



City of Blaine

City Council

June 20, 2023 | 7:00 PM
Blaine City Hall
10801 Town Square Drive NE
Blaine, MN 55449

MINUTES

1. Call to Order by the Mayor

The meeting was called to order at 07:01 PM by Mayor Sanders followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the Roll Call.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

PRESENT: Mayor Tim Sanders, Councilmembers Terra Fleming, Leslie Larson, Chris Massoglia, Tom Newland, Jess Robertson and Lori Saroya.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Michelle Wolfe; Community Development Director Erik Thorvig; City Planner Sheila Sellman; Police Captain Russ Clark; Finance Director/Assistant City Manager Joe Huss; Deputy Finance Director Alison Bong; Finance Supervisor Bonnie Friedrich; Finance Analyst Jenna Trittin; Director of Engineering Dan Schluender; City Attorney Tom Loonan; Communications Manager Ben Hayle; and City Clerk Catherine Sorensen

4. Awards - Presentations - Organizational Business

4.1. 2023-259 Proclamation Recognizing Joe Huss *Sponsors:*

Mayor Sanders read a proclamation in full for the record recognizing Steve Guider for his work on Veterans Memorial Park and declaring June 20, 2023 to be Steve Guider day in the city of Blaine. He encouraged all residents of Blaine to visit this park and to plan to attend a future Memorial Day celebration. A round of applause and standing ovation was offered by all in attendance.

Steve Guider thanked the city for this unexpected recognition. He thanked Rick and Denise Swanson for donating countless hours to the park then noted he would be dedicating a women in service monument on July 7, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

Mayor Sanders read a proclamation in full for the record recognizing Finance Director/Assistant City Manager Joe Huss and thanked him for his 20 years of dedicated service to the city of Blaine and wished him a long and healthy retirement.

Finance Director/Assistant City Manager Huss thanked the council for this recognition and for offering such tremendous support and guidance over the years. A round of applause and standing ovation was offered by all in attendance.

5. Communications

5.1. 2023-235 2022 Audit and Financial Report *Sponsors: Alison Bong, Deputy Finance Director*

Andy Hering, Redpath and Company, presented the results of the 2022 audit and financial reports to the city council. He explained the city received a clean or unmodified opinion, which was the highest opinion the city could receive. He discussed the city's internal controls in further detail and commended the city for its strong financial position.

Mr. Huss recognized the finance staff for their efforts on the audit, especially Deputy Finance Director Ali Bong and Finance Supervisor Bonnie Friedrich.

6. Open Forum

Open Forum is an opportunity for the public to present an issue or concern to City Council. There is a maximum of fifteen minutes set aside for open forum. Each presentation should be limited to no more than three minutes. If your item needs follow-up from the City, staff will arrange for that follow-up and will contact you to let you know what is being done. Thank you for coming this evening.

Mayor Sanders opened the Open Forum at 7:30PM.

Jessica Bahr, 116 91st Lane NE, shared comments and encouraged the council to consider adopting a humane pet store ordinance.

Melissa Hurd, 9923 Washington Street NE, shared her support for Go Humane Blaine and encouraged the council to consider adopting a humane pet store ordinance.

There being no further input, Mayor Sanders closed the Open Forum at 7:34PM.

7. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

8. Approval of Consent Agenda:

All items listed under the "Consent Agenda" are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember or citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

Moved by Councilmember Newland, seconded by Councilmember Robertson, to adopt the consent agenda as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

- 8.1.** 2023-256 Schedule of Bills Paid
Sponsors: Joe Huss, Finance Director/Asst. City Manager
- 8.2.** 2023-266 Approval of Minutes
Sponsors:
- 8.3.** RES 23-99 Resolution for Final Plat Approval to Create Two Lots to be Known as National Sports Village at 2030 105th Avenue NE. South Side Entertainment District (105th Blaine Business Park, LLC) (Case File No. 23-0053/SAS)
Sponsors: Sheila Sellman, City Planner
- 8.4.** 2023-238 Notifying League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust That Monetary Limits on Tort Liability are Not Waived
Sponsors: Alison Bong, Deputy Finance Director
- 8.5.** 2023-249 Consider Special Event for Eid Prayer Service Located at the National Sports Center June 28, 2023
Sponsors: Cathy Sorensen, City Clerk
- 8.6.** 2023-250 Approve Remaining 2023-2024 Liquor License Renewals
Sponsors: Cathy Sorensen, City Clerk
- 8.7.** 2023-255 Approve a Temporary On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License for Sgt. John Rice VFW at the VFW, 1374 19th Avenue NE
Sponsors: Cathy Sorensen, City Clerk

9. 7:00 PM - Public Hearing and Items Published for a Certain Time

- 9.1.** 2023-253 Approve an On-Sale Wine and 3.2 Percent Malt Liquor Licenses for JAC LLC dba Carol's Restaurant, 11888 Aberdeen Street NE
Sponsors: Cathy Sorensen, City Clerk

City Clerk Sorensen stated council is being asked to approve an on-sale wine and 3.2 malt liquor license for JAC LLC dba Carol's Restaurant, 11888 Aberdeen Street NE to allow the ability to serve beer and wine. Jacqueline Smith-Carlson, Alyssa Birdsdall and Courtney Birdsdall have submitted applications for on-sale wine and 3.2 malt liquor licenses for Carol's Restaurant. The current owners are retiring and selling the restaurant to family members. The applicants have paid the required license fees, forms and documents, and if approved, the wine license will allow the applicants to serve strong beer as well. Issuance of the licenses is contingent upon receipt of the certificate of insurance, lease agreement, employee training policy, successful background investigation, and Anoka County food and beverage license. The background investigation is currently in progress for the applicant and the onsite responsible parties. The liquor licenses, if approved, would be valid from July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. All required information will be submitted to the State's alcohol and gambling enforcement division upon approval of the licenses by the Council. Staff requested the council hold a public hearing and recommended approval of the On-Sale Wine and 3.2 Percent Malt Liquor License.

Mayor Sanders opened the public hearing at 7:36PM.

There being no public input, Mayor Sanders closed the public hearing at 7:36PM.

Moved by Councilmember Robertson, seconded by Councilmember Massoglia, to Approve an On-Sale Wine and 3.2 Percent Malt Liquor Licenses for JAC LLC dba Carol's Restaurant, 11888 Aberdeen Street NE.

Motion passed unanimously.

10. Development Business

- 10.1.** RES 23-93 Resolution Granting a Conditional Use Permit for Outside Storage and Multiple Buildings on One Lot in the I-2 (Heavy Industrial) Zoning District at 10101 Naples Street NE. Park Construction Company (Carlson Group LLC) (Case File No. 23-0020/EES)
Sponsors: Sheila Sellman, City Planner

City Planner Sellman stated the applicant is proposing a contractor's yard with outside storage of equipment and materials. The conditional use permit is for outside storage and multiple buildings on a lot. It was noted this item was continued from the June 5 city council

meeting to allow staff to discuss the maintenance and fencing near the pond. It was noted staff was recommending the outdoor storage area be fenced and explained the city discourages stockpiling snow in stormwater ponds. Staff commented further on the request and recommended approval with conditions.

Jeff Carlson, Park Construction, shared comments regarding the difficulty of cleaning the pond and requested the fence be located on the south side of the pond, adding he did not need the pond area for snow removal. He asked that he be allowed to connect to the neighbor's fence as an alternative.

Mayor Sanders asked if large gates on the fence would provide proper access to the stormwater pond. Mr. Carlson indicated he would rather not have a gate due to the narrow access point near the pond.

Ms. Sellman stated she was not presented with the alternative fencing plan but that staff would be comfortable with the proposal so long as Mr. Carlson gets permission from the adjacent property owner.

Moved by Councilmember Robertson, seconded by Councilmember Newland, to adopt a Resolution Granting a Conditional Use Permit for Outside Storage and Multiple Buildings on One Lot in the I-2 (Heavy Industrial) Zoning District at 10101 Naples Street NE with the alternative fencing plan as proposed by the applicant.

Motion passed unanimously.

- 10.2.** RES 23-94 Resolution Granting an Interim Use Permit to Operate a Contractors' Yard for Concrete Crushing in the I-2 (Heavy Industrial) Zoning District at 10101 Naples Street NE. Park Construction Company (Carlson Group LLC) (Case File No. 23-0020/EES)
Sponsors: Sheila Sellman, City Planner

Ms. Sellman stated the applicant is requesting an interim use permit to allow concrete crushing as part of a contractor's yard. The interim use permit would approve the use with conditions for a period of three years.

Moved by Councilmember Robertson, seconded by Councilmember Massoglia, to Resolution Granting an Interim Use Permit to Operate a Contractors' Yard for Concrete Crushing in the I-2 (Heavy Industrial) Zoning District at 10101 Naples Street NE. Park Construction Company.

Motion passed unanimously.

11. Administration

- 11.1.** 2023-254 Recommend Appointment of Ayman Ali Khan to the Blaine Charter Commission

Sponsors: Cathy Sorensen, City Clerk

Ms. Sorensen stated council was being asked to recommend the appointment of Ayman Ali Khan to the Blaine Charter Commission.

Moved by Councilmember Robertson, seconded by Councilmember Newland, to recommend the Appointment of Ayman Ali Khan to the Blaine Charter Commission.

Councilmember Massoglia requested further comment regarding the function and purpose of the Blaine Charter Commission. Ms. Sorensen reported the Charter Commission was a quasi-judicial board that makes recommendations regarding changes to the charter but could also bring changes forward for inclusion as a ballot question.

Motion passed unanimously.

11.2. 2023-247 Appointments to the SBM Fire Board

Sponsors: Cathy Sorensen, City Clerk

Ms. Sorensen stated council was being asked to make appointments to the SBM Fire Board for two terms to expire in 2026. It was noted staff received nine applications for the two open positions.

Moved by Councilmember Robertson, seconded by Councilmember Newland, to approve the appointment of Rebecca Booker and Terry Wold to the SBM Fire Board.

Councilmember Massoglia thanked each of the residents of Blaine who applied for these open seats.

Councilmember Saroya thanked Mr. Wold for his patience through this process and stated she was excited he would continue to serve on the fire board.

Motion passed unanimously.

11.3. RES 23-113 Authorization to Transfer Unrestricted General Fund Reserves

Sponsors: Joe Huss, Finance Director/Asst. City Manager

Mr. Huss stated pursuant to council direction provided upon adoption of the 2023 Budget along with guidance provided by the city's Fund Balance Policy, council is requested to authorize the transfer of unrestricted General Fund reserves to the city's self-insurance funds.

Moved by Councilmember Robertson, seconded by Councilmember Massoglia, to adopt a resolution to Authorize Transfer of Unrestricted General Fund Reserves.

Motion passed unanimously.

12. Other Business

None.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Councilmember Massoglia, seconded by Councilmember Robertson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:54PM.

Motion adopted unanimously.



Signed by

Tim Sanders, Mayor

Signed by

Cathy Sorensen, CMC, City Clerk