

**City of West St. Paul  
City Council Meeting Minutes  
March 9, 2020**

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Napier called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Present: Mayor Dave Napier  
Councilmembers Wendy Berry, Lisa Eng-Sarne,  
Anthony Fernandez, John Justen, Bob Pace and Dick Vitelli

Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Ryan Schroeder  
City Attorney Kori Land  
Police Chief Brian Sturgeon  
Fire Chief Mark Juelfs  
Assistant Fire Chief/Fire Marshall Terry Johnson  
Finance Director Char Stark  
Parks & Public Works Director/City Engineer Ross Beckwith  
Community Development Director Jim Hartshorn  
City Clerk Shirley Buecksler

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Adopt the Agenda**

Motion was made by Councilmember Berry and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to adopt the agenda, as presented.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**5. OCWS Briefing**

Mayor Napier said the Council held a work session prior to the regular meeting to discuss the following topics:

- a. Prevailing Wage Ordinance Review
- b. Special Services District Discussion

**6. Citizen Comments**

The following people addressed the Council:

- a. Connye LaCombe, Ward 3, regarding gay conversion therapy.
- b. Kevin Hendricks, Ward 3, regarding bias against women.
- c. Julie Eastman, Ward 1, regarding leadership training on bias and diversity.

## 7. Council Comments

Councilmember Berry thanked Connye LaCombe and her daughter for being so brave and for providing so much research on gay conversion therapy. She said she will find out what it takes to pass such an ordinance.

Councilmember Berry said March is Women's History Month. It began in 1981 and, since then, a lot of women have done a lot of great things. We have made history locally by having two women on the West St. Paul Council at the same time. Councilmember Berry read a quote by Maya Angelou, "A wise woman wishes to be no one's enemy; a wise woman refuses to be anyone's victim."

Councilmember Berry reminded everyone who may be driving that, with the weather getting nice, more people will be outside so please watch at intersections for people who are walking and biking.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne reminded everyone of Town Hall Meetings scheduled for:

- Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Harmon Park Neighborhood Center
- Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
- Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, from 10:00 a.m. to Noon at the Wentworth Library

Councilmember Eng-Sarne said today is the opening of FoodSmith Pub at 973 Smith Avenue South. She and Councilmember Justen took a peek last week and we cannot recommend it enough. It's beautiful and delicious and a welcomed addition to the neighborhood.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne thanked Connye LaCombe for sharing her story and her daughter's story and we will certainly process all this information and find out what we can do for next steps.

Councilmember Justen said the Census invitation forms will be in your mailbox between March 12 and 20. It is important to be counted, as it helps the community in the long run.

Mayor Napier mentioned the Town Hall meetings coming up and said it's really important that residents come and have a voice on what you want your City to look like. As the Council goes into its Strategic Planning meeting, we want to be sure we hear from our residents on what is important to them.

Mayor Napier said we have all heard about the Coronavirus. He will be participating in a League of Minnesota Cities webinar this afternoon, put on by the Director of Emergency Response for the Minnesota Department of Health. This webinar is to assist Mayors in what we need to do if this virus accelerates into our community.

Mayor Napier said he toured FoodSmith with the owner and met the Master Chef this morning. This is a great venue and a great place to have in our community. It hits right where we want to attract a little more activity to on Smith Avenue. Please go out and support your local businesses.

Mayor Napier asked everyone to participate in the Food Drive this year. There are bins out already in the community for donations. Also, Neighbors Inc. is again doing the Hamburger Challenge to support the food shelf at Neighbors. This year, they have added two more locations, for a total of eight hamburgers. It's not too late and it's a great deal, so get out and support our local restaurants.

Mayor Napier gave a special thank you to all of our volunteer commissions. The Planning Commission, Environmental Committee, Park & Recreation Committee and Charter Commission. Thank you for all the time you put into our community.

Mayor Napier said March 18<sup>th</sup> is Transportation Day at the Capitol. Anyone can attend, so join us in representing West St. Paul for help with our transportation issues.

## **8. Proclamations, Presentations and Recognitions**

### **A. Police Chaplain Recognition**

Police Chief Sturgeon provided a presentation on the Police Chaplain Program. We greatly appreciate the dedication and service our Chaplains provide and would like to recognize them for their service to our community, the West St. Paul Police Department and South Metro Fire Department. The current Chaplains are:

- Pastor Mike Verway, Assistant Liaison, First Calvary Baptist Church, serving for 3 years
- Pastor Joel Detlefesen, Riverview Baptist Church, serving for 7 years
- Chaplain Sue Plucker, Liaison, serving for 7 years
- Rabbi Lynn Liberman, Master Chaplain, serving for 12 years
- Reverend Alberto Vargas, Resource Chaplain, serving for 13 years
- Pastor John Snider, St Stephen's Lutheran Church, serving for 16 years
- Butch "Chap" Millett, Master Chaplain, Bethel Baptist Church, serving for 16 years

Chief Sturgeon also gave a special thank you to Sgt. John Hinderscheid, who oversees the program, along with Mendota Heights Officer Steve Hilyar.

Mayor Napier thanked them for their dedication and service to our community.

### **B. Rotary Donation to Marthaler Park Playground**

Mayor Napier thanked the West St. Paul/Mendota Heights Rotary Club for their generous donation of \$12,000 to the West St. Paul Parks & Recreation Department for the installation of a new playground in Marthaler Park.

Motion was made by Councilmember Pace and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to adopt Resolution No. 20-029 Accepting Donations to the City.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

## 9. Consent Agenda

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda, as presented:

- A. List of Claims for March 23, 2020 in the Amount of \$709,206.29
- B. Resolution No. 20-030 Award Bid for 2020 Street Improvements Project 20-1 to McNamara Contracting, Inc.
- C. Resolution No. 20-031 Declaring Certain Property Surplus and Authorizing Sale and/or Disposal Thereof:
  - 2013 Ford Interceptor, VIN 1FAHP2M82DG148762
  - 2005 Alko Trailer, VIN 4UGFC16275D011758
  - 2005 Alko Trailer, VIN 4UGFC16+55D011757
- D. Resolution No. 20-032 Appointing Public Member to the South Metro Fire Board – Dennis Wippermann
- E. Joint Powers Agreement with Dakota County for City Project 20-9
- F. Rental Licensing in the Amount of \$5,652.50 for:
  - 969 Smith Avenue (Apartment – New Owner)
  - 999 Smith Avenue (Apartment – New Owner)
  - 887/889 Smith Avenue (Apartment – Renewal)
  - 883/885 Ottawa Avenue (Apartment – Renewal)
  - 475 Butler Avenue East (Apartment – Renewal)
  - 233 Bernard Street West (Triplex – Renewal)
  - 931 Smith Avenue (Triplex – Renewal)
  - 903 Manomin Avenue (Triplex – Renewal)
  - 879 Smith Avenue (Triplex – Renewal)
  - 935/937 Bellows Street (Duplex – Renewal)
  - 412/416 Arion Street East (Duplex – Renewal)
  - 162/164 Annapolis Street West (Duplex – Renewal)
  - 413/417 Stanley Street East (Duplex – Renewal)
  - 226/228 Dakota Street (Duplex – Renewal)
  - 1120 Humboldt Avenue (Duplex – Renewal)
  - 373 Bernard Street East (Duplex – Renewal)
  - 1100 Gorman Avenue (Duplex – Renewal)
  - 152 Belvidere Street West (Duplex – Renewal)
  - 1015 Cherokee Avenue (Duplex – Renewal)
  - 935 Charlton Street (Duplex – Renewal)
  - 763 Dodd Road (Duplex – Renewal)
  - 1808 Humboldt Avenue (Townhome – Renewal)
  - 425 Butler Avenue East (Single Family – Renewal)
  - 825 Allen Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
  - 1085 Robert Street (Single Family – Renewal)
  - 220 Butler Avenue West (Single Family – Renewal)
  - 1019 Seminole Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)

- 1080 Gorman Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
- 917 Cherokee Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
- 484 Annapolis Street West (Single Family – Renewal)
- 108 Arion Street West (Single Family – Renewal)
- 907 Smith Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
- 821 Allen Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
- 327 Hurley Street West (Single Family – Renewal)
- 186 Mainzer Street (Single Family – Renewal)
- 1069 Dodd Road (Single Family – Renewal)
- 1141 Cherokee Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
- 1116 Cherokee Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
- 1152 Hall Avenue (Single Family – Renewal)
- 1139 Kruse Street (Single Family – Renewal)
- 837 Bidwell Street (Single Family – Renewal)

**G. Special Benefits Appraisal for 2021 Street Improvements Project 21-1**

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**10. Public Hearings**

There were no Public Hearings.

**11. New Business**

**A. Fire Code and Electronic Submission Ordinance**

Assistant Fire Chief and Fire Marshall Johnson introduced the following proposed ordinance for its first reading:

*“An Ordinance Enacting Section 91.14 of the West St. Paul City Code Regarding Electronic Submission of Inspection Records”*

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Pace to approve the first reading and call for a second reading of the ordinance to be held at a Public Hearing at a future City Council meeting.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**B. First Reading – Amendment to Pawn Ordinance Regarding Reporting Procedure**

Police Chief Sturgeon introduced the following proposed ordinance for its first reading:

*“An Ordinance Amending Section 111.07 of the West St. Paul City Code Regarding an Automated Pawn System for Pawnbrokers and Precious Metal Dealers”*

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Berry to approve the first reading and call for a second reading of the ordinance to be held at a Public Hearing at a future City Council meeting.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**C. First Reading – Ordinance Amendment Relating to Body Art**

Police Chief Sturgeon introduced the following proposed ordinance for its first reading:

*“An Ordinance Amending Section 111.06 of the West St. Paul City Code Regarding Exception to Body Art Establishment Ordinance for Cosmetic Tattooing”*

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to approve the first reading and call for a second reading of the ordinance to be held at a Public Hearing at a future City Council meeting.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**D. First Reading – Vacating Easements Along Robert Street**

City Attorney Land introduced the following proposed ordinance for its first reading:

*“An Ordinance Vacating Easements Located Within the City of West St. Paul, Minnesota”*

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Justen to approve the first reading and call for a second reading of the ordinance to be held at a Public Hearing at a future City Council meeting.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**12. Old Business**

There was no old business to discuss.

**13. Adjourn**

Motion was made by Councilmember Pace and seconded by Councilmember Justen to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.



David J. Napier  
Mayor  
City of West St. Paul