



DRAFT

Approved: November 14, 2022

**CITY OF ARDEN HILLS, MINNESOTA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 24, 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, David Radziej, and Steve Scott

Absent: None

Also present: City Administrator Dave Perrault; Public Works Director/City Engineer David Swearingen; Finance Director Gayle Bauman; Community Development Director Jessica Jagoe; City Attorney Joel Jamnik; and Assistant to the City Administrator/City Clerk Julie Hanson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

MOTION: **Councilmember Holden moved and Councilmember Radziej seconded a motion to approve the meeting agenda as amended. The motion carried (5-0).**

2. PUBLIC INQUIRIES/INFORMATIONAL

None.

3. RESPONSE TO PUBLIC INQUIRIES

None.

4. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None.

5. STAFF COMMENTS

A. Transportation Update

Public Works Director Swearingen reported the Lexington Avenue project was still ongoing. He noted one lane of traffic was open heading southbound and northbound. He explained this configuration would be ongoing as the new southbound lanes are constructed. He indicated this was a Ramsey County project and any comments or concerns should be brought to the County.

B. Election Update

Assistant to the City Administrator/City Clerk Hanson stated the General Election would be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022. She encouraged residents voting my mail to have their ballots to the Ramsey County Elections Office by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. She reviewed the locations for early voting and noted the City's website had additional information regarding the upcoming election.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. September 26, 2022, Regular City Council
- B. October 10, 2022, Regular City Council

MOTION: Councilmember Radziej moved and Councilmember Holden seconded a motion to approve the September 26, 2022, Regular City Council meeting minutes; and October 10, 2022, Regular City Council meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried (5-0).

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Motion to Approve Consent Agenda Item - Claims and Payroll
- B. Motion to Approve 2022 3rd Quarter Financials
- C. Motion to Approve Resolution 2022-044 Designating Polling Places for the 2023 Elections
- D. Motion to Approve Resolution 2022-045 – 2023 Curbside and Non-Curbside Recycling Fees
- E. Motion to Approve Recycling Contract Extension with Republic Services
- F. Motion to Approve Resolution 2022-046 Authorizing Application for Recycling SCORE Grant Funds from Ramsey County for 2023
- G. Motion to Approve 2023 Purchase of 2023 F450 Crane Truck
- H. ~~Motion to Approve Resolution 2022-047 for Conditional Use Permit Amendment and Site Plan Review – 1411 Paul Kirkwood Drive – Ramsey County Sheriff's Office (Fence) – Planning Case 22-018~~
- I. Motion to Approve Resolution 2022-048 Accepting Donation from AH Foundation (Flashlight Pumpkin Hunt)

- J. Motion to Approve Professional Services Agreement Amendment – HR Green – Floral Park Improvements
- K. Motion to Approve Lift Station and Forcemain Operations and Maintenance Agreement – Permanent Sanitary Sewer Easement – Mounds View High School

MOTION: Councilmember Holden moved and Councilmember Holmes seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar as amended, removing Item 7H, and to authorize execution of all necessary documents contained therein. The motion carried (5-0).

8. PULLED CONSENT ITEMS

- A. **Motion to Approve Resolution 2022-047 for Conditional Use Permit Amendment and Site Plan Review – 1411 Paul Kirkwood Drive – Ramsey County Sheriff’s Office (Fence) – Planning Case 22-018**

Councilmember Holden stated she would like further information regarding the two different types of fences.

Community Development Director Jagoe discussed the two types of perimeter security fencing Ramsey County would be installing on this property. She explained the Planning Commission reviewed this request and recommended approval of the Conditional Use Permit Amendment.

Councilmember Holden stated she would not be supporting the request because she wanted a more decorative looking fence installed.

Mayor Grant asked how the public was engaged for this Planning Case.

Community Development Director Jagoe stated a notice of the public hearing was published in the paper and neighbors within 1000 feet of the subject property received a mailed notice prior to the October 5 Planning Commission meeting. She indicated the City also published notice in the paper for the City Council meeting and resent notices to property owners within 1000 feet of the subject property.

Councilmember Holden inquired if this fence would surround the entire Ramsey County property.

Community Development Director Jagoe reported this was the case, noting the Ramsey County fencing would be connected to fencing on federal property.

Councilmember Holden questioned why the County was not paying for their half of the fence, due to the fact they have offices within the Sheriff Departments property.

Kyle Mestad, Director of Administration for the Ramsey County Sheriff’s Office, explained the funding for this project was through the County’s Capital Improvement Project. He indicated the dollars being used for the fence were allocated from Ramsey County.

Councilmember Radziej asked what was being protected behind the fence.

Mr. Mestad reported the Arden Hills campus houses the Ramsey County Sheriff's office which has a property room, evidence room, and fleet vehicles. In addition, the site houses Ramsey County Public Works Department vehicles, Arden Hills Public Works, and Mounds View School District Maintenance.

Councilmember Holmes asked why the fencing was being installed.

Mr. Mestad commented further on why the fencing was being requested, which was to provide for a more safe campus security plan that protected the County's assets, in the event there was civil unrest again in the community.

Councilmember Holden indicated she supported the property being secure but wanted to see nicer fencing installed around the site.

Mayor Grant explained he preferred the more decorative fencing as well. He commented on the responses that were received from the community. He noted the City would now have a very long expanse of barb-wired fencing when entering the community from the east. He indicated there were all kinds of security fences out there and did not believe the proposed plan was the right answer. He understood the County had a great deal of critical assets on this property and he appreciated the fact the County wanted the site secure. However, he was concerned about the appearance of Arden Hills for its residents, especially given the fact residents have expressed their concerns. He stated he supported the fence in concept, but would not be supporting the request until different security fencing was proposed.

Councilmember Holmes indicated she supported the fencing as proposed by Ramsey County. She commented a lot of the fencing would be hidden by shrubbery and trees. She noted this fencing was an economic and effective manner to protect the site.

Councilmember Scott stated at first he did not support the proposed fencing, but after completing the walking tour with the County he would be offering his support of the vinyl coated chain link fence.

Mayor Grant thanked the County for providing the Council with a tour of the County's property.

MOTION: **Councilmember Radziej moved and Councilmember Holden seconded a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-047, approving a Conditional Use Permit Amendment and Site Plan Review at 1411 Paul Kirkwood Drive for the Ramsey County Sheriff's Office based on the submitted plans and subject to the three conditions. The motion carried 3-2 (Councilmember Holden and Mayor Grant opposed).**

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

10. NEW BUSINESS

None.

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**A. Resolution 2022-049, Adopting 25 MPH Speed Limit Sign Plan for City Roadways**

John Morris, HR Green, stated Minnesota Statute 169.14 Speed Limits, Zones; Radar regulates highway and roadway speeds in Minnesota. Subdivision 2 sets maximum speed limits on a variety of roads within a Municipality, such as 10 mph in alleys, 30 mph in urban districts, and 25 mph on residential roadways, if adopted by the road authority. In August 2019, the Minnesota Legislature changed the Statutes governing speed limits on city streets. The changes allow cities to establish speed on roads under the City's jurisdiction, other than the statutory limits, without conducting an engineering and traffic investigation. Any speed limit changes must be implemented in a consistent and understandable manner. "The city must erect appropriate signs to display the speed limit. A city that uses the authority under this subdivision must develop procedures to set speed limits based on the city's safety, engineering, and traffic analysis. At a minimum, the safety, engineering, and traffic analysis must consider national urban speed limit guidance and studies, local traffic crashes, and methods to effectively communicate the change to the public." City Council has discussed speed limit changes on various roads, and called for a city-wide reduction on City owned and maintained streets, for a speed limit reduction from 30 MPH to 25 MPH.

Mr. Morris reported the 25 MPH Citywide speed limits have been discussed with City Council, staff, Ramsey County Engineering and Sheriff, City Attorney and Prosecutor to ensure proper sign locations from engineering, legal and enforcement perspectives. The final speed limit signage plan was reviewed with the Council in further detail. The City of Arden Hills studied streets under the City's jurisdiction, developed a map of city streets and speed limits, determined the appropriateness of a speed limit change, discussed and communicated speed limit changes effectively, and in public settings. The City of Arden Hills, as a safe, sustainable and walkable community, understands that lowering speed limits will provide for safer streets and reduce the likelihood of death or lifechanging injuries.

Mr. Morris explained Council action tonight is adopting Resolution 2022-049 which would adopt a 25 MPH Speed Limit Sign Plan for Roadways Under City Jurisdiction. The City Council of the City of Arden Hills accept the City of Arden Hills 25 MPH Speed Limit Sign Plan showing a reduced speed limit for city jurisdiction roadways of 25 mph, with the intent of amending the City Ordinance to establish the city-wide 25 MPH speed limit, with an effective date of February 1, 2023. An ordinance amending Chapter 8, Traffic and Motor Vehicles, Section 800, Traffic and Parking Regulation of the Arden Hills City Code will come at a later date. It is required to post the proposed ordinance on the City's website 10 days prior to the adoption of the ordinance. Once the official ordinance is approved future public communications will be put out in the City's newsletter, social media, and website.

Councilmember Holden asked how much money the City would be spending on new signs.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Swearingen estimated the City would spend \$4,000 for new 25 MPH signs.

Mayor Grant commented on how the demographics of Arden Hills was turning over and there were now more young families with children. He stated this was another good reason to reduce the residential speed limit to 25 MPH.

Councilmember Holmes recommended an article be placed in the City newsletter letting residents know the new speed limit would go into effect in February of 2023. She suggested information also be posted on the City’s website.

Mayor Grant asked when the new speed limit signs would be posted.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Swearingen commented with the final plans in place, he could order the sign materials and the signs would be posted this winter.

Councilmember Radziej stated he found the 25 MPH speed limit to be annoying in other communities. While he understood safety was paramount this was something he would be voting against.

MOTION: **Councilmember Holden moved and Councilmember Holmes seconded a motion to adopt Resolution #2022-051 – Adopting 25 MPH Speed Limit Sign Plan for Roadways Under City Jurisdiction.**

Councilmember Holden stated she believed lowering the speed limit would assist with slowing traffic in residential neighborhoods.

Mayor Grant requested staff review a map of the City noting which roadways would have the speed limit adjusted.

Mr. Morris reviewed a City map noting the roadways that would have the speed limit reduced to 25 MPH. It was noted the City would not be able to lower the speed on any County roadway such as Lake Johanna Boulevard, New Brighton Road, Highway 96, and County Road E.

The motion to adopt Resolution #2022-051 carried 4-1 (Councilmember Radziej opposed).

12. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Holmes thanked the Arden Hills Foundation for their donation to the Pumpkin Hunt.

Councilmember Holmes stated she fully supported changing the speed limit to 25 MPH.

Councilmember Holden asked if staff had received the Fernwood channel borings.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Swearingen explained he received those borings this morning and the soil was determined to be acceptable. He noted work would begin on the channel next week.

Councilmember Holden asked if the City should look into providing security fencing around its water towers.

Mayor Grant supported the City looking into providing this security measure.

Mayor Grant thanked the Arden Hills Foundation for participating in the Halloween Pumpkin Hunt.

Mayor Grant stated the City has been anxiously awaiting to see if the fire department received the Safer Grant.

City Administrator Perrault stated he has not heard if the fire department received this grant.

ADJOURN

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

Mayor Grant adjourned the Regular City Council Meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Julie Hanson
City Clerk

David Grant
Mayor