



City Council

Regular Meeting

~ Minutes ~

1408 Lake Street South
Forest Lake, MN 55025
www.ci.forest-lake.mn.us

Karin Derauf, Deputy City Clerk

Monday, February 27, 2023

7:00 PM

City Center - Council Chamber

[City of Forest Lake - Livestream and Recorded Meetings](#)

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Mara Bain	Mayor	Present	
Sam Husnik	Councilmember	Present	
Hanna Valento	Councilmember	Present	
Leif Erickson	Councilmember	Present	
Blake Roberts	Councilmember	Present	

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Approve the Agenda (Action)

Comments:

Motion to: Approve the Agenda

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Sam Husnik, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Hanna Valento, Councilmember
AYES:	Bain, Husnik, Valento, Erickson, Roberts
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	

5. Open Forum – Citizen Petitions, Requests, and Concerns

*The Open Forum is available for residents to express personal opinions for any item of business.
Please limit your comments to three (3) minutes.*

6. Consent Agenda Considerations (Action Items)

Comments:

- a) Approve City Bills
- b) Approve Minutes from February 13, 2023 Regular Council Meeting
- c) Approve Minutes from February 21, 2023 Council Workshop
- d) 2022-2023 Lift Station and Force Main Improvements – Contractor’s Request for Payment No. 5 and Change Order No. 1



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- e) Airport Hangar E Lease Agreement
- f) Forest Lake Red Line Club – LG220 Gambling Exempt Permit
- g) 2023 Field Scheduling Agreement for City Parks

Motion to: Approve Consent Agenda Items 6. a. through 6. g.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Leif Erickson, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Blake Roberts, Councilmember
AYES:	Bain, Husnik, Valento, Erickson, Roberts
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	

7. Regular Agenda (Action Items)

- a. Public Hearing – Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment on Electronic Billboards – CANCELLED (rescheduled to March 27, 2023)

Comments: Community Development Director Wittman provided a brief explanation on why the Public Hearing was cancelled and noted the future dates for Public Hearings on this topic.

- b. MHealth Fairview Annual Update

Comments: Chief Newman introduced MHealth Fairview representatives who gave an annual update on EMS Overall 911 Responses.

- c. Resolution 02-27-23-01 - 2023 Street Pavement Maintenance Project Contract Award

Comments: City Engineer Goodman presented information on the 2023 Street Pavement Project noting the heavily increased costs of street paving. Mayor Bain asked how this impacts the budget over the long term. City Engineer Goodman commented that funding will continue to be an issue unless the City changes from a reactive to proactive position with funding for these projects.

Motion to: Approve Resolution 02-27-23-01 for the 2023 Street Pavement Maintenance Project Contract Award of \$855,207.42 and Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Sign Said Contract



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RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Sam Husnik, Councilmember
SECONDER: Hanna Valento, Councilmember
AYES: Bain, Husnik, Valento, Erickson, Roberts
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

d. Resolution No. 02-27-23-02 - Declaring Surplus Equipment and Property - VIN ending in 7685 & 3685 & 7537

Comments: Police Chief Peterson presented information regarding surplus property.

Motion to: Approve Resolution No. 02-27-23-02 - Declaring Surplus Equipment and Property - VIN ending in 7685 & 3685 & 7537 with Vehicle Models of Chevrolet Tahoe Changed to Ford Explorer

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Hanna Valento, Councilmember
SECONDER: Leif Erickson, Councilmember
AYES: Bain, Husnik, Valento, Erickson, Roberts
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

e. PID 2003221320009 Purchase Agreement

Comments: Community Development Director Wittman provided background information on the property under the ice arena that is owned by the City. She noted the property is proposed to being sold for \$1.00 and a parking lot maintenance agreement at the Fenway Complex. She indicated the City is working towards a March 19, 2023 closing.

Motion to: Approve the Purchase Agreement with the Forest Lake Area School District for the Future Sale of Lot 3, Block 2, Deponti Third Addition with Minor Amendments by the City Attorney as Needed.



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RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Blake Roberts, Councilmember
SECONDER: Hanna Valento, Councilmember
AYES: Bain, Husnik, Valento, Erickson, Roberts
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

f. Airport Apron Expansion Grant Amendment and Bid Award

Comments: City Administrator Udem presented information regarding the Airport Expansion Grant noting the grant was accepted in 2022 and that MnDOT has changed their grant structure and Phase II of the project is being presented. He also noted that the project is being funded 95% from MnDOT Aeronautics with 5% coming from the Airport Fund.

Motion to: Approve the Amended Grant Contract and Award of the Construction Bid to Peterson Companies as Recommended by the Airport Engineer

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Sam Husnik, Councilmember
SECONDER: Leif Erickson, Councilmember
AYES: Bain, Husnik, Valento, Erickson, Roberts
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

g. Water Treatment Plant #3 Softener Refurbishment Project Approval

Comments: Public Works Director Adams commented that there are softener refurbishments needed which were not included in rehab projects of Treatment Plants. He discussed the increasing costs and the necessity to get the project completed, indicating the work is proposed to be done by the end of March or beginning of April, 2023.

Motion to: Approve Water Treatment Plant Softener Refurbishment Project with Kurita America for \$124,499



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RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Leif Erickson, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Hanna Valento, Councilmember
AYES:	Bain, Husnik, Valento, Erickson, Roberts
NAYS:	
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	

8. Discussion

a) Weed Harvester Discussion

Comments: Public Works Director Adams presented information on the weed harvester and asked what information Council is seeking. Mayor Bain asked for background on the Weed Harvester Program and a summary of activity from 2022. Public Works Director Adams provided information noting DNR regulations of proximity to shorelines. He noted the harvester typically starts in June and runs through Labor Day. He also noted that the Lake Association ran the harvester for a short time, but that the City hired a full-time person to run the harvester in the summer. He indicated the person running the harvester will not be back this year and he will have to find another employee for the duties.

Councilmember Erickson asked how much weeds was removed from the lake last year. Public Works Director Adams commented that there was 1,884 yards of weeds or approximately 157 truckloads of weeds. There was further discussion on where the harvester cuts weeds.

Councilmember Roberts asked about the budget. Public Works Director Adams indicated the costs of operation was \$24,000 last year. Councilmember Valento asked if other communities use a weed harvester. Councilmember Husnik asked about a comparison of a contractor doing weed harvesting versus the City. Public Works Director Adams noted that the City owns the weed harvester so the only real cost is paying an employee to run it.

Councilmember Valento asked about alternatives to the weed harvester. Director Adams indicated chemical treatments is usually the alternative. Jerry Gruntner from the Lake association indicated that the DNR will not allow use of chemicals and he discussed the variety of vegetation in the local lakes.

b) CSAH 33/Everton Ave Street Lighting Discussion

Comments: City Engineer Goodman discussed information regarding the street lighting options for Everton Avenue, including number of lights and costs. He noted that light spacing needed to be



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reduced to account for crossings and transmission lines. He indicated that 22 lights are needed with approximately \$405,000 for lighting alone. He gave general estimates of \$1.2M dollars for the project. There was further discussion about the number of lights and placement or location of where they will go, as well as costs and funding. Council was in agreement that lighting is necessary for the project. Mayor Bain asked for the next Council action on this project. City Engineer Goodman indicated a meeting in April 2023. He noted that current costs as well as cost participation will be presented at that time.

9. Staff Updates

Comments: Assistant City Administrator Udem thanked the Chamber for their work on the CIIP Incentive Program. He briefly commented on the analytics of the new website design. He also noted that Bruce Chamberlain has kicked off the shoreline and boat launch study. Community Development Director Wittman commented that interviews with candidates for the Community Development Administrative Assistant position will be presented at the next Council Meeting. She also commented on the Community Guide that was issued last week noting the article about Forest Lake. Chief Peterson commented on the vacant position in the Police Department. He noted they have received eight (8) applications. He also noted there are 149 law enforcement agencies that are currently hiring. He commented that Julie Griffin, the Community Engagement Coordinator, has been busy scheduling the summer engagements for 2023. Councilmember Roberts asked for an update on the incident during the Kids Pro Ice event. Chief Peterson provided a brief update and noted that Staff has been meeting to discuss changes in event permitting or logistics for events like this.

10. Mayor and City Council Updates

Comments: Councilmember Roberts asked about the timeline for snow removal in the Downtown area. Public Works Director Adams indicated that snow removal will continue through the end of the season. Councilmember Erickson noted that he met with the Fire Chief last week, and also attended the CLFLWD Meeting. Mayor Bain commented on the open seat on the EDA and that she is working to get that filled.

11. Closed Session pursuant to Minn. Stat. §13D.05, subd. 3(b): Attorney-Client Privilege: Discussion of pending litigation regarding Lakeview Farms of Forest Lake, LLC v. Forest Hills Farms Owners Association and the City of Forest Lake

Motion to: Move To Closed Session Pursuant to Minn. Stat. §13D.05, Subd. 3(B): Attorney-Client Privilege: Discussion of Pending Litigation Regarding Lakeview Farms of Forest Lake, LLC V. Forest Hills Farms Owners Association and the City of Forest Lake



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RESULT:	ADOPTED [4 to 1]
MOVER:	Sam Husnik, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Hanna Valento, Councilmember
AYES:	Bain, Husnik, Valento, Erickson
ABSTAIN:	Roberts - recused himself from discussion
ABSENT:	

Motion to: Closed the Closed Session and Reopen the Regular Council Meeting.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Hanna Valento, Councilmember
SECONDER:	Sam Husnik, Councilmember
AYES:	Bain, Husnik, Valento, Erickson
ABSTAIN:	
ABSENT:	Roberts

12. Adjourn

Motion to: Adjourn

Comments:

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Mara Bain, Mayor
SECONDER:	Hanna Valento, Councilmember
AYES:	Bain, Husnik, Valento, Erickson
ABSENT:	Roberts