

**Minutes
Minnetonka City Council
Monday, March 7, 2022**

1. Call to Order

Mayor Brad Wiersum called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

Council Members, Deb Calvert, Bradley Schaeppi, Kissy Coakley, Brian Kirk, Rebecca Shack, Kimberly Wilburn and Brad Wiersum were present.

4. Approval of Agenda

Kirk moved, Calvert seconded a motion to accept the agenda with addenda to Items 10.A and 15.B. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

5. Approval of Minutes: None.

6. Special Matters: None.

7. Reports from City Manager & Council Members

Acting City Manager Mike Funk reported on upcoming city events and council meetings.

Coakley reported she served as a panelist for the MCI (Minnetonka Climate Initiative) event that was held this past weekend. She commented on the matters that were discussed which included the need for climate justice which takes a human centered approach that safe guards the rights of low wealth residents and communities of color which are hardest hit by the climate crisis. She explained she appreciated the 70 participants that took part in this event.

Schaeppi discussed the pulled application for Eagle Brook Church. He thanked the applicant for their interest in the community. He understood the feedback was not overly supportive from the neighborhood, but noted the applicant was always welcome to submit a formal application. He indicated there was a lot of smart people on staff that worked with applicants to best shape projects from concept to formal application. He reported Minnetonka was always open for business and encouraged the applicant to come back with a revised project. He commented he

appreciated the feedback of the neighborhood and encouraged them to understand a new use would be coming to this site. His hope was that this neighborhood would be able to have a conversation when this occurs without such a strong media presence.

Wiersum commented on the church application that was pulled. He indicated he was encouraged by the concept review process that was followed for this request. He stated this process created public awareness and public engagement and possibly saved the church a great deal of money.

Wiersum asked that people continue to support, give and pray for the people of Ukraine.

8. Citizens Wishing to Discuss Matters not on the Agenda: None.

9. Bids and Purchases:

A. Bids for the Ridgedale Drive Trail Project

Public Works Director Will Manchester gave the staff report.

Schack moved, Kirk seconded a motion to award the contract, amend the CIP and authorize the city engineer to expend the allocated funds for the project costs. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

B. Bids and Resolution for the Opus Area Bridge Improvements – Phase III Project

Public Works Director Will Manchester gave the staff report.

Kirk explained he remembered when these bridges were installed and he stated he was very impressed by the fact the city was interested in making Opus a top notch area for the community. He thanked staff for all of their efforts on this project.

Wiersum agreed stating over the past 10 years the aesthetics of concrete work has been improved.

Kirk moved, Calvert seconded a motion to award the contract, authorize the city engineer to expend the allocated funds and adopt Resolution 2022-021. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

10. Consent Agenda – Items Requiring a Majority Vote:**A. Ordinance amending the existing Minnetonka Corporate Center master development plan as it pertains to 6000 Clearwater Drive**

Wiersum reported garage space was being converted into R&D space for a water treatment company. He explained he learned that the water being treated on this site was going into the sanitary sewer system and that this was happening through a permit with the MPCA.

Calvert moved, Schack seconded a motion to adopt Ord. 2022-03. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

11. Consent Agenda – Items requiring Five Votes: None.**12. Introduction of Ordinances:****A. Ordinance establishing ward boundaries**

City Clerk Becky Koosman and City Attorney Corrine Heine gave the staff report.

Coakley asked why it was fair to keep the population in each ward close in number. Heine reported there was a requirement in city charter and in state law that the population among wards needs to be as equal as practical. She indicated the city has four wards and the idea was to provide residents with equal representation.

Kirk commented on the population growth that would be occurring in Opus. He questioned what the population increase would be for this area of Minnetonka. Community Development Director Julie Wischnack stated the current Opus population within the 640 acres was 2,678. She noted the Dominion project had 482 units and the city would assume there was 2.19 persons per household. She indicated the Wellington project would have an additional 270 units and Minnetonka Station would have 250 units.

Wiersum estimated there would be an additional 2,000 residents once all of these units were constructed.

Wilburn inquired if there would be changes to precincts in ward 2. Koosman explained the city would be shifting from 23 to 21 precincts. She reported ward 2 would continue to have five precincts.

Calvert noted ward 3 would be on the higher side and ward 4 would be on the lower side. She thanked staff for working diligently to get the wards as equal as possible. She asked if the legislative lines complicated matters for the city.

Koosman discussed the legislative lines within the community and how this impacted the city's wards. She noted ward 3 has historically been the city's largest ward.

Wiersum explained he lived in ward 3 and indicated this was the incredible shrinking ward due to population growth. He discussed how the census numbers were a snapshot and thanked staff for all of their efforts on the redistricting on behalf of the community.

Schack stated she was comfortable with the wards as presented by staff. She thanked staff for their efforts and believed this made a lot of sense.

Calvert agreed stating the shapes of the wards was showing the effects of the redistricting. She indicated she appreciated staffs efforts on the redistricting.

Kirk commented on the growth that has occurred in ward 1 and discussed how the area would look in 10 years. He explained he appreciated all of staff's efforts on the wards and districts.

Schack moved, Calvert seconded a motion to introduce the ordinance. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

B. Items concerning Glen Lake Apartments at 14317 Excelsior Boulevard

City Planner Loren Gordon gave the staff report.

Kirk asked if development rights go to the property owner when an easement is vacated or does the land remain undevelopable right of way. Gordon reported this was Hennepin County road right of way and was not the city's vacation request. He explained the turn back would become part of the project site and would have development rights on it.

Kirk questioned if the project were not to move forward, would all of the development rights be lost for the property owner. Gordon indicated this would be a condition for approval noting the county would not release the land to a future owner if the future owner walks away.

Wiersum explained this was an ordinance introduction. He questioned if there were questions or issues the planning commission should investigate further as this project moves forward.

Kirk requested the planning commission address the mass and number of the units within this project, to consider if not this housing then what, and to look at the buffer between the Oaks and the Glen Lake Apartments.

Wiersum agreed the issue of mass needs to be considered. He asked the planning commission to challenge the developer to provide the city with a sense of mass compared to the building to the west and compared to the townhomes to the east.

Kirk moved, Calvert seconded a motion to introduce the ordinance and refer it to the planning commission. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

13. Public Hearings: None.

14. Other Business: None.

15. Appointments and Reappointments:

A. Appointment of Advisors for the 2022 Local Board of Appeal and Equalization

Acting City Manager Mike Funk gave the staff report.

Calvert moved, Schack seconded a motion to approve the appointments. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

B. Appointments of representatives to various advisory boards, commissions and committees

Acting City Manager Mike Funk gave the staff report.

Coakley asked if the city was still using the Northern Star juvenile diversion program. Funk stated he would have to investigate this further and would report back to the council.

Wiersum moved, Calvert seconded a motion to approve the appointments. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

16. Adjournment

Calvert moved, Kirk seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m. All voted "yes." Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Becky Koosman
City Clerk