

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF FRIDLEY  
MARCH 26, 2018**

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The City Council meeting for the City of Fridley was called to order by Mayor Lund at 7:04 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Lund  
Councilmember Barnette  
Councilmember Saefke  
Councilmember Varichak  
Councilmember Bolkcom

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Wally Wysopal, City Manager  
Scott Hickok, Community Development Manager  
James Kosluchar, Public Works Director  
Shelly Peterson, Finance Director  
Rachel Workin, Environmental Planner  
Jay Karlovich, City Attorney

**APPROVAL OF PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA:**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

1. City Council Meeting of March 12, 2018.

**APPROVED.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

2. **Second Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the City Code of the City of Fridley, Minnesota, by Making a Change in Zoning Districts (Rezoning Request, AOZ #18-01, by Industrial Equities River Road, LLC to Rezone 5601 East River Road from C-3, General Shopping, to M-2, Heavy Industrial, to Allow the Construction of Two Industrial Buildings) (Ward 3)**

**WAIVED THE READING OF THE ORDINANCE AND ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 1353 ON SECOND READING AND ORDERED PUBLICATION.**

3. **Second Reading of an Ordinance Amending Fridley city Code Section 205.33 0-8 Transit Oriented Development Overlay District to Remove the Property Located at 5601 East River Road from the District Boundary (Text Amendment, TA #18-01, by Industrial Equities River Road, LLC, to Remove the Parcel from the Northstar Transit Oriented Development Overlay Zoning District and Change the development Plans for**

**the Property from the Master Plan that was Previously Approved, Generally located in the Northeast Corner of the Intersection of East River Road and I-694) (Ward 3)**

**WAIVED THE READING OF THE ORDINANCE AND ADOPTED ORDINANCE NO. 1354 ON SECOND READING AND ORDERED PUBLICATION.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 4. Resolution Requesting Municipal State Aid System Construction Funds for Other Local Use.**

**ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2018-09.**

- 5. Resolution Receiving Report and Calling for Hearing on Improvement for the 2018 Street Rehabilitation Project No. 2018-01.**

**ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2018-10.**

- 6. Receive Bids and Award Contract for 2018 Highway 65 Watermain Project No. ST2018-515.**

**RECEIVED BIDS AND AWARDED CONTRACT FOR 2018 HIGHWAY 65 WATERMAIN PROJECT NO. ST2018-515 TO G.F. JEDLICKI, INC.**

- 7. Approve Award for 2018 Cooperative Street Maintenance Contract, Project No. ST 2018-10.**

**APPROVED.**

- 8. Approve 2018 Urban Stormwater Remediation Cost-Share Program between the City of Fridley and the Rice Creek Watershed District.**

**THIS ITEM WAS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA AND PLACED ON THE REGULAR AGENDA.**

- 9. Approve 2018 Reappointments to Fridley Commissions.**

**APPROVED.**

- 10. Claims (ACH PCard 1802; 180119-180261).**

**APPROVED.**

**ADOPTION OF PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Councilmember Bolkcom** asked that Item 8 be removed from the proposed consent agenda and placed on the regular agenda.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Barnette to adopt the proposed consent agenda with the removal of Item 8. Seconded by Councilmember Varichak.

**UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**OPEN FORUM, VISITORS:**

No one from the audience spoke.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

**MOTION** by Councilmember Bolkcom to adopt the agenda with the addition of Item 8. Seconded by Councilmember Saefke.

**UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**11. Resolution Supporting MnDNR Grant Application for Springbrook Pavilion (Ward 3).**

**Deborah Dahl**, Director of Director of Community Services & Employee Resources, stated that through the collaborative efforts of the City of Fridley and the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation, the S.P.R.I.N.G. Project master plan has been completed with the exception of a new picnic pavilion. City staff has identified an opportunity to potentially fund up to \$150,000 of a new pavilion through the Minnesota DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant Program. This funding, alongside a commitment from the Foundation to commit funds in hand and to continue fundraising for the project, presents a unique opportunity for Fridley to fund a significant percentage of a new picnic pavilion to serve Fridley residents at Springbrook Nature Center.

**Ms. Dahl** said with input and support from the Springbrook Nature Center staff, the Fridley Parks & Recreation Commission and the Foundation, a concept design of a pre-engineered picnic shelter with an enclosed activity center has been selected. This design will feature covered, open-air seating, small restrooms, drinking water, and an enclosed activity center to house additional classes, programs and events. Benefits to Fridley residents would include improved amenities at the Nature Center, a wonderful rental option for events and expanded program opportunities. The estimated project budget is \$170,000 for materials, \$180,000 for construction and \$20,000 for landscaping, trails and furnishings for a total of \$370,000. The DNR grant opportunity is for up to \$150,000. Additional funds will come from the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation and, with approval, reallocation of available funds within the Parks Capital Improvement Plan.

**Ms. Dahl** stated with the support of the Fridley Parks & Recreation Commission and the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation, staff recommends that the Fridley City Council approve a resolution of support for the application of a grant request to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' Outdoor Recreation Grant Program in the amount of \$150,000.

**Mike Maher**, Director Springbrook Nature Center, stated Springbrook has gone through some amazing transformations over the last few years. The final component of the master plan is the picnic pavilion. This new picnic pavilion is needed because the existing structure has a lot of rot in the roof and is in a deteriorated condition. The current structure also is not large enough to serve the park visitors. Cedar Forest Products has a pre-engineered structure that will save on design costs. This modular design may include restrooms, enclosed activity room, covered seating, concessions, power and storage. The expected budget is \$370,000. The Activity Center could include arts and crafts, sink, cabinets, tables and chairs, drying racks, art supplies and a whiteboard. A new pavilion with activity center will provide a beautiful space for community gatherings and celebrations; offer expanded learning and gathering spaces for schools, scout groups and volunteer groups; enrich the experience of park and nature play area visitors; house summer camp activities; provide a staging location for outdoor weddings; allow for expanded summer programming; enhance our Pumpkin Night in the Park event; reduce impact for interpretive center gathering space; and provide up to \$10,000 per year in additional revenue.

**Mr. Maher** said the next steps are to finalize options and the floor plan, have rendering and specifications produced (\$5,000 down payment has been made by SNCF), seek estimates for construction, explore grants and in-kind contributions and use rendering for promotional and fundraising materials. Options for the pavilion include siding to match the interpretive center, seat walls, bird friendly glass windows, restrooms and a 3 vs. 4 season facility. After raising \$7 million for the City of Fridley's Springbrook Nature Center, the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation has found additional fundraising to be challenging. Consideration of a partnership, where the project is funded by a combination of City of Fridley Parks Capital Improvement Funds and privately raised dollars, would be appreciated.

**Councilmember Barnette** asked if the restrooms would be locked to prevent vandalism.

**Mr. Maher** replied the restrooms would probably be open during business hours but when the pavilion is rented for evening something would need to be figured out to make the restrooms available.

**Councilmember Bolkcom** asked what the operating costs would if the pavilion was open on weekends.

**Mr. Maher** replied at this point, the design would be a three-season facility not including heat. Additional costs would be for custodial staff to maintain the facility and prepare for rental. He does not anticipate a large increase in operational costs. The facility would be winterized for the winter months.

**Councilmember Bolkcom** asked about the grant and if they were awarded less than \$150,000 if more fundraising would need to happen to get the rest of the money.

**Ms. Dahl** replied the grant is for the entire amount of \$150,000. If they were not able to raise funds for this project, it would not go forward.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Bolkcom to move into record the 2018 Outdoor Grant Program application. Seconded by Councilmember Saefke.

**UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Mayor Lund** said any funds the Foundation continues to raise would offset the CIP funds from the City. The Moore Lake Project Funds will be used because this is a priority due to the amount of activity that goes on at the Springbrook Nature Center and the unsafe condition of the current pavilion. The other \$150,000 is coming from outside sources.

**Councilmember Bolkcom** said the Moore Lake Project needed to be revised again.

**Councilmember Varichak** asked if the 3-season pavilion would ever be made into a 4-season pavilion.

**Mr. Maher** said he has not had the opportunity to talk with engineering and design to see what the costs would be and what would need to be done with the design. There may be something simple that could be done to make it useable during the winter months.

**Malcom Mitchel**, Chair of the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation, said they were excited to move forward with this project. It is an opportunity to enhance and finish up the project at Springbrook.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Bolkcom to adopt Resolution No. 2018-11. Seconded by Councilmember Saefke.

**UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**12. Approve Amendment to the City of Fridley's Capital Investment Program for 2018.**

**Councilmember Bolkcom** asked on page 105 what the \$400,000 was spent on.

**Debra Dahl**, Director of Community Services & Employee Resources, replied it is for this project but was originally estimated at \$300,000. It will not be closer to \$400,000.

**Councilmember Bolkcom** asked if any funds would be spent on resurfacing.

**Ms. Dahl** replied the parking lot resurfacing will be moved from the Moore Lake project to the SPRING Project; along with the playground equipment. The CIP dedicates funds to do capital improvements and previous year's funds were dedicated to the Moore Lake Project. This grant allows us to use those funds for the SPRING project.

**Councilmember Bolkcom** asked why the Moore Lake Project was not going forward at this time.

**Ms. Dahl** replied the Moore Lake project has been underway for a while. A meeting was held a few weeks ago and it was decided that things needed to be revised or reviewed. There will be an environmental impact that would trigger permits and make the Moore Lake Project more expensive all together. There also currently is not a consensus for the design of the park. Staff will step back and do further analysis for a master plan for all of the park systems.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Bolkcom to approve the amendment to the City's Capital Investment Program for 2018. Seconded by Councilmember Saefke.

**UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **13. Resolution Designating Fridley as "Pollinator Friendly."**

**Rachel Workin**, Environmental Planner, stated there are 3,500 species of bees in the United States and 400 species in Minnesota; 20 native bumble bees (some social and some solitary). Sixty to seventy percent of native bees nest underground and thirty to forty percent nest in cavities. There are different needs for different bees. The importance of pollinators is ecological and economic. There has been a pollinator decline due to habitat loss, poor nutrition, pesticide use and parasites. Fridley is helping this decline by offering Bee Keeping Licenses, Camp Beez Kneez at Springbrook and ERR planting.

**Ms. Workin** said that planting pollinator forage targeting 1-2 patches per year, being strategic in pesticide use and increasing education through signage and public outreach helps create a pollinator-friendly city. City staff recommends the "Pollinator Friendly" resolution be adopted.

**Mayor Lund** asked if a wasp was one of the 400 species in Minnesota.

**Ms. Workin** replied that a wasp was not the same as a bee but some wasps are pollinators. Hornets are not pollinators.

**Councilmember Saefke** asked if all bees sting.

**Ms. Workin** replied no, some bee species do not even look like a bee.

**Wally Wysopal**, City Manager, asked about opportunities for residents to create native habitats for bees and receive recognition from the City.

**Ms. Workin** replied the upcoming City newsletter will have information on what residents can do to create a pollinator garden and where they can see a pollinator garden in the City.

**Councilmember Saefke** asked for some names of pollinator plants.

**Ms. Workin** said there will be information on the City website with recommended plants. There will be a garden tour and event at the Springbrook Nature Center on May 5.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Saefke to adopt Resolution No. 2018-12. Seconded by Councilmember Bolkcom.

**UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**8. Approve 2018 Urban Stormwater Remediation Cost-Share Program between the City of Fridley and the Rice Creek Watershed District**

**Councilmember Bolkcom** asked what a road diet was.

**Jim Kosluchar**, Public Works Director, replied when there is pavement from curb to curb plus parking on both sides of the street and parking is not desired among people living on the route, the street needs a lot of deicer, a lot of patching and there is an effect on water quality. A road diet allows them to accomplish narrower roadways to promote slower speeds and eliminate excess pavement. Many times, there is no reason for the City to maintain this large road space. Staff will be meeting the Comprehensive Plan goal which is to reduce pavement where it is suitable to do so and increase storm water treatment. Storm water treatment is the goal of this grant.

**Councilmember Bolkcom** asked if anything would be done to add medians.

**Mr. Kosluchar** replied no, in the feasibility analysis, while the median is provided to further reduce speeds, input from workshops showed little desire for limiting access with medians, and so the recommendation is to narrow the roadway without medians.

**Councilmember Bolkcom** reconfirmed that a road diet is less asphalt, less maintenance, less overall cost, better water quality, and it reduces speed.

**MOTION** by Councilmember Bolkcom to approve the 2018 Urban Stormwater Remediation Cost-Share Program between the City of Fridley and the Rice Creek Watershed District. Seconded by Councilmember Barnette.

**UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**14. Informational Status Reports:** There were none.

**ADJOURN:**

**MOTION** by Councilmember Barnette to adjourn. Seconded by Councilmember Varichak.

**UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:04 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Krista Peterson  
Recording Secretary

Scott J. Lund  
Mayor