

CITY OF ST. PAUL PARK
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
DATE: February 20, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. Present: Mayor Franke, Council Member Swenson, Zenner, Conrad, Whitbred Hemmingson. Also present: City Administrator Walsh.

Mayor Franke asked for a moment of silence for the tragic loss of Police Officers Paul Elmstrand and Matthew Ruge and Firefighter and Paramedic Adam Finseth in Burnsville on Sunday, February 18, 2024.

The pledge of allegiance was said by all.

POLICE OFFICERS SWEARING IN:

St. Paul Park Police Chief Danberg thanked the community, council, and city staff for their support while they were working to get back to a full department.

Mayor Franke administered the Oath of Office to the new members of the police department.

MINUTES:

Approval of the minutes of the February 5, 2024 Regular Council Meeting—waive reading of same.

Motion by Swenson, second by Zenner to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2024, regular council meeting—waive reading of same. Motion carried 5-0.

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC:

There were no items from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Acknowledge receipt of Commission Minutes
 - Planning Commission—February 12, 2024
- B. Approve Dates and Times for Regional “Open Book” meetings
 - April 4, 2024 – Cottage Grove City Hall, 5-7 pm
 - April 10, 2024 – Oakdale City Hall, 5-7 pm
 - April 18, 2024 – Woodbury City Hall, 5-7 pm
 - April 26, 2024 – Washington County Government Center, 2-7 pm
- C. Approve garbage collector license for Republic Services
- D. Approve Agreement with the Washington Conservation District for raingarden maintenance
- E. Approve Memorandum of Understanding with the South Washington Watershed District for installation of 7th Avenue underground treatment BMP
- F. Approve payment of bills for the period February 7 through February 21, 2024

Motion by Swenson, second by Zenner to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Adopt Ordinance No. 769, amending the zoning ordinance related to uses and standards in the B-1, downtown commercial zoning district

City Planner Nate Sparks presented a zoning amendment related to the B-1 district. He explained that the Planning Commission has been going through the city's zoning ordinances and comparing them to the Comprehensive Plan for consistency. The Comp Plan identified some new goals for the downtown area such as preserving it, and making it more economically vibrant. To reach these goals, they looked at allowed uses, performance standards, building standards, and streetscape. As part of this, they refined the list of uses, lowered the lot widths and established minimum lot size, established minimum building standards, and set minimum and maximum setbacks. The streetscape discussion will be held at a later date.

Motion by Conrad, second by Swenson to adopt Ordinance No. 769, amending the zoning ordinance related to uses and standards in the B-1 downtown commercial zoning district. Motion carried 5-0.

Council Member Swenson thanked the Planning Commission for their work on this.

REPORTS:

- A. Council Member Swenson

- Public Works Commission
 - ⇒ Next meeting is March 12 at 5:00 pm at City Hall.
 - ⇒ Two members are still needed.

- B. Council Member Zenner

- Public Safety Commission
 - ⇒ Next meeting is March 7 at 7:00 pm at City Hall.
 - ⇒ It was nice to see the swearing in of officers and to be close to a full police department again.

- C. Council Member Conrad

- Planning Commission
 - ⇒ The next meeting is March 11 at 7:00 pm at City Hall.
 - ⇒ Discussion at the last meeting had focused on the B-1 district the Council discussed earlier.

- D. Council Member Whitbred-Hemmingson

- Parks & Recreation Commission
 - ⇒ The Commission will be scheduling their Garden Event and because the winter events were cancelled, they are hoping to add to this with some games or other things.
 - ⇒ The next meeting is April 11 at 6:00 pm.

E. Council Member Conrad

- Heritage Days
 - ⇒ Heritage Days will be held the third weekend in August.
 - ⇒ The next meeting is on the 26th at 5:30 pm at City Hall, and he invited anyone interested to come join the meeting.

F. Mayor Franke

- Administration
 - ⇒ He joined interviews for one more police officer.
 - ⇒ He has met with the state delegation and will continue to work to increase the quality of living in the city.

COUNCIL COMMENTS AND REQUESTS:

Council Member Swenson clarified that the Public Works Commission meeting is March 12 at 5 pm. The date was changed due to the Presidential Nomination Primary on March 5. He encouraged everyone to vote.

Council Member Zenner gave a reminder that the registration deadline for boys baseball and girls softball is March 5 to avoid the late fee.

Meeting adjourned 7:03 p.m.

Amy Truhlar
City Clerk

l/councilminutes/year