

- MINUTES -
CHASKA CITY COUNCIL
DECEMBER 6, 2010

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Acting Mayor Schulz at 7:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Roll call was taken. Present: Councilmembers Boe, Ford, Businaro, and Acting Mayor Schulz.
Absent: Mayor Windschitl, due to illness.

Also Present: Luke Melchert, City Attorney; Bart Fischer, Assistant City Administrator; Noel Graczyk, Administrative Services Director; and Matt Podhradsky, City Administrator.

4. Adopt the Agenda

Motion by Councilmember Businaro, second by Councilmember Ford to adopt the agenda as presented, with Councilmember Businaro asking that Item 7g be moved to Item 10b for discussion.

Motion carried. 4-0.

5. Visitor

No one appeared under visitor presentation.

6. Minutes

Motion by Councilmember Businaro, second by Councilmember Boe to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2010 City Council meeting, with correction to the Bills, deleting Mayor Windschitl from the vote, as he had been absent from the meeting.

Motion carried.

7. Consent Agenda

Motion by Councilmember Boe, second by Councilmember Ford to approve the Consent Agenda Items a through h:

- a. Adopt Resolution No. 10-92 Approving Business License Permit Fees
Motion to adopt Resolution No. 10-92 approving the business license permit fees for the period of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011.
- b. Approve On-Sale Intoxicating and Sunday Special Sale Liquor Licenses for La Quebrada Restaurante Mexicano & Cantina LLC
Motion to approve On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License No. OSI.10-09 and Sunday Special Sale Liquor License No. SSS.10-11 for La Quebrada Restaurante Mexicano & Cantina LLC through June 30, 2011.
- c. Adopt Resolution No. 10-95 Awarding Bid for Boiler Replacement to Mn Valley HVAC Inc.
Motion to approve Resolution No.10-95 Awarding the bid for the City Hall Boiler Replacement to MN Valley HVAC Inc. in the low bid amount of \$65,650.00.
- d. Adopt Resolution No. 10-96 Awarding Bid for Boiler Management System and Controls to Faircon Service Company

Motion to approve Resolution No.10-96 Awarding the bid for the City Hall HVAC Energy Management System and Controls to Faircon Service Company in the low bid amount of \$87,750.00

- e. Adopt Resolution No. 10-94 Approving Solicitor Permits for Custom Remodelers Inc. Motion to adopt Resolution No. 10-94 approving Solicitor Permit Nos. SOL.11-01 through SOL.11-09 in the above names for Custom Remodelers Inc. located at 474 Apollo Drive, Lino Lakes, Mn. 55014 for the period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011.
- f. Adopt Resolution No. 10-98 Supporting the Extension of the UP Regional Trail from Athletic Park in Chaska to the City of Carver
Motion to approve Resolution No.10-98 supporting Carver County's efforts for the extension of the UP Regional Trail from Athletic Park in Chaska to the City of Carver.
- g. Approve PPL and Vacation Accrual Schedules for Union and Non-Union Employees
Motion to approve the PPL and Vacation Accrual Schedules for both union and non-union employees. (Item 7g move to Item 10b)
- h. Adopt Resolution No. 10-93, Approving Lot Split for Southwest Christian High School
Motion to adopt Resolution #10-93, approving the Lot Split for Southwest Christian High School, subject to the stipulations included in said resolution.

Motion carried.

8. Public Hearing: Truth in Taxation

The City Administrator presented the item to the Council on the 2011 General Fund Budget Truth in Taxation Hearing.

Acting Mayor Schulz asked how Chaska compares to other Carver County cites as far as the 2010 tax rate.

The City Administrator stated that Chaska has the lowest tax rate in the County.

Acting Mayor Schulz opened the Public Hearing at 7:40 pm.

Karen McCauley of 325 West 82nd Street appeared before the Council to state that her taxes went up 34%. She comments that the City should get rid of more building inspectors and not give employees a 1.5% raise. She also commented that the new audio video equipment cannot even zoom in during meetings. The Council discussed the issues with her.

Bruce Peterson of 125 West 82nd Street appeared before the Council to state that he had an issue with the value of his home and property as well. He also comments on noise issues from Michael Foods, which is located near his house.

Harry Niemala, owner of the apartment building at 414-422 Walnut Street appeared before the Council to express his concern over the value of his property. He stated his taxes have gone up and he is having a hard time renting his apartments.

Acting Mayor Schulz closed the Public Hearing at 8:19 pm.

Councilmember Businaro inquired as to an employee pay freeze or 1.5% raise.

The City Administrator explained that 1.5% for the next two years is the average raise of the surrounding cities.

Councilmember Businaro also suggested the Council might consider taking a pay cut. He further requested Staff prepare a report showing all the cash needs of the City for 2011 versus 2010 with a breakdown of personnel costs, contractual services etc.

Councilmember Boe stated he has taken a 2% cut at his own job and we may have to look at something similar for the City when contract negotiations open up again.

Motion by Councilmember Boe, second by Councilmember Ford to close the Truth in Taxation hearing, and to establish December 20, 2010 as a date to consider adoption of the 2011 budget and tax levy.

Motion carried.

9. Adopt Resolution No. 10-97 Supporting the City of Chaska's Application for MN TED Pilot Program Dollars for the TH 212 and County Road 140 Interchange

The City Administrator presented the item to the Council.

Councilmember Ford asked if there is a downside to the project.

The City Administrator explained that the City still needs to come up with the 30% cost that the grant does not cover.

Councilmember Businaro asked what the overall comprehensive vision is for the area.

The City Administrator said it includes the biotech center and Heights of Chaska. He added that residential growth may continue to be slow for awhile but there is corporate/industrial interest showing growth.

Motion by Councilmember Businaro, second by Councilmember Boe to approve Resolution No. 10-97 supporting the City of Chaska's application for MN TED Pilot Program dollars for the TH 212 and County Road 140 Interchange.

Motion carried.

10. Adopt Ordinance No. 843 Amending City of Chaska Code of Ordinances Chapter 15, Article VI, Section 91, Regarding Custody and Disposal of Unclaimed and Abandoned Property

The City Administrator introduced the item and the Assistant Administrator presented the item to the Council.

Motion by Councilmember Businaro, second by Councilmember Ford to adopt Ordinance No. 843 amending City of Chaska Code of Ordinance Chapter 15, Article VI, Section 91, regarding custody and disposal of Unclaimed and abandoned property.

Motion carried.

10b. Approve PPL and Vacation Accrual Schedules for Union and Non-Union Employees
(Item 7g move to Item 10b)

The City Administrator presented the item to the Council.

Councilmember Ford inquired as to the trend of Paid Personal Leave (PPL) versus Vacation/Sick time.

The City Administrator explained that PPL has been the current trend over the past decade.

Councilmember Businaro asked if PPL and Vacation Time were something that should be dealt with during contract negotiations.

The City Administrator stated that over half of the City employees are non-union. Annually a compensation – pay survey is completed to keep the City current and a PPL – Vacation survey should also be completed. The objective of the City is to remain average, yet competitive.

Motion by Councilmember Ford, second by Councilmember Boe to approve the PPL and Vacation accrual schedules for both union and non-union employees.

Motion passed. 3-0. Councilmember Businaro voting nay because he feels it should be a contract issue.

11. Bills

Motion by Councilmember Businaro, second by Councilmember Boe to approve the bills as presented. Roll call was taken. Voting aye: Councilmembers Boe, Ford, Businaro, and Acting Mayor Schulz. Voting nay: None. Mayor Windschitl absent.

Motion carried.

12. Other Business

Councilmember Boe:

- Mentioned that the Hometown Holiday event on Saturday was well attended.
- Mentioned he was happy to know that La Quebrada Restaurante would be opening soon. The City Administrator stated that two other businesses will be opening soon downtown; a health and wellness club and a women's boutique, as well as Quizno's is re-opening in the Chaska Commons.
- Asked about the status of the noise issues with Michael Foods and the City Administrator said a noise analysis has been done and will be used to make recommendations and possible solutions.
- Inquired about how many cities do a small business license fee increase each year versus one large increase every few years and was told most cities do a small increase each year.

Councilmember Ford:

- Reminded the Council of the Downtown Task Force meeting on Wednesday at the Community Center, as well as the joint meeting of the Council and Commission.

Councilmember Businaro:

- Asked in what way the Downtown Task Force has incorporated the input of the institutions into the process and was told by the City Administrator that the Task Force has had sit down meetings with most of the major institutions or the institution itself is actually a part of the Task Force.
- He and all the Council thanked Human Rights Chairperson Fairchild and Donna Lunda, as well as the downtown businesses, Chaska High School Choir, Fred Berg, Nancy Kracke, and the MSB personnel, and color contest contestants for their participation in the Hometown Holiday event.
- Commented on the first home game of the CHS Hockey Team at the Community Center and that Councilmember Schulz got to drop the puck at the opening of the game. Councilmember Schulz added that the Christmas Tree in City Square Park was "lit" by the winner of the coloring contest.
- Asked for an update on parking in the downtown area and was told parking is being addressed in the Downtown Master Plan.
- Asked how future State Aid could affect the City Budget and the City Administrator explained that the State Police and Fire Aid is all that is left and is typically not cut.

Acting Mayor Schulz:

- Brought up concerns over snow removal in the downtown area and was told that the Public Works Department has a snow removal policy for the downtown area.

City Administrator Podhradsky:

- Announced that the Met Council recommended full funding for the Cooper's grant today.

13. Adjourn

Motion by Acting Mayor Schulz, second by Councilmember Boe to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Motion carried.

Work Session continued.