesner.

**Aye: Kluesner, Theisen, Beniek
Nay: Loso
Abstain: Schultz**

Motion Carried: 3:1:1

Parklet Discussion: The parklet was approved by the city council as a pilot program. There have been mixed reviews and staff solicited input from the neighboring business owners. Aesthetically, the parklet is not what the city envisioned, but it is being utilized.

Schultz moved to accept the parklet as a donation in order for the parklet to be covered by the City's liability insurance; seconded by Kluesner.

Aye: Kluesner, Theisen, Schultz, Beniek

Motion Carried: 4:1

Nay: Loso

Mayor Reports: Schultz will be meeting with District 742 as well as CSB for any community ed programs as well as a pickle ball schedule to see if there can be a mutual partnership.

Closed Session: **Schultz moved to enter into closed session pursuant to MN Statute 13D.05, Subd. 3C(3), to consider a sale offer for an interest in real estate owned by Riverbats Stadium LLC, PID #84.53300.0288; seconded by Theisen and passed unanimously.**

Adjourn: **Theisen made a motion to adjourn at 8:15 PM; seconded by Beniek and passed unanimously.**


Kayla Klein
City Clerk