

**CITY OF SAINT PETER, MINNESOTA**  
**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS**  
**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**JUNE 28, 2021**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Saint Peter was conducted in the Governor's Room of the Community Center.

A quorum present, Mayor Zieman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Councilmembers Ed Johnson, Keri Johnson, Shanon Nowell, Brad DeVos, Emily Bruflat and Mayor Chuck Zieman. Absent was Councilmember Stephan Grams. The following officials were also present: City Administrator Todd Prafke, City Attorney James Brandt and City Engineer Jeff Domras.

**Approval of Agenda** – A motion was made by Bruflat, seconded by Johnson (E), to approve the agenda. With all in favor, the agenda was approved.

**Approval of Minutes** – A motion was made by Nowell, seconded by Johnson (K), to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2021 regular City Council meeting. With all in favor, the minutes were approved. A complete copy of the minutes of the June 14, 2021 regular City Council meeting is contained in the City Administrator's book entitled Council Proceedings 19.

**Visitors** – Bob Lambert, 36233 Fort Road, addressed the City Council to express concern about Councilmember Bruflat remaining seated and silent during the Pledge of Allegiance. Lambert indicated he and the people he spoke for were disappointed in the decision of an elected member of the City Council to "show such disrespect for the flag and what it stands for". Lambert recognized Courts have upheld the right of individuals to sit during the Pledge and stated that while he did not dispute that right, he believed if it wasn't for the flag and what the flag stands for, no one would have that right or any other rights. Lambert also indicated that he didn't believe reciting the pledge was renouncing someone's faith or putting the flag ahead of religion, but rather it was pledging support for the country and the United States democratic form of government. Lambert concluded by indicating he and the other people in the room strongly disagreed with Councilmember Bruflat's choice not to participate in the Pledge.

**Consent Agenda** – In motion by Johnson (E), seconded by Nowell, Resolution No. 2021-99 entitled "Resolution Approving Consent Agenda" was introduced. Upon roll call, with all in favor, the Resolution was declared passed and adopted. A complete copy of Resolution No. 2021-99 is contained in the City Administrator's book entitled Council Resolutions 23.

**School District #508 Memorandum of Understanding** – City Administrator Prafke recommended approval be provided for execution of an agreement with School District #508 that would allow the City's Recreation and Leisure Services Department to provide youth programming for the District. Prafke noted the arrangement was first agreed to in 2004 when State funding cuts impacted Community Education's ability to provide the programming and the City, which is able to provide the service at a lower cost, was contracted to provide the service for the District. Prafke also cautioned that should School District #508's funding be decreased even further, the City may be put in the position of ending programming that is not really the City's. In motion by Johnson (K), seconded by Bruflat, Resolution No. 2021-100 entitled "Resolution Authorizing Execution Of Youth Development Memorandum Of Understanding" was introduced. Upon roll call, with all in favor, the Resolution was declared passed and adopted. A complete copy of Resolution No. 2021-100 is contained in the City Administrator's book entitled Council Resolutions 23.

**Emergency Declaration Cancellation** – City Administrator Prafke recommended the local emergency, which was declared in March, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, be ended. Prafke noted that while the emergency powers provided to staff under the declaration had never been utilized, taking action to officially end the local emergency was recommended. If the resolution was approved, Prafke noted the local emergency would end immediately. In motion by Nowell, seconded by Johnson (E), Resolution No. 2021-101 entitled "Resolution Ending COVID-19 Emergency Declaration" was introduced. Upon roll call, with all in favor, the Resolution was declared passed and adopted. A complete copy of Resolution No. 2021-101 is contained in the City Administrator's book entitled Council Resolutions 23.

**North Third Street, Center and McLeod Streets From West St. Julien To 1,000 Feet North Project Construction Engineering** – Public Works Director Moulton requested Bolton and Menk, Inc. be retained to provide construction engineering and staking for the North Third Street, Center and McLeod Streets From West St. Julien To 1,000 Feet North Project at a not to

exceed cost of \$38,000 and updating of the project assessment roll at the end of construction at an estimated cost of \$1,500. In motion by Johnson (E), seconded by Bruflat, Resolution No. 2021-102 entitled "Resolution Authorizing Construction Services For North Third Street, Center To McLeod Street Improvement From West St. Julien Street To 1,000-Foot North Project" was introduced. Upon roll call, with all in favor, the Resolution was declared passed and adopted. A complete copy of Resolution No. 2021-102 is contained in the City Administrator's book entitled Council Resolutions 23.

## **Reports**

**Mayor's Report** – Mayor Zieman reminded everyone of the return of the Fourth of July festivities. City Administrator Prafke provided an overview of the City's suggested parade etiquette which included not "saving" a space days in advance of the parade and everyone cleaning up after themselves once the parade was concluded. Zieman also reminded everyone that candy was not to be thrown from parade units and should be handed to spectators by those walking beside the moving units.

**City/County Meeting Recap** – Councilmember Johnson (K) provided a recap of the discussion at the last City/County meeting which included development of Township Road #361; project updates, cameras at the yard waste drop off site; and the timeline for replacement of the County Administrator. Both City Administrator Prafke and Johnson (K) indicated the meetings have started to have a very collaborative and positive tone.

**Town/Gown Meeting Recap** – Finance Director Vogel and Public Works Director Moulton reported on discussion at the annual town/gown meeting with Gustavus Adolphus College officials. Vogel noted the College had reported the incoming freshman class would be smaller than usual and the sophomore class would also be smaller which may be attributable to those students struggling during the pandemic year as freshmen. Vogel stated vaccinations are being required of all students and staff. Moulton reported the group also discussed changes on campus including the College's plan to install solar west of Jefferson Avenue and plans for Phase 2 of the Lund Arena project. Councilmember Nowell corrected Vogel's statement about vaccinations and said while getting vaccinated is highly recommended for staff, it is not required.

City Administrator Prafke reported that if the Chamber of Commerce requests it prior to the Fourth of July, City staff will spray for mosquitos in Minnesota Square Park early in the morning of the Fourth using a contact type pesticide used to control adult mosquitoes which is safe for use around recreational and residential areas such as athletic fields, parks, and campsites.

Councilmember Johnson (E) noted there was an excellent crowd, including fire trucks from four different departments, lining Highway 169 as the motorcade carrying the body of the Mountain Lake Marine who died in Okinawa passed through St. Peter.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Johnson (E), seconded by Johnson (K), to adjourn. With all in favor, the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

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Charles Zieman  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Todd Prafke  
City Administrator