



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA
TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2024
7 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Dan Louismet called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The City Clerk took attendance for Councilmembers Kevin Edberg, Steven Engstran, Heidi Hughes, Bill Walsh, and Andrea West. Staff in attendance were City Manager Lindy Crawford, Public Works Director/City Engineer Paul Kauppi, City Attorney Dave Anderson, and City Clerk Caley Longendyke.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting on May 28, 2024

It was moved by Councilmember **Engstran**, seconded by Councilmember **West**, to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Minutes of the City Council Work Session on May 28, 2024

It was moved by Councilmember **Engstran**, seconded by Councilmember **West**, to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Councilmember **Engstran**, seconded by Councilmember **Edberg**, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Accept minutes: April Parks Advisory Commission, April Environmental Advisory Commission, April White Bear Lake Conservation District, May Planning Commission
- B. Resolution authorizing a Joint Powers Agreement with White Bear Township for Park Street watermain interconnection **Res. No. 13371**
- C. Resolutions approving an Easement Agreement and Construction Maintenance Agreement with BNSF for a traffic signal at 8th Street and Highway 61 **Res. No. 13372 and Res. No. 13373**

It was moved by Councilmember **Engstran**, seconded by Councilmember **Walsh**, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

5. VISITORS AND PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Louismet introduced Dave Anderson from Kennedy & Graven. He is stepping in as the new City Attorney following the departure of Troy Gilchrist. City Attorney Anderson shared information about himself and said he looks forward to working with the City.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Nothing scheduled.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing scheduled.

8. NEW BUSINESS

Nothing scheduled.

9. DISCUSSION**A. Trailer Parking in Ward 2 Neighborhoods**

Public Works Director/City Engineer Kauppi provided an overview of trailer parking conditions throughout the neighborhoods in Ward 2 adjacent from the White Bear Lake shoreline. Trailer parking between Stewart Avenue and Lake Avenue has been restricted to varying extents since 2001. The restrictions allow for control of where overflow boat trailers can be parked when the Matoska boat launch lot is full. Several changes were approved by Council in 2003 and 2005 to help remedy issues as they arose. Since the original restriction and amendments from the early 2000's, the streets in the area have mostly been reconstructed with curb and gutter, resulting in trailers not being able to park slightly off the road onto the shoulder and taking up more room in the street.

On several streets with narrower widths, with trailer parking on one side and parked cars along the other, the ability for vehicles to drive in between becomes nearly impossible, creating safety and mobility issues. In addition, boat trailers have become wider and staff has seen an increase in boats being launched into White Bear Lake. Upon staff review of the existing restrictions and street widths, staff recommends a series of changes to help mitigate safety and mobility issues created by boat trailer parking. Director Kauppi reviewed the current and proposed restrictions. In summary, the proposed restrictions involve segments of 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th Street, with no parking on the north side and no trailer parking on the south side.

Mayor Louismet asked if the issue is limited to boat trailers or if there is a broader issue with parking volume. He asks the question because the proposed parking restrictions will affect residents, including their guests, who live along and park on streets. Director Kauppi said there is a broader issue with parking, because general vehicle parking on both sides of the street only allows for eight feet of clearance, which affects access for emergency vehicles. Mayor Louismet asked about logistics of communicating the proposed changes to neighborhood residents and a timeline for getting signs installed. Director Kauppi said the City Council would need to approve the parking restrictions via resolution and signs could be made and installed within the following few weeks. For a communication plan, he said it depends how formal of a process the City Council wants for the public. A formal public hearing requires a newspaper publication with 10-days' notice. Councilmember Walsh asked if the overflow trailer parking is exclusively from Matoska Park or if there is some from the nearby Ramsey County boat launch. Director Kauppi said most of it is from Matoska Park, due to the limited parking spots.

Councilmember Hughes expressed support for the proposed restrictions and requested that notice be sent to residents as soon as possible. City Manager Crawford referenced

Councilmember Hughes' comment about parking occurring on Highway 96, and wondered if there were additional streets north of 11th Street that need to be addressed. Staff will review the area and respond accordingly. Councilmember Edberg asked about the general impact of parking restrictions for visitors of the area who frequent businesses. He also asked if the previous street reconstruction should have allowed for more street space. Director Kauppi explained that right-of-way access and setbacks for garages and homes needed to be considered. Wider streets would have required on-street parking for residents because driveways would have been too small. Mayor Louismet addressed Councilmember Edberg's first question, saying people with boat trailers most likely aren't frequenting downtown businesses, but acknowledged it should be part of the discussion. While it can be a factor in the discussion, he said the primary concern should be quality of life for residents who live in that area.

When discussing a scheduled public hearing, City Manager Crawford sensed the Mayor and City Council's desire for urgency, and brought attention to the length of time it will take to publish a public hearing notice in the paper, and allow for 10-days' notice. Mayor Louismet shared his preference for a more informal process in order to send out notice immediately, have this brought back to the June 25 City Council meeting, and directed staff to mail the notice more broadly, beyond the affected blocks. Councilmember Edberg suggested sending the notice to the Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Main Street, Inc.

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Crawford shared upcoming events, including Manitou Days and Marketfest. There will be a ribbon cutting for the South Shore / Lake Links Trail and the first of three events for Fridays with Firefighters. She shared that the City is selling magnets and stickers that don the City's distinguishable water tower. She reminded City Council of a scheduled tour of the Lochner, a new apartment property, with the Planning Commission. She announced that she will not be in attendance at the June 26 regular meeting, and that Assistant City Manager Rick Juba will sit in her place.


11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, it was moved by Councilmember **Engstran**, seconded by Councilmember **Hughes**, to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:33 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.



Dan Louismet, Mayor

ATTEST:



Caley Longendyke, City Clerk