



DRAFT

Approved: October 10, 2022

**CITY OF ARDEN HILLS, MINNESOTA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 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, Steve Scott and David Radziej (arrived at 7:03 p.m.)

Absent: None

Also present: City Administrator Dave Perrault; Public Works Director/City Engineer Dave Swearingen; Community Development Director Jessica Jagoe; and Assistant to the City Administrator/City Clerk Julie Hanson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

2. PUBLIC INQUIRIES/INFORMATIONAL

None.

3. RESPONSE TO PUBLIC INQUIRIES

A. Public Inquiry Response

City Administrator Perrault reviewed the public inquiry response from comments that were made at previous City Council meetings. He addressed rumors of the City Council's alleged opposition to a Costco in Arden Hills; he noted that the City Council has never voted, or given direction, against having a Costco. He also noted that Costco has been and continues to be part of the developer's plan for the site. He also noted the reason there is not a Costco on the site today is because the County won't move forward with the project. He reported Councilmember Holden

had expressed concern about Costco’s proposed location on the site, but not Costco itself. He also reported that the only statement regarding Costco allegedly made by a City Councilmember was in litigation brought by Ramsey County against the City; that particular statement is not cited nor is there any information on the source of the statement. He addressed that the statement was referenced in an e-mail by an outside party, however, they did not hear it first hand and he noted this quote was strictly hearsay at this point.

Councilmember Holden asked for a point of personal privacy.

Mayor Grant granted this request.

Councilmember Holden stated she was tired of the half truths that were being said about her. She explained she was the only Councilmember that was against Costco and that was because of the size, the large amount of asphalt, as well as the traffic and environmental impacts. She reported the proposed Costco would generate one million car trips per year and this had not been considered within the traffic study. She commented on how TCAAP was supposed to be a special, unique development. She indicated she alone opposed Costco and not the entire City Council. She explained she was tired of her name being damaged by an out of context statement that Ramsey County decided might sway the court. She reported the City denied that allegation. She reiterated for the record that the City Council was not against the Costco, it was her alone. She reported the City continues to give the County term sheets and proposals and the only thing the City hears from the County is no.

4. STAFF COMMENTS

A. Transportation Update

Public Works Director Swearingen reported one-lane of traffic was now open in both directions along Lexington Avenue.

Public Works Director Swearingen stated Ramsey County’s drainage improvement project at Old Snelling and Lake Valentine Road was now open to traffic from all directions. He encouraged residents to use caution while traveling through this intersection as it was still an active worksite.

Public Works Director Swearingen explained the City’s paving projects were now all completed.

Councilmember Holden thanked staff for all of their work to sealcoat, weed, and improve the City’s trails.

B. State of the City Update

City Administrator Perrault stated the State of the City will be held on Thursday, September 15 at 7:30 am at Boston Scientific in Building 3. For those that are unable to attend, the presentation would be available on Nine North.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Motion to Approve Consent Agenda Item - Claims and Payroll
- B. Motion to Approve Permanent Drainage and Utility and Temporary Construction Easements – PNL Invest, LLD – Karth Lake Runoff Control Project
- C. Motion to Approve Payment No. 1 – Astech Corp – Arden Oaks Neighborhood Improvements Project
- D. Motion to Approve Amended Planned Unit Development (PUD) Agreement – Scannell Properties – Planning Case 22-014

MOTION: Councilmember Holden moved and Councilmember Radziej seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented and to authorize execution of all necessary documents contained therein. The motion carried (5-0).

7. PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

None.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

9. NEW BUSINESS

None.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

11. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Scott invited everyone to attend the State of the City presentation which would be held on Thursday, September 15 at Boston Scientific.

Councilmember Scott reported he was selected to attend the nine week CERT Academy (Community Emergency Response Team) through Ramsey County Sheriff’s Office.

Councilmember Holmes explained she was looking forward to attending the State of the City event on Thursday.

Councilmember Holden encouraged cyclists to be aware of pedestrians on the City’s trails.

Mayor Grant requested an update on the Fernwood channel or pond.

Public Works Director Swearingen explained the City would be completing routine maintenance around the Fernwood ditch and sediment would be removed.

Councilmember Holden suggested the City hold a meeting with the neighbors in order to explain the work that would be completed. She reported she would be willing to attend this neighborhood meeting.

Mayor Grant stated residents were pleased with the speed sign that had been installed on Ingerson. He suggested a speed sign be considered along New Brighton Road in order to address the speed concerns along this stretch of roadway.

Mayor Grant reminded the public that the City was in the process of moving to 25 miles per hour for residential speed limits. He stated New Brighton was also making this change.

Public Works Director Swearingen provided the Council with further information on how staff was working to implement the new speed limit.

Mayor Grant thanked Boston Scientific for hosting the State of the City.

ADJOURN

MOTION: Councilmember Radziej moved and Councilmember Holden seconded a motion to adjourn. The motion carried (5-0).

Mayor Grant adjourned the Regular City Council Meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Julie Hanson
City Clerk

David Grant
Mayor