

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF FRIDLEY
JULY 23, 2018**

The City Council meeting for the City of Fridley was called to order by Mayor Lund at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Wally Wysopal, City Manager
James Kosluchar, Public Works Director
Scott Hickok, Community Development Director
Jay Karlovich, City Attorney
Courtney Miller, Crime Prevention Specialist

PROCLAMATION:

Night to Unite 2018 – Tuesday, August 7, 2018

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED CONSENT AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 1. City Council Meeting of July 9, 2018.**

APPROVED.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 2. Final Plat Request, PS #18-03, by Cornerstone Private Asset Trust Co., LLC, FBO Gary Valley, to Subdivide One Large Single-Family Lot to Create Three Single-Family Lots, Generally Located at 6663 Lucia Lane N.E.;**

and

Resolution Approving a Plat, PS #18-03, Valley Addition, by Cornerstone Private Asset Trust Company LLC, the Property Owner of the Lot Located 6663 Lucia Lane N.E. (Ward 2).

APPROVED FINAL PLAT REQUEST, PA #18-03 BY CORNERSTONE PRIVATE ASSET TRUST CO., LLC, FBO GARY VALLEY AND ADOPTED RESOLUTION NO. 2018-35.

- 3. Receive Bids and Award the Audio Visual Equipment and Services Project for the Police, Fire, City Hall and Public Works Complexes for the City of Fridley.**

RECEIVED BIDS AND AWARDED AUDIO VISUAL EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES PROJECT TO VIDEO SERVICES, INC., OF MANKATO, MINNESOTA.

- 4. Claims (181482 – 181686).**

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 Bolkcom to adopt the agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Saefke.

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

PUBLIC HEARING:

- 5. Consider the Revocation of Special Use Permit, SP #07-01, for Sam’s Auto Parts, to Allow an Auto Recycling Center (Junk Yard) in M-1, Light Industrial Zoning District, Generally Located at 1230 – 73rd Avenue N.E., 1240 - 73½ Avenue N.E., and 7340 Central Avenue N.E. (Ward 2). (Continued July 9, 2018).**

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

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND THE ITEM WAS REMOVED FROM THE TABLE AT 7:07 P.M.

Scott Hickok, Community Development Director, stated this item is to consider revocation of a special use permit for Sam's Auto Parts at the intersection of 73rd and Old Central. The good news is that they have signed on with the consulting engineering firm of Carlson McKane who has been working with the City's engineering department on finishing the liner in a proper fashion. They anticipate the liner will be installed and approved by the City's engineering staff within 30 days.

Mr. Hickok stated his recommendation to Council is to hold this public hearing open until the meeting of September 10. They will see that the pond liner is installed properly, according to engineering standards. Staff is pleased with the progress and would like to provide them with the additional time to do it right.

Mayor Lund stated it seems appropriate. He asked whether Sam's Auto Parts felt that postponing this until the September 10 Council meeting would be sufficient time for it to be completed and approved.

Mr. Hickok replied, yes. They took that timeframe from Carlson McKane engineers.

MOTION by Councilmember Varichak to continue the public hearing to the September 10, 2018, City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Saefke.

UPON A VOICE VOTE, ALL VOTING AYE, MAYOR LUND DECLARED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND THE PUBLIC HEARING WAS CONTINUED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 10, 2018.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 6. Consider Extension Request for Variance, VAR #14-03, by James Lange for the Property Generally Located at 6940 Hickory Drive N.E. (Ward 3).**

Scott Hickok, Community Development Director, stated on July 2, 2014, the Appeals Commission approved a variance for a property located at 6940 Hickory Drive. The variance was granted to reduce the front yard setback and that is Hickory Place since it is on a corner, from 25 feet to 81.2 feet. The second variance is to reduce the side yard setback on the north side of the lot from 25 feet to 20 feet. The City Code does require that when a lot to the rear of the corner lot has frontage on a side street, an accessory structure needs to be 25 feet back from the common property line.

Mr. Hickok stated City staff received an extension request from Mr. Lange on July 6, 2018. His father who was going to help him with the construction suffered a stroke this year, so the project again had to be put on hold. He realizes that this will be his fourth extension but has continued interest in the project and would like to not have to go through the entire variance process again.

Mr. Hickok stated staff recommends approval of a one-year extension to July 23, 2019, for Variance Request, VAR #14-03.

Councilmember Barnette asked if the side yard was considered the front yard.

Mr. Hickok replied, it is. The narrowest lot dimension on a corner lot, regardless of what way the house is facing, is considered the front lot.

MOTION by Councilmember Bolkcom to approve a one-year extension for Variance, VAR #14-03, by James Lange for the property generally located at 6940 Hickory Drive N.E. Seconded by Councilmember Saefke.

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

7. Approve Joint Powers Agreement between the City of Fridley and County of Anoka for the East River Road Sidewalk Extension Project in the City of Fridley (Ward 3).

James Kosluchar, Public Works Director, stated Anoka County is rehabilitating CSAH 1. There has been a lot of construction on East River Road. Their project relative to this presentation is from Charles Street to Rice Creek Parkway (basically to Rice Creek). Rehabilitation includes pavement mill and overlay, curb and gutter, and storm sewer improvements. The project was identified in April of this year for construction so the City has very little time available to coordinate with other projects. Staff immediately recognized, however, that there was a stretch of pedestrian way that was identified in a prior plan and they wanted to see whether it could be constructed.

Mr. Kosluchar stated the City proposed a Joint Powers Agreement with Anoka County to include this sidewalk in conjunction with their project which includes 2,000 lineal feet of sidewalk from Mississippi Street to the Northstar station. It provides pedestrian access in connection to bus stops and the light rail station.

Mr. Kosluchar stated in the Council's packet there are some maps showing this plan which is the southerly portion. The yellow line shows there is some walkway along the Northstar station from 61st north for one block and then it dies out. When staff was out doing some field recognizance, people were using it as a walk. They walk along behind the curb in the grass. He then pointed out on a map the extension piece to Mississippi Street where it will connect to another existing concrete walk where the BP station is.

Mr. Kosluchar stated the City's Active Transportation Plan and the East River Road Corridor Study both recommended and identified a sidewalk within this segment. Project costs are estimated to be \$92,000. It pays for removal, excavation, subgrade preparation, concrete sidewalk, and reconstruction of a drainage structure. It gets the City about four-tenths of a mile of walk. There is a cost-savings with constructing the improvement now before the contractor

mobilizes. It would be a change order Anoka County issues as part of their project and eliminates mobilization for the work.

Mr. Kosluchar stated there is also an opportunity because of the delay in not getting the Moore Lake project approved. That project was to have \$100,000 dedicated to match the federal funding which is not going to be expended until 2019; therefore, the City has an opportunity to act on this project. This project would not impact the 2018 CIP. The City would reassign those dollars and shift the CIP walk trail funding timing to various projects through 2023 as indicated in staff's memo.

Mr. Kosluchar stated staff is recommending the City Council move to approve the attached Joint Powers Agreement for the East River Road sidewalk extension project and approve an amendment to the capital investment plan as described. If approved, staff will notify Anoka County and proceed with the execution of the Joint Powers Agreement.

Councilmember Bolkcom referred to page 53. In the second paragraph, it should probably say commuter rail and not light rail. She asked whether there is enough room to install the sidewalk.

Mr. Kosluchar said it was Anoka County's right-of-way and there are retaining walls they will be butting right up to. It is a tight squeeze but they can fit it in that area.

Councilmember Bolkcom asked if the City would plow it.

Mr. Kosluchar said it does add to their maintenance, but because it is a connecting route – they are on this route to plow near Stevenson and further south by Georgetown.

Councilmember Bolkcom asked whether there was any room to put a bus shelter there.

Mr. Kosluchar replied, no, there is not for the foreseeable future. Met Council would probably have to work with the County to acquire some right-of-way to put a shelter there.

Councilmember Bolkcom stated even though it is a County road, the City pay for the sidewalks.

Mr. Kosluchar replied, yes, it is a relatively common practice in which county highway departments do not fund pedestrian improvements.

Councilmember Bolkcom asked how staff would let the homeowners know what is going on.

Mr. Kosluchar replied, the City would send a notice to the homeowners.

Councilmember Bolkcom asked when it would start.

Mr. Kosluchar replied, they are getting ready to install the curb. They would install the curb in a certain way where the walk can be set on that. They could potentially start later this week if they approve it and the County approves the agreement.

Councilmember Bolkcom asked if they would pave everything when they get done.

Mr. Kosluchar replied, that is his understanding.

Councilmember Barnette stated he assumes the City is going to be responsible for snow removal. He asked where they are going to put the snow.

Mr. Kosluchar replied, as the City does with the County's clean street policy, they do plow down to pavement so the City is often handling their snow. They will get snow plowed on this walk from the roadway. The City will have to run it probably multiple times after a substantial snowfall. They will be able to do it.

Mayor Lund asked if the neighboring property owners have been advised.

Mr. Kosluchar said at this point he would say, no, other than through the East River Road corridor plan which a lot of them actually participated in. That was only about five years ago where they talked about the designation of those walks and that was incorporated into the plan. They would have to remind them and there may be some new owners that did not participate. In this case, it is a little different because generally what you see here is a vegetation separation or a fence separation or a retaining separation so there is kind of that definite designation of County right-of-way. He said he was surprised the property owners maintain the turf to the level that they do because it is so separate from their yards.

Mayor Lund stated there is a natural berm there, and it makes sense because there is probably a lot of traffic noise they try and minimize or buffer. Because it is a busy street the sidewalk makes good sense.

Councilmember Bolkcom stated there are a lot of people who walk along there.

Mayor Lund asked about signage and if it would go a little to the right.

Mr. Kosluchar replied, that is correct. Generally it is just put behind the curb. There is a little bit of separation there.

Mayor Lund asked in extreme cases if they really get snowed in, since they have a sidewalk plow with a chute, is there a truck to dump it into.

Mr. Kosluchar said correct. He may recall on Mississippi Street a few winters ago they had a couple of seasons where they had some pretty hefty snows, and the County has been a pretty good partner with that. When they get into a bind where the City cannot move the snow anymore, it impacts them, too, when they are plowing their roads. The City works together with them.

Mr. Kosluchar stated also making a connection north of Mississippi Street was also taken into consideration. It is fairly expensive, but this is actually a pretty good price for this. The reason

they would do the southerly side versus the northerly side is it does have a little more room and can be a more independent project.

Mayor Lund stated he saw what is called the B612 curb is pretty common, and then they were going to modify the curb so that the sidewalk actually sat inside the top of the curb? It looked to him like they already put the curb in. Maybe not in that stretch?

Mr. Kosluchar replied, no.

MOTION by Councilmember Bolkcom to approve the Joint Powers Agreement between the City of Fridley and County of Anoka for the East River Road Sidewalk Extension Project in the City of Fridley. Seconded by Councilmember Bolkcom.

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

Councilmember Bolkcom stated to Mr. Kosluchar the City can get something out to the neighbors relatively soon now and asked him to keep looking for more money. There are so many people walking along this road and there are no sidewalks anywhere. The City is encouraging people to walk and bike.

Mr. Kosluchar replied Mr. Hickok has been working on the portion south of here, too. It is a team effort trying to get these in. It is not always the easiest. They do have to work with the property owners.

7. Informal Status Reports.

Councilmember Bolkcom asked Mr. Hickok to update everyone on the Locke Park Pointe project.

Mr. Hickok stated the first patio home is going in. It will be ready for the fall Parade of Homes. The response to the patio homes and requests for information has been really positive, and people are really excited about all of that happening. People have probably also seen some of the outline of what will be the parkway going in including the silt fence. They may recall through the patio home neighborhood there will be a couple of new homes also. That area is going to really take shape and look very different between now and the first snowfall.

Mr. Hickok stated also, as to the park, there is some playground equipment and an area for throwing a football. That area is not gone for good. They will see that it is gone for now but it is being moved over to what the City believes to be the optimum location. Right now they are looking at the best design for that. After the parkway goes in, they will see more focus put on that.

Mr. Hickok stated they have one more piece to that and that is the water feature and the new parkway. They have narrowed it down to two candidate developers for development of that

portion. They are continuing with negotiations and discussions with them to make sure they get exactly the right feel and right number of units and layout in that development.

Councilmember Barnette asked when they anticipated the other 25 homes would be completed.

Mr. Hickok replied, they will build through 2019 and the full build-out will be done by the end of 2019 with 26 homes. With the amount of interest they have had, they can do a new start every couple of weeks and hope they can just keep that pace going until it is built out.

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 7:36 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

Denise M. Johnson
Recording Secretary

Scott J. Lund
Mayor