

DRAFT



Approved: June 27, 2022

**CITY OF ARDEN HILLS, MINNESOTA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 13, 2022
7:00 P.M. - ARDEN HILLS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, Mayor David Grant called to order the regular City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor David Grant, Councilmembers Brenda Holden, Fran Holmes, and Steve Scott

Absent: Councilmember David Radziej (excused)

Also present: Finance Director Gayle Bauman; Public Works Director/City Engineer Dave Swearingen; City Planner Jessica Jagoe; City Attorney Joel Jamnik; and City Clerk Julie Hanson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Holden requested Item 7B be pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion under Item 8A.

MOTION: **Councilmember Holden moved and Councilmember Holmes seconded a motion to approve the meeting agenda as amended. The motion carried (4-0).**

2. PUBLIC INQUIRIES/INFORMATIONAL

None.

3. RESPONSE TO PUBLIC INQUIRIES

None.

4. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

A. Ramsey County Attorney Public Safety Presentation

John Choi, Ramsey County Attorney, spoke to the Council regarding referral and charging data from the County and how the County was working to address these concerns. He encouraged the public to engage him in order to have further conversations. He reported there has been a decline in youth cases and the charging rate has been much tighter. The uptick in violent crime in St. Paul was reviewed. He believed solutions to this concern would be found when groups begin working together and was pleased to report that numbers were trending down in 2022 when compared to 2021. He commented on how national crime trends, the pandemic, civil unrest, the proliferation of guns, and policing challenges were impacting crime in the community. The Rule 20 “Gap” cases were discussed along with how the Minnesota Freedom Fund and cash bail system in the State was impacting crime. He reviewed the members of the community that have joined the Violence Reduction Leadership Group and discussed the great work being done by this group. His view on non-public safety traffic stops was discussed, along with how his office prioritizes violent crime. He thanked the Council for their continued support and asked for comments or questions.

Councilmember Scott requested further comment on the cycles of crime.

Ramsey County Attorney Choi discussed how crime increased after three day weekends, but noted he was not seeing cycles or patterns throughout the year. He commented on how many cases were not heard in court but rather handled through a plea bargain because there were not enough judges and attorneys to try all of the cases.

Mayor Grant commented on the crime rates over the past decade and requested further comment on how the County Attorney chooses which cases will be tried.

Ramsey County Attorney Choi explained which cases were and were not tried by his office.

Councilmember Holden asked if the County was prosecuting the theft of packages from doorways.

Ramsey County Attorney Choi indicated this would depend on the value of the item that was stolen, but noted the County was prosecuting these cases. He stated any item stolen that was valued over \$1,000 was a felony.

Councilmember Holmes discussed the case gap situation and how some police departments now have social workers working alongside police officers.

Ramsey County Attorney Choi stated there was really good work being done and noted the Board of Commissioners has allocated money to have co-responders that would work or support police with regard to mental health cases. He commented on how Ramsey County was working to adjust its dispatch system noting the police may not always be sent to every 911 call.

Mayor Grant thanked Ramsey County Attorney Choi for his presentation and for all of his work on behalf of the community.

5. STAFF COMMENTS

A. Transportation Update

Public Works Director Swearingen reported Lexington Avenue continues to be closed to all northbound traffic and was restricted to one lane southbound from I-694 to County Road E. He commented further on the detours that were in place and noted the northbound closure would be in place through the month of June. He noted this was a Ramsey County project and information regarding this project can be found on the County's website.

Public Works Director Swearingen stated MNDOT began their median cable barrier construction project along Highway 51 from County Road C to I-694. He reported traffic was open for two lanes of traffic both north and southbound with intermittent daily road closures.

Public Works Director Swearingen explained final paving for the City Hall parking lot would be completed on Friday, June 24 after City Hall business hours.

Public Works Director Swearingen updated the Council on the progress being made on the Old Snelling project, along with the work that was being done for the 2022 street improvement project and commented on how this work would extend the life of the streets.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. May 16, 2022, City Council Work Session
- B. May 23, 2022, Regular City Council

Councilmember Holmes noted she spoke with staff regarding a change to the May 16 work session minutes.

MOTION: Councilmember Holden moved and Councilmember Holmes seconded a motion to approve the May 16, 2022, City Council Work Session meeting minutes as amended; and the May 23, 2022, Regular City Council meeting minutes as printed. The motion carried (4-0).

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Motion to Approve Consent Agenda Item - Claims and Payroll
- ~~B. Motion to Approve Listing Contract – Exclusive Right to Sell – ReMax Results – Sale of City Owned Parcel at 3588 Ridgewood Road~~
- C. Motion to Approve Payment No. 1 – T.A. Schifsky & Sons, Inc. – Snelling Avenue North Street and Utility Improvement Project

MOTION: Councilmember Holden moved and Councilmember Holmes seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar as amended, removing Item 7B, and to authorize execution of all necessary documents contained therein. The motion carried (4-0).

8. PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

- A. **Motion to Approve Listing Contract – Exclusive Right to Sell – ReMax Results – Sale of City Owned Parcel at 3588 Ridgewood Road**

Councilmember Holden requested further information on how ReMax was selected for this listing.

City Planner Jagoe explained following the December 20 City Council work session, staff was directed to put together a request for interest from local realtors to garner responses regarding the future listing of the property on Ridgewood Road. She reported staff put this request for interest together and this document was reviewed by the City Attorney prior to distribution. She explained the document was sent to ten local realtors. She noted John Peck had known of the property from following City Council agenda items. She indicated staff received two responses to the request for interest and both candidates were interviewed by a panel of staff and the panel has recommended Mr. Peck be selected.

Mayor Grant reported John Peck lives on his street. He noted he has lived in Arden Hills since 1989 and he often talks with John about how things are going in the community. He noted John has served on the PTRC and coached basketball for a number of years. He reiterated that staff chose John Peck for this listing and not the City Council.

MOTION: **Councilmember Holden moved and Councilmember Holmes seconded a motion to Approve Listing Contract – Exclusive Right to Sell – ReMax Results – Sale of City Owned Parcel at 3588 Ridgewood Road. The motion carried (4-0).**

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. Ordinance 2022-002 Amending Chapter 3 (Mobile Food Units/Food Trucks) and Ordinance 2022-003 Amending the 2022 Fee Schedule and Authorizing Publication of Related Summary Ordinances

City Clerk Hanson stated the City Council considered updates City Code pertaining to mobile units/food trucks last summer, and the matter was tabled at that time. She said the City Council revisited the food truck topic this spring and scheduled an open house for the May 16, 2022 work session. Notification of the open house was provided in the City's March newsletter and posted on the City's website. Following public input and further Council discussion at that work session, staff prepared draft language for the Council to consider at tonight's meeting.

City Clerk Hanson indicated that the draft proposed amendments included implementing a no-fee residential permit to host a food truck, similar to garage sales, in which residents may have no more than two food truck events at their private property and each event is not to exceed three days in duration. Other draft language included the removal of language relating to residential properties and private catered events such as weddings and graduation parties, thus allowing for open sales at residential properties, as well as the ability to impose an administrative fine in the amount of \$100 for residents that do not obtain the required no fee permit.

Councilmember Holmes suggested the section about the administrative fee for residents be amended to state a first offense will result in a warning and a second offense could result in a fee.

MOTION: **Councilmember Holden moved and Councilmember Holmes seconded a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-002 Amending Chapter 3, Section 320 - Limited, Temporary Permits, Subsections 320.09, 320.10 and 320.12; Section 395, Subsection 395.05, Subd. 1 and Subd. 2A; and Subsection 395.06.**

AMENDMENT: **Councilmember Holmes moved and Councilmember Holden seconded a motion to amend Section 395, Subsection 395.06 changing the second paragraph to read: A residential property shall be issued a warning for a first offense for failure to obtain the required permit as set forth in Section 320. Following a second offense, a resident may be charged an administrative penalty as set forth by the City Council (see Fee Schedule – Appendix A) for failure to obtain the required permit as set forth in Section 320.**

Councilmember Scott commented he would not be supporting this amendment because it adds more complexity than was necessary.

Councilmember Holden stated she would be supporting the proposed amendment in order to protect the silent majority on this issue. She explained residents would now be able to have a food truck twice per summer, but for respect of the neighbors, this would not be allowed every weekend of the summer.

Mayor Grant indicated he would be supporting the amendment as well.

The motion amending Section 395, Subsection 395.06 regarding violations carried 3-1 (Councilmember Scott opposed).

Councilmember Holmes encouraged staff to contact the residents that have recently applied to have residential food trucks in order to make them aware of these changes to encourage compliance with the Ordinance.

Councilmember Holden suggested the Ordinance effective date be next Monday.

Councilmember Holden asked when the summary Ordinance would be printed.

City Clerk Hanson reported the Ordinance would be printed in the paper on Wednesday.

Mayor Grant stated he supported the ordinance taking effect on July 1.

AMENDMENT: **Councilmember Holmes moved and Councilmember Holden seconded a motion to amend the effective date for the Ordinance to be July 1, 2022.**

The amendment regarding the effective date carried (4-0).

Councilmember Holden reported she would be supporting the proposed Ordinance and encouraged residents to respect each other within their neighborhood.

The motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-002 Amending Chapter 3, Section 320 - Limited, Temporary Permits, Subsections 320.09, 320.10 and 320.12; Section 395, Subsection 395.05, Subd. 1 and Subd. 2A; and Subsection 395.06, including the two (2) amendments: to revise Subsection 395.06 regarding violations and also the amendment regarding the effective of July 1, 2022, carried 4-0.

MOTION: **Councilmember Holden moved and Councilmember Holmes seconded a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-003 Amending the 2022 Fee Schedule. The motion carried (4-0).**

MOTION: **Councilmember Holden moved and Councilmember Holmes seconded a motion to adopt Summary Ordinances 2022-002 and 2022-003 with the summary publication reflecting the amendments. The motion carried (4-0).**

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

12. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Scott stated last month he attended a ribbon cutting for Lifelong Wealth Advisors which was a business that relocated to County Road E. He welcomed this business to the community.

Councilmember Scott noted he attended family day for the 34th Infantry Division (Red Bulls) National Guard. He reported there was a tremendous turnout for this event.

Councilmember Holmes thanked Ramsey County Attorney John Choi for his presentation this evening.

Councilmember Holmes stated she attended family day for the Red Bulls as well and toured their facility, which was quite impressive.

Councilmember Holden explained she also attended the Red Bulls family day. She indicated there were over 700 personnel members that report to the facility in Arden Hills, making this group an integral part of the community.

Councilmember Holden requested staff speak with MNDOT about trimming the ash trees along Snelling Avenue. She reported this work was done by MNDOT in Roseville, but not Arden Hills.

Councilmember Holden commented she was very concerned about Ramsey County not moving forward with TCAAP and how the City's County Commissioner responded to the City's approved proposal. She discussed how the County has not shown up to the last 40 monthly JDA meetings and how this was negatively impacting this project.

Councilmember Holden discussed the affordable housing units that were available within the City noting 483 units were at 30% AMI or below. She encouraged the City’s Ramsey County Commissioner to review this information in order to provide the City of Arden Hills with equal representation.

Mayor Grant reported he was disappointed with the fact the City’s Ramsey County Commissioner did not show up to speak with local businesses regarding the impacts of the County’s project along Lexington Avenue.

Mayor Grant stated this past week he toured some of the street project improvement sites with Public Works Director Swearingen.

Mayor Grant noted he attended the Lifelong Wealth ribbon cutting ceremony last month and welcomed this new business to the community.

Mayor Grant indicated he was out of town and was unable to attend the Red Bulls family day event.

ADJOURN

MOTION: Councilmember Holden moved and Councilmember Holmes seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion carried (4-0).

Mayor Grant adjourned the Regular City Council Meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Julie Hanson
City Clerk

David Grant
Mayor