



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES Richfield, Minnesota

Regular Meeting

March 8, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tempore Howard at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Council Members Present: Michael Howard, Mayor Pro Tempore; Pat Elliott; Edwina Garcia; and Tom Fitzhenry.

Council Members Absent: Debbie Goettel, Mayor.

Staff Present: Steven L. Devich, City Manager; John Stark, Community Development Director; Melissa Poehlman, City Planner; Mary Tietjen, City Attorney; and Theresa Schyma, Deputy City Clerk.

OPEN FORUM

None.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tempore Howard led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M/Fitzhenry, S/Garcia to approve the Regular City Council Meeting of February 23, 2016.

Motion carried 4-0.

Item #1

COUNCIL DISCUSSION

- Hats Off to Hometown Hits

Council Member Fitzhenry presented a five year recognition certificate that he received, on behalf of the Richfield Beyond the Yellow Committee, at the 2016 Joining Community Forces - Minnesota Conference.

Council Member Elliott discussed the work of the Hendrickson Foundation which supports Minnesota Hockey's disabled programs for people who are wheelchair bound, amputees, have cognitive issues, or were injured in the military.

Mayor Pro Tempore Howard commented on the significant street work along 66th Street that is being done by the Met Council. He stated that residents are voicing concern over the lack of communication from the Met Council regarding the project. He reported that staff and the City Council have discussed the matter with the Met Council and have asked them to increase their communication efforts. He further encouraged residents to contact staff and/or City Council with any concerns or issues regarding the project.

Item #2	COUNCIL APPROVAL OF AGENDA
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M/Fitzhenry, S/Elliott to approve the agenda.

Motion carried 4-0.

Item #3	CONSENT CALENDAR
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- A. Consideration of the approval of the first reading of an ordinance rezoning 211 76th Street West; 7600, 7608, and 7644 Pillsbury Avenue South; and an adjacent 30-foot strip of land from Industrial (I) and undesignated to Planned Multi-Family Residential (PMR).S.R. No. 33

M/Fitzhenry, S/Garcia to approve the Consent Calendar.

Motion carried 4-0.

Item #4	CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS, IF ANY, REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR
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None.

Item #5	CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION REGARDING AN AMENDMENT TO APPROVED DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR THE MARKET PLAZA/VILLAGE SHORES MIXED USE DEVELOPMENT AT 6501 WOODLAKE DRIVE. THE PROPOSAL INCLUDES AN ADDITIONAL 50 UNITS OF HOUSING AND SITE MODIFICATIONS TO ACCOMMODATE A 16,000 SQUARE FOOT MEDICAL OFFICE TENANT (HENNEPIN COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER). S.R. NO. 34
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Council Member Garcia presented Staff Report No. 34.

City Planner Poehlman discussed the proposed changes to the development that would improve and better align the existing development with the current market. She further explained the proposed improvements would help address the lack of activity and interest at the corner and the poor pedestrian connections throughout the site.

Council Member Garcia questioned if any businesses in the area have voiced any concerns.

City Planner Poehlman responded that they have not received any statements of concern from area businesses.

Council Member Elliott questioned the possibility for public art in the area. He recommended involving the Arts Commission to help come up with some ideas that are self-directed and self-produced.

Mayor Pro Tempore Howard asked about utilizing the corner space in the long term.

City Planner Poehlman responded that the applicant is proposing to install two trellis structures atop a raised parking area at the corner of the lot. These structures are intended to make this area less attractive for parking and instead lend itself to community activities. The applicant is open to something more permanent on that corner but it is not feasible right now.

David Gevers, E.J. Plesko & Associates (property owner), has looked at trying to populate the corner area but two things are impacting feasibility; 1) the future roundabout will require significant taking of land, and 2) Hennepin County Medical Center, tenant applicant, has indicated that all parking is necessary. Mr. Gevers believes that the surface parking lot will exceed their needs but they can measure and reevaluate this need in the future.

M/Garcia, S/Elliott that the following resolution be adopted and that it be made part of these minutes:

RESOLUTION NO. 11184

RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDED FINAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT AT 6501 WOODLAKE DRIVE

Motion carried 4-0. This resolution appears as Resolution No. 11184.

Item #6	CITY MANAGER’S REPORT
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None.

Item #7	CLAIMS AND PAYROLLS
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M/Fitzhenry, S/Garcia that the following claims and payrolls be approved:

U.S. Bank		03/08/16
A/P Checks: 248057-248441	\$	1,292,231.04
Payroll: 117072-117404; 42447	\$	610,721.62
TOTAL	\$	1,902,952.66

Motion carried 4-0.

OPEN FORUM

None.

Item #8	ADJOURNMENT
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The City Council Meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:25 p.m.

Date Approved: March 22, 2016

Michael Howard
Mayor Pro Tempore

Theresa Schyma
Deputy City Clerk

Steven L. Devich
City Manager