

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE ANOKA CITY COUNCIL
ANOKA CITY HALL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
OCTOBER 3, 2016**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rice called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL

Present at roll call: Mayor Rice, Councilmembers Anderson, Freeburg, and Weaver.

Staff present: City Manager Greg Lee; Associate Planner Stephanie Rouse; Police Chief Phil Johanson; City Assessor Scott Varner; and City Attorney Scott Baumgartner.

Absent at roll call: Councilmember Schmidt.

3. COUNCIL MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of September 26, 2016, Regular Meeting.

Motion by Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Freeburg, to waive the reading and approve the September 26, 2016, Regular Meeting minutes.

Vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

4. OPEN FORUM

4.1 Introduction of Stephanie Rouse, Associate Planner.

Associate Planner Stephanie Rouse introduced herself and shared her background with the Council, stating she is enjoying her time in Anoka.

Mayor Rice thanked Ms. Rouse and welcomed her to the City.

4.2 Downtown Security/City-Wide Activity.

Police Chief Phil Johanson updated the Council on downtown security and other City-wide activity. He reported that things have been going very well and referred to the recent Halloween Stamp unveiling event and the football game at Goodrich Field which both went well. Chief Johanson said they will continue to have extra foot patrols near businesses and in parks and will continue to have a visible presence in Anoka.

Councilmember Freeburg said people have noticed the increased police presence and thanked everyone involved, stating citizens and businesses appreciate the efforts as well.

- 4.3 Bart Ward, Anoka, shared about the recent Halloween Stamp unveiling and how successful the event was. He thanked everyone involved for their outstanding work, especially staff members Lisa LaCasse, Pam Bowman, Mark Anderson, and Johnny Holmes.
- 4.4 Derrick Larson, 319 Monroe Street, shared reasons surrounding his current financial situation and how he intends to improve it and asked for additional time to pay fines imposed on his property.

Mayor Rice thanked Mr. Larson for the information and stated while Council cannot act on any items during Open Forum that staff will follow-up with him.

City Assessor Scott Varner noted there is an administrative fine from Mr. Larson's property included in the next item that Council will be acting on.

5. PUBLIC HEARING(S)

- 5.1 Assessment for Services.
RES/Adopting Assessment for Services.

RESOLUTION

Mr. Varner shared a staff report with background information to the Council stating Anoka City Ordinances and Minnesota Statutes allow for the certification of unpaid service billings which may include costs associated with weed and diseased tree removal, false alarms, delinquent utility accounts and other miscellaneous services to the public including removal of public health hazards from private property. Mr. Varner shared the updated list includes one less assessment as the property owner has since paid the assessment and referred to Mr. Larson's included assessment and that staff could work with him and any other property owner regarding payment.

Councilmember Freeburg confirmed that Council action only affirms these assessments. Mayor Rice said that is correct, noting property owners will have some options regarding payment of these assessments, including collections with 2017 property taxes.

Councilmember Weaver asked if the total assessment amount is consistent with past years. Mr. Varner said the City has had some extraordinary years in the past but said this year is consistent with others and contains nothing unusual with the exception of one assessment for \$3,000 for a diseased tree.

Mayor Rice noted this list used to contain over 100 assessments and now includes 30 which is less than in the past. Mr. Varner agreed, stating 2009 and 2010 had many assessments due to the rate of foreclosures but has since decreased.

Mayor Rice opened the public hearing at 7:22 p.m.

A member of the audience requested a copy of the assessment list from Mr. Varner.

Being no further comments, Mayor Rice closed the public hearing at 7:23 p.m.

NOTE: By motion from Councilmember Weaver, which was seconded by Councilmember Anderson, and by a unanimous vote of the Council, agenda item 9.1 was moved up on the agenda and acted upon at this point.

Motion by Councilmember Weaver, seconded by Councilmember Anderson, to adopt a resolution adopting assessment for services.

Mayor Rice confirmed with Mr. Larson that he understood the process and that his assessment will appear on his first half taxes in 2017.

Upon a roll call vote: Mayor Rice, Councilmembers Anderson, Freeburg, and Weaver voted in favor. Motion carried.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Weaver, to approve Consent Agenda 6.1 through 6.3.

6.1 Approved Verified Bills.

6.2 Revising and Setting Council Calendars.

6.3 Issuance of an Off-Sale Malt Liquor License; Anoka Gas Stop, 703 E. River Road.

Vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

7. REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

None.

8. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATION

None.

9. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

9.1 RES/Adopting Assessment for Services.

ACTED UPON AFTER PUBLIC HEARING

9.2 ORD/Amending Salaries of Mayor and City Councilmembers.
(1st Reading)

City Manager Greg Lee shared a staff report with background information to the Council stating that in reviewing the City Council budget, staff had discussions regarding the annual salary for the Mayor and City Councilmembers. The last time there was an adjustment to the Mayor & City Councilmembers salary was ten (10) years ago in 2006 and that Anoka City Charter Section and Minn. Stat. § 415.11 authorizes a City Council to set their salaries by adoption of an ordinance. This same Statute states that an increase to the salaries of a City Council may not become effective until after the next municipal election and with the municipal election occurring on November 8, 2016, staff is bringing this ordinance forward at this time. Mr. Lee noted the proposed increase was included in the Preliminary Budget for 2017 adopted on September 6, 2016 and the proposed 10% increases of \$9,699 annually for Mayor and \$7,855 annually for Councilmembers would become effective on January 1, 2017.

Councilmember Weaver stated that while he plans to oppose this ordinance because of the need for a 4/5 vote and because of Councilmember Schmidt's absence he will vote in favor of first reading to move this forward for consideration at the next meeting.

Motion by Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Freeburg, to hold first reading of an ordinance establishing salaries for Mayor and City Council pursuant to Section 2.07 of the Charter of the City of Anoka.

Upon a roll call vote: Mayor Rice, Councilmembers Anderson, Freeburg, and Weaver voted in favor. Motion carried.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Appointment to Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Mr. Lee shared a staff report with background information to the Council stating at your meeting on September 6, 2016 the Council accepted the resignation of Lynn Hopkins from the HRA. Staff advertised for applications to fill this

vacancy, per City Policy, and one application was received from Althea Maravelas of Anoka, MN. This would be a partial term vacancy appointment with an expiration date of 12/31/2019. Mr. Lee outlined the City's current board and commission vacancies and noted staff will be advertising for all boards and commissions in October.

Councilmember Freeburg said he is excited to have Ms. Maravelas involved with the HRA, stating she is involved in many other City activities and will do a great job.

Councilmember Weaver said Ms. Maravelas is a business owner on Main Street and will be a great addition and voice to the HRA.

Motion by Councilmember Weaver, seconded by Councilmember Freeburg, to appoint Althea Maravelas to the Housing and Redevelopment Authority for a term to expire December 31, 2019.

Ms. Maravelas said she is honored to fill this role and hopes to bring some good background and help to the Board in the best way she can. She said she owns Nine Design on Main Street and is currently working on opening another business.

Vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Rice welcomed Ms. Maravelas to the Board, stating the HRA works to improve the City and that Ms. Maravelas will be a great addition to the Board.

12. UPDATES AND REPORTS

12.1 Tentative Agenda(s).

The Council reviewed the tentative agendas of the upcoming Council meetings.

12.2 Staff and Council Input.

Mayor Rice encouraged residents to attend and support the many upcoming events scheduled for Anoka Halloween in October.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Freeburg, made a motion to adjourn the Regular Council meeting. Councilmember Anderson, seconded the motion.

Vote taken. All ayes. Motion carried.

Time of adjournment: 7:32 p.m.

October 3, 2016 (Regular)

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Submitted by: Cathy Sorensen, *TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*

Approval Attestation:

Amy T. Oehlers, City Clerk