



**City of Newport
City Council Minutes
June 7, 2012**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tim Geraghty called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL -

Council Present – Tim Geraghty, Tom Ingemann, Bill Sumner, Tracy Rahm, Steven Gallagher

Council Absent –

Staff Present – Bruce Hanson, Supt. of Public Works; Curt Montgomery, Police Chief; Mark Mailand, Fire Chief; Fritz Knaak, City Attorney; John Stewart, City Engineer

Staff Absent – Brian Anderson, City Administrator; Renee Helm, Executive Analyst;

4. ADOPT AGENDA

Mayor Geraghty – I have one correction on the Consent Agenda, the correct amount for the list of bills is \$253,493.97.

Motion by Rahm, seconded by Ingemann, to adopt the Agenda as amended. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

5. ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Sumner, seconded by Ingemann, to approve the Consent Agenda as amended, which includes the following items:

- A. Minutes of the May 17, 2012 Regular City Council Meeting
- B. List of Bills in the Amount of \$253,493.97
- C. Approval of 2012-2013 Liquor License Renewals
- D. Farm Animal Permit for Kim Brown

With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

6. VISITORS PRESENTATIONS/PETITIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

Ron Lischeid, St. Paul Park Resident – Mr. Lischeid is the Independence Party candidate for House District 54A and was present to introduce himself. Over the next several months, Mr. Lischeid will be contacting each Council member to discuss what they would like completed in Newport.

7. MAYOR'S REPORT –

Mayor Geraghty – I will be participating in the Relay for Life event tomorrow night. Four mayors from the area will be in the dunk tank. I will be in the dunk tank from 7:30 to 8:00.

8. COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Rahm – I attended a South Washington County Telecommunications meeting, they finalized their

budget. I asked them to look at their rates that they reimburse each City.

Councilman Ingemann – I was at the meat raffle that the Fire Department had and it was a good crowd.

Councilman Sumner – I'm sure most of you have seen the progress being made on the North Ravine project, it's going to benefit the City tremendously. I recently coordinated the blood drive for my work and we sent over 200 units. I urge anybody who can to consider donating.

Councilman Gallagher – Nothing to report

9. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A. Deer Hunting Ordinance Presentation

Tom Aguilar Downing, 1550 Wild Ridge Court – Mr. Aguilar-Downing was present to discuss this item as outlined in the June 7, 2012 City Council packet.

Councilman Rahm – Do you have a cost of the Metro Bow Hunters Resource?

Susan Lindoo, 1280 Wild Ridge Trail – They don't charge anything. If the City wants to be on their policy it would be a \$50 fee.

Mayor Geraghty – Do we have any information on what the deer reduction rate might be when we have controlled hunts?

Mr. Aguilar-Downing – Only time would tell. I can say that Lake Elmo has been doing this for a number of years and have been successful; it's not a single-year approach.

Councilman Rahm – I think the aerial surveys would help measure that.

Mr. Aguilar-Downing – I think it would help to do an annual aerial survey for the first couple years.

Councilman Sumner – Does anyone remember the cost of that survey?

Councilman Gallagher – I believe it was \$700.

Councilman Ingemann – Isn't it suggested to not feed the wild animals now?

Councilman Gallagher – It's not in the ordinance.

Mr. Aguilar-Downing – It's a good practice and part of our neighborhood meetings was about educating the neighbors about why it's not a good idea to feed the wildlife.

Mayor Geraghty – Obviously we need to do some changes to the ordinance.

Councilman Sumner – Have your neighbors agreed to stop feeding?

Mr. Aguilar-Downing – I don't think it's unanimous but a majority will stop feeding.

Councilman Sumner – What are other cities doing in order to enforce the no feeding ordinance?

Attorney Knaak – The strongest sanction you can offer is to call it a misdemeanor.

Mr. Aguilar-Downing – A resident did suggest a good neighbor policy in St. Paul where you can call into the

police and the city sends out a postcard to the resident reminding them about the ordinance.

Councilman Gallagher – That’s what we’ve been doing with the CSO.

Ms. Lindoo – I don’t think the feeding is the main problem here because we live on the edge of a forest where deer like to live but it won’t sustain them because we fragmented the forest.

Councilman Gallagher – I attended a couple of those meetings and was very impressed with the turnout and discussion. Kathy, will you look at the forest assessment?

Kathy Aguilar-Downing, 1550 Wild Ridge Court – I called a couple organizations looking for someone to look at assessing our forest for sustaining a healthy deer herd. The organizations were willing to come in but wanted money to do so.

Councilman Gallagher – Does the DNR have a program to help with that?

Laura Duffey, 1461 12th Avenue – I work at the DNR with foresters. DNR Foresters are available to check school forest areas for what they need. The forester will come out to assess the forest and let the City know how to manage the deer population.

Councilman Gallagher – Would you be able to facilitate that?

Ms. Duffey – Yes, there is a forester that will be coming in.

Mayor Geraghty – What will they come up with after they’ve done the assessment?

Ms. Duffey – They can do a stewardship plan or management plan.

Councilman Sumner – How long does that take?

Ms. Duffey – Probably a couple weeks after visiting the site.

Mayor Geraghty – Thank you for your work. I think the next step will be to draft an ordinance amendment.

Councilman Gallagher – Maybe we should have staff contact MBRB to see about controlled hunts since it starts in September.

Mayor Geraghty – Do we want staff to bring something back at the next meeting or the second July meeting?

Councilman Gallagher – I think the second July meeting. Maybe we can take a look at other ordinances about deer feeding.

B. Resolution No. 2012-13 – Accepting the Donation of a Parcel of Real Estate within the City from Joel Williams

Motion by Sumner, seconded by Gallagher to approve Resolution No. 2012-13 accepting the donation of a parcel of real estate within the City from Joel Williams. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

10. ATTORNEY’S REPORT –

Attorney Knaak – You should have the monthly prosecution report before you. The volume stayed at what is considered the new normal.

Councilman Gallagher – Are a majority of these individuals Newport residents?

Attorney Knaak – A lot of the traffic violations is off the freeway and they are typically out of town, whereas the ordinance violations are Newport residents.

11. POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT –

Councilman Rahm – Have we gotten the new squad car yet?

Chief Montgomery – No, I’m hoping by the end of July.

12. FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT – Chief Mailand reported on the number of calls in the past month, which include: grass fire, dumpster fire, electrical problems, and car problems. On Monday, June 25 and Tuesday, June 26, we’ll be going door-to-door selling raffle tickets for Booya.

13. ENGINEER’S REPORT –

John Stewart – The I & I project is going well. As you are well aware we did have a heavy rainfall at the end of May that caused some sewer problems. We’re working with Bruce on a report for the next Council meeting on inflow. The North Ravine project is progressing very well. We are done with the ponds on the Bailey Site. They’ve moved off the hill now. We’re about 35% done with the project. We anticipate that Ford Road will be closed on Monday and Tuesday.

Councilman Sumner – Are they taking all of the blacktop?

John Stewart - Yes

14. SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT –

Councilman Sumner – I had asked about the trees that MnDot had put in earlier.

Superintendent Hanson – They are out surveying the trees.

15. NEW/OLD BUSINESS

16. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Sumner, seconded by Ingemann, to adjourn the regular Council Meeting at 6:20 P.M. With 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, the motion carried.

Signed: _____
Tim Geraghty, Mayor

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee Helm
Executive Analyst