

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF FRIDLEY
JUNE 25, 2018**

The City Council meeting for the City of Fridley was called to order by Mayor Lund at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Lund
Councilmember Barnette
Councilmember Saefke
Councilmember Varichak
Councilmember Bolkom

OTHERS PRESENT: Wally Wysopal, City Manager
James Kosluchar, Public Works Director
Deb Skogen, City Clerk
Annie Leibel, City Management and Elections Assistant
Jay Karlovich, City Attorney
David Ostwald, 6675 East River Road
Paul Nealy, 6610 Lucia Lane

PROCLAMATIONS:

Women of Today Founder's Day – July 1, 2018

Independent Retailer Month – July 2018

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. City Council Meeting of June 11, 2018.

APPROVED.

NEW BUSINESS:

2. Resolution Requesting No Parking Designation on 69th Avenue from Central Avenue to Stinson Boulevard.

ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2018-32.

3. Claims (ACH PCard 1806; 181182 – 181351).

APPROVED.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION by Councilmember Barnette to adopt the proposed consent agenda as presented. 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 Bolkom to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Saefke.

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

PUBLIC HEARING:

- 4. Consider an Ordinance Amending Fridley City Charter, Chapter 8, Public Improvements and Special Assessments.**

MOTION by Councilmember Bolkom to waive the reading of the public hearing notice and open the public hearing. Seconded by Councilmember Saefke.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND THE PUBLIC HEARING WAS OPENED AT 7:12 P.M.

Annie Leibel, City Management and Elections Assistant, stated the amendment clarifies language and makes sure it is consistent with State Statute. The Charter has the permission to do this through Minn. Stat. § 410.12, Subd. 7. In Section 8.01 the Comprehensive Plan amendments must be made in accordance with State law. Staff clarified the language so it would be consistent with State law.

Ms. Leibel stated staff made Sections 8.02 and 8.03 easier to read. There were no substantial changes. In Section 8.04, the language clarifies the two ways local improvements can be brought to Council and requires that notice and hearing of local improvements and assessments be made in accordance with the State Constitution. Previously, the Charter just said proper notice and hearing. In Section 8.05, staff added some grammar changes, and updated old terminology. They also clarified how property owners can bring special assessments for local improvements to Council, and that it requires a four-fifths vote from Council for approval. The two ways it can be

brought to Council are through a Council-ordered feasibility report or by a majority of the property owners who border the local improvement petition.

Mayor Lund stated the changes seem to be pretty straightforward.

David Ostwald, 6675 East River Road, stated he is the current Chair of the Charter Commission. As stated in the presentation, they tried to clarify and bring the language up to date and current in today's standards.

MOTION by Councilmember Barnette to close the public hearing. Seconded by Councilmember Saefke.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, AND THE PUBLIC HEARING WAS CLOSED AT 7:17 P.M.

OLD BUSINESS:

5. **Second Reading of an Ordinance Repealing and Replacing Chapter 125 of the Fridley City Code Related to the Licensing of Massage Therapy Businesses and Massage Therapists (Tabled June 11, 2018);**

and

Adopt Official Title and Summary Ordinance.

Deb Skogen, City Clerk, stated this ordinance repeals current language that is outdated. The City has not licensed this type of business in over 20 years. The ordinance was presented to the City Council at a conference meeting on May 14. The first reading was held on May 29, and a second reading was held and tabled on June 11. Council had questions for staff and asked for additional changes.

Ms. Skogen stated one change was made as a result of the discussion about licensing and reciprocity in other states. Section 125.05(2)(K) was changed to add two words, "whether the applicant is currently licensed in other states or communities to perform massage therapy . . ."

Ms. Skogen stated Section 125.10(14) was changed to read, "The applicant or licensee is not the real party having an ~~in~~ interest in ~~of~~ the enterprise."

Ms. Skogen stated in discussing the effective date and the fee, Section Two of this ordinance at the very end was amended and the effective date was changed from August 1 to September 1. The following sentence was also added: "Current licensees shall pay a prorated fee for the 2018-19 license year. New licensees shall pay the full license fee when an application is made anytime during the 2018-19 license year."

Ms. Skogen stated the Fee Schedule was changed to reflect the discussion, so it shows that the fees are annual.

Ms. Skogen stated staff recommends Council make a motion removing the ordinance from the table, a motion waiving and ordering the adoption of the second reading of the ordinance, and a motion ordering adoption of the summary ordinance.

MOTION by Councilmember Saefke to remove this item from the table. Seconded by Councilmember Bolkcom.

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

MOTION by Councilmember Saefke to waive the second reading of the ordinance and adopt Ordinance No. 1356 on second reading and order publication. Seconded by Councilmember Barnette.

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

MOTION by Councilmember Saefke to adopt the Official Title and Summary Ordinance. Seconded by Councilmember Bolkcom.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

6. Approve Traffic Control Changes in the Report for Lucia Lane.

James Kosluchar, Public Works Director, stated subsequent to closure of a crossing and the repurposing of the former Knights of Columbus Hall on Lucia Lane near 68th Avenue, an increase in the neighborhood traffic has been seen affecting local streets, Lucia Lane to a greater extent than others.

Mr. Kosluchar said the Fridley Police Department, Public Safety, and Public Works staff have met with concerned residents from Lucia Lane and responded to some concerns with driver feedback, signage, and added enforcement that Fridley Public Safety has taken on. Staff has also had discussion with Lucia Lane residents and Islamic University staff about additional options that could reduce speeds in traffic. These included traffic calming measures such as speed humps and chokers, and closure of one or both lanes of Lucia Lane south of Islamic University, separating the uses and traffic in this unique area.

Mr. Kosluchar stated more recently, they have seen vehicles stacking on Mississippi Street and dangerous driving maneuvers have been observed. Limited timing of the Mississippi Street and Highway 65 signal backs up traffic on both Mississippi westbound and Lucia Lane southbound. People tend to make erratic moves while queued up. Public Works has collected some detailed

traffic data. They have seen increases of over 600 trips or 70 percent higher. Total traffic on Fridays, peak days and during peak hours, they have seen three times the normal traffic both north and south of Islamic University. Sixty-seven percent of the traffic departs Islamic University to the south via Lucia Lane to Mississippi Avenue.

Mr. Kosluchar stated they have also collected speed data. Speeds do not appear to be affected by the traffic, although the traffic may have a diminishing effect on speed in and of itself. The data does not indicate a speed issue at this point although slightly elevated speeds are noted near 68th Avenue.

Mr. Kosluchar stated traffic calming measures alone will not solve the problem they see here, and enforcement cannot be sustained, although it has been maintained in recent months. It does strain Public Safety resources. Geometric changes such as eliminating left from southbound Lucia may provide limited improvements, but they may be difficult to enforce.

Mr. Kosluchar stated the Public Safety Department, Public Works Department, and Community Development Department have discussed full or partial closure of Lucia Lane just south of Islamic University. Islamic University was receptive to this and other options that would improve safety. Under a full closure, Lucia Lane residents would lose convenience of their northbound access to Trunk Highway 65; therefore, staff is recommending a partial closure at this time to see if this will mitigate the issue satisfactorily.

Mr. Kosluchar stated there will be secondary impacts of any potential access closure, particularly on Channel Road. They expect some traffic to bleed off in Channel Road's direction; however, they do not see where there would be a problem on Mississippi that there is on Lucia Lane, just because of the distance that Channel Road is from Mississippi. It is over twice the distance and so provides adequate queuing even for a slow southbound signal on Highway 65.

Mr. Kosluchar stated the Public Safety Department and Public Works Department are recommending that the traffic control change be approved. Notice to those in the affected area will be provided prior to the closure. Islamic University staff has indicated they would provide resources for a physical solution if one or both of these aspects were found to be a permanent solution and constructed.

Mr. Kosluchar stated the area map in the Council's packet shows a bumpout on the north which is installed on Lucia Lane off the northeast corner of Lucia Lane Apartments, and it prohibits southbound traffic on that sharp corner. Modular speed humps are also proposed in two locations south of this point to basically calm traffic. This is really to keep speeds in check with regard to northbound traffic.

Mr. Kosluchar stated the graphic on location he is presenting shows the restriction in a little more detail. Lucia Lane Apartments are to the south. The Islamic University to the north. They can see the parking lot on the large open space. They would have signage that would basically prohibit entrance in the eastbound direction which leads you to southbound Lucia Lane. They would install a restrictor with delineators and signage on a trial basis. Also, modular speed

humps would be installed. If this improvement or the modular speed humps are determined to be effective as predicted, then physical construction of the improvements would take place.

Mr. Kosluchar stated the budget for this is actually included in the CIP. They do have some dollars set aside for traffic issues. This would likely use just over half of those dollars for the year. Because of the unique configuration and uses that are adjacent to one another that are not complementary and due to the growth and success of Islamic University, and the fact that they are seeing the impact on the local residential streets in kind of a fairly significant way, staff is recommending City Council approve this traffic control change on Lucia Lane. If approved, they will notify area stakeholders of the proposed changes. The City has some materials on hand but will have to acquire some additional materials for the changes to be made.

Councilmember Varichak asked if the neighborhood has been advised of these changes and if there was any feedback.

Mr. Kosluchar stated they have not yet sent out formal notification. They would do so after the Council meeting if Council approves the changes. He said the changes are being implemented on a semi-permanent basis. They could remove the improvements if there were impacts or problems.

Councilmember Varichak stated she knows they had some traffic control mechanisms put in another area because of poor speed control. She asked how that has worked.

Mr. Kosluchar replied they heard very little from the neighborhood, which is Third Street. In 2016, under the City's reconstruction project, they implemented some lane reducers. He knows from the maintenance standpoint they are not as difficult to work around as they thought they would be. They also did some speed analysis and speed checking, and saw a modest reduction in speed. Staff has not heard any negative feedback. Early on they heard some positive feedback but over long-term they have had none.

Mayor Lund stated he did sense from the discussion at the previous Council meeting that people wanted some changes. The vast majority of people who live on that street would probably concur with having the bumpout and restricting traffic flow.

Councilmember Bolkom stated she thought she heard at the last meeting they were going to send something out to the residents so they were aware of this. She asked if Council approves this tonight and it gets sent out to the residents, how long they will have to respond and provide feedback.

Mr. Kosluchar replied the City Manager did ask staff to get something out but they did not have enough time to get something in the mail.

Councilmember Bolkom asked about the cost.

Mr. Kosluchar said the City actually has the materials on hand to do the delineator choker for the traffic restriction which is the big portion of it. They are looking at some modular speed humps and those would be ordered shortly after and would take a little time to get in. They can phase the project if it is going to take a long period of time. They could have the temporary choker in around the week of the next Council meeting.

Councilmember Bolkcom stated on Third Street it really helped the neighborhood that the City was out there and talking to them and helping them understand what was happening. They could do that with a presentation to this neighborhood. She said she does not feel comfortable going ahead without at least having a little bit of input. She asked if their motion was made because this was a temporary solution. The chokers would be temporary and then at some point made permanent.

Mr. Kosluchar replied, correct, that would be curbed and the pavement would be modified to accommodate that.

Councilmember Bolkcom stated this is only temporary. At some point the special use permit related to the facility that has 600 cars will be looked at. She knows they have some thoughts about moving part of their campus elsewhere, but they also need to look at the special use permit related to the area and whether they need to be a little stronger. The Community Development Department is looking at that, but she asked the City Manager that they get some kind of report back related to that and whether it makes sense to this come back before them.

Mayor Lund said there were a number of residents present at the last meeting, and they felt this was a positive step. They did tell the residents they would have more detail at this meeting. He did not think it substantially changed from what they had mentioned.

Councilmember Bolkcom stated they did not have anything visual for them to see at the last meeting. She would just like the residents to have an opportunity to at least look at it and ask questions. She does not think waiting an additional week to start this process is going to be that big of a deal. She is not saying they are going to dislike it. Anything the City is doing is an improvement over what is there now.

Mayor Lund stated it may not be a perfect fix but it is something and they can see over a period of time how effective it actually is. He said he would be comfortable approving this item.

Councilmember Bolkcom stated she did not say they should not approve it. She just wanted to make sure that maybe a part of this discussion was that the neighborhood be presented with it and allowed to give some feedback. She asked about the cost.

Mr. Kosluchar replied the delineators they have on hand. They would have to order some other materials. The cost would be about \$6,000. The City can use those elsewhere in a similar fashion if they ever needed to. Actually the delineators were for another project. It helps the City out to do these on a temporary basis.

Councilmember Bolkcom asked if the whole thing would cost around \$6,000.

Mr. Kosluchar replied, no, these are the modular humps. They will cost \$6,000. If they implement the entire thing it will be about \$15,000.

Paul Nealy, 6610 Lucia Lane, stated the resolution sounds really good. Unofficially they have received some communication from Ms. Stromberg from the City outlining these ideas. It has not been presented formally to the entire neighborhood. He serves as block captain, and they have talked to several people on the block about what has come up. If it helps, in general, everyone is pretty cool with what has been proposed so far. He did not hear anything tonight about a speed limit sign. It is obvious when there is a speed bump that you have to slow down. He does not know if there is a recommended guidance as to how fast someone can go over this hump. He suggested nothing higher than 20 would help. It is downhill. People just tend to coast and really speed up as they get down there.

Mayor Lund stated asked if the City would put some kind of an identifier by the bumps as a caution.

Mr. Kosluchar said there will be signage there.

Mr. Nealy asked what does CIP meant and if this was something that would not be assessed. He asked if it was out of the current budget.

Mr. Kosluchar replied correct. CIP is an abbreviation for the City's capital investment plan.

Mayor Lund said the City would not be assessing anything.

Mr. Nealy asked if that was for the test run or ultimately if it were to progress to a permanent fix.

Mr. Kosluchar replied that is for the temporary implementation. The final implementation is at Council's discretion.

Councilmember Bolkcom stated if they were going to assess them they would have to have a public hearing and provide notice to the neighborhood.

Mr. Kosluchar replied correct. The residents would be notified if that were the case.

Wally Wysopal, City Manager, asked when the street was scheduled for reconstruction.

Mr. Kosluchar said he believed Lucia Lane was slotted for resurfacing in either 2022 or 2023. He said it could potentially be advanced if permanent construction happens.

MOTION by Councilmember Varichak to approve the Lucia Lane traffic control changes. Seconded by Councilmember Bolkcom.

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

Councilmember Bolkcom said she thought the City should be sending something out to the residents within the next couple of days.

Mr. Kosluchar agreed. He said the City has a web helper for surveys called "Polco." If you want to go there directly, that information should probably be up within the next couple of days.

7. Informal Status Reports.

There were no informal status reports.

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 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

Denise M. Johnson
Recording Secretary

Scott Lund
Mayor