

City of Excelsior  
City Council Meeting

MINUTES

Monday, October 21, 2019

6:30 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Carlson called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

City Council: Councilmembers Caron, Dierking, Miller and Mayor Carlson

Absent: Councilmember Kurschner

Also Present: Interim City Manager Wisdorf, Public Works Superintendent Amundsen, City Planner Becker, City Engineer Dawley, Finance Director Horn and City Clerk Peterson

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(a) October 7, 2019 Work Session Minutes

Dierking moved, Caron seconded, to approve the October 7, 2019 Work Session Minutes. Motion carried 4/0.

(b) October 7, 2019 City Council Minutes

Caron moved, Dierking seconded, to approve the October 7, 2019 City Council Minutes. Motion carried 4/0.

4. RECOGNITION AND OPEN FORUM

Mayor Carlson administered the Oath of Office to the following resident:

Ross McGlasson, Parks and Recreation Commissioner

Mayor Carlson presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the following residents for their service:

Krista Barnes, Planning Commission Member

Deb Rodgers, Community for The Commons

5. CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS, QUESTIONS, and REPORTS

(a) Condition of The Commons Update

Amundsen provided an update on the condition of The Commons.

(b) 2019 Street and Utility Improvements Project Update

Amundsen and Dawley provided an update on the 2019 Street and Utility Improvements Project.

(c) December 2 City Council Meeting

Carlson stated the December 2<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting will be held at The Waters, 723 Water Street, with a Social at 5:30 p.m., Council Workshop at 6:00 p.m. and Council Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

6. MEET EXCELSIOR

None

7. AGENDA APPROVAL

(a) Meeting Agenda

Dierking moved, Miller seconded, to approve the October 21, 2019 Meeting Agenda with the addition of New Business Item 13(b) – Dedication of Tree for Deb and Rick Rodgers. Motion carried 4/0.

(b) Consent Agenda

Caron moved, Dierking seconded, to move item 7(b)4 Minnesota Streetcar Museum Barbed Wire Fence Request to the regular agenda for discussion and approve items 7(b)1, 7(b)2, 7(b)3, 7(b)5 and 7(b)6 of the Consent Agenda for October 21, 2019. Motion carried 4/0.

1. Approve Verified Claims – Approve for Payment Manual Checks 085766 – 085807

Action - Approved for payment manual checks 085766 - 085807.

2. Acknowledge 10% Gambling Donations

Action – Acknowledged charitable gambling donations.

3. Randall Pool and Spa Lease

Action – Approved the lease agreement with Randall Pool and Spa and authorized the Interim City Manager to execute the agreement.

5. MCES I/I Grant Reimbursement Resolution

Action – Adopted Resolution No. 2019-50 Entering into a Grant Agreement between the City of Excelsior and the Metropolitan

Council Environmental Services for the improvement of publicly owned infrastructure.

6. Approve Pay Voucher No. 4 – 2019 Street and Utility Improvement Project

Action – Approved Construction Pay Voucher No. 4 for the 2019 Street and Utility Improvement Project and authorized payment in the amount of \$689,900.42 to Northdale Construction Co., Inc.

4. Minnesota Streetcar Museum Barbed Wire Fence Request

Karen Kertzman, Minnesota Streetcar Museum, 501 Highway 7, addressed the City Council and explained the graffiti situation.

Petra Cripe, 450 West Lake Street, addressed the City Council suggesting signage or a camera versus barbed wire fencing.

Dierking moved, Miller seconded, to approve the barbed wire fence request for the Minnesota Streetcar Museum for the property located at 501 Highway 7.

## 8. PUBLIC HEARING

- (a) 2020 Street and Utility Improvement Project Public Hearing

Mayor Carlson opened the public hearing at 6:59 p.m.

Dawley presented information regarding the proposed improvements, costs and funding, estimated special assessments and the project schedule.

Mayor Carlson read into the record an email from Larry Klopp and Brian and Lisa Mathewson, George Street Apts., LLC, owners of property located at 136 George Street voicing concerns regarding a plan for parking and access to their apartments.

Petra Cripe, 450 West Lake Street, addressed the City Council in support of the project voicing concerns regarding the cost of the water line loops and the possibility of moving of the fire hydrant across from her property.

Hearing no additional comments from the public, Mayor Carlson closed the public hearing at 7:38 p.m.

Caron moved, Dierking seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 2019-52 – A Resolution Ordering Improvement Regarding 2020 Street and Utility Improvements. Motion carried 4/0.

- (b) Variance Requests for 925 Excelsior Boulevard

Mayor Carlson opened the public hearing at 7:40 p.m.

Caron recommended staff add the finding to the resolution that the neighboring property was granted variances from the maximum height, side, front and rear yard setback standards.

Hearing no additional comments from the public, Mayor Carlson closed the public hearing at 7:49 p.m.

Caron moved, Miller seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 2019-51 A Resolution Approving Variances from the Front Yard (Ordinary High Water Level (OHWL)), Rear Yard, Accessory Structure Setback, Driveway and Side Yard Setbacks; Maximum Impervious Surface; Design Standards; and the Requirement that a Garage with Street-Facing Garage Doors be Recessed at Least Ten Feet from the Longest Front or Side Wall Plane of the Principal Building for 925 Excelsior Boulevard with the addition of the finding that the neighboring property was granted variances from the maximum height, side, front and rear yard setback standards. Carried 4/0.

9. PETITIONS, REQUEST and COMMUNICATIONS

- (a) None

10. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

- (a) None

11. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, and COMMITTEES

- (a) Discuss Appointment of Planning Commission Member and Residential Review Board Research Committee Member

Dierking moved, Caron seconded, to appoint Ann Hersman to the Planning Commission vacancy. Motion carried 4/0.

Miller moved, Dierking seconded, to appoint John Beattie to the Residential Review Board Research Committee. Motion carried 4/0.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- (a) Discuss City/Chamber Memorandum of Understanding

Dierking moved, Caron seconded, to continue this item to the November 4 Council Meeting.

- (b) Water Street Tree Committee Findings

Petra Cripe, 450 West Lake Street, addressed the City Council, voicing

concerns regarding the replacement of trees on Water Street.

Miller moved, Dierking seconded, to accept the Tree Committee's recommendation and replace seven (7) trees on Water Street at an estimated cost of \$64,141. Motion carried 4/0.

13. NEW BUSINESS

(a) PUD Sketch Plan Review for 690 Excelsior Boulevard

Becker explained the PUD Sketch Plan Review is designed as an opportunity for the Council to provide feedback on a proposed project. No development rights are being provided by the application. Discussion by the Council will give guidance to the applicant and the applicant will gain a sense from the City if they should pursue the project. The applicant is proposing to construct a three story 24-unit luxury condominium complex with underground parking at 690 Excelsior Boulevard.

Robert Sarna, 500NNL, LLC, 687 Excelsior Boulevard, addressed the Council explaining the background of the company and aspects of the development project.

Joan Maher, 905 Excelsior Blvd., addressed the Council voicing concerns about the project design.

Ann Hersman, 823 Hidden Lane, addressed the Council voicing concerns about the project design.

Petra Cripe, 450 West Lake Street, addressed the Council voicing concerns about the project design.

The Council discussed the project in detail voicing support for the project with concerns regarding creative design, height, view corridors and significant public benefit.

(b) Dedication of Tree for Deb and Rick Rodgers

The Council directed staff to work on dedicating a tree in The Commons for Deb and Rick Rodgers.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Dierking moved, Caron seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:44 p.m. Motion carried 4/0.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynette R. Peterson, City Clerk