

**CITY OF SHOREVIEW
MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
March 18, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Martin called the regular meeting of the Shoreview City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on March 18, 2013.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present: Mayor Martin; Councilmembers Johnson, Quigley, Wickstrom and Withhart.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Martin requested a discussion of several bills being introduced at the legislature regarding lake levels during the *Special Order of Business* portion of the meeting.

MOTION: by Councilmember Wickstrom, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to approve the March 18, 2013 agenda as amended.

VOTE: Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

There were none.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were none.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Withhart:

The Shoreview/Einhausen Sister City Association is hosting their 11th Annual Dinner at Gasthaus on Saturday, April 13, 2013. There is detailed information on the Sister City website. The City website has a link to that website.

The next program of the Environmental Quality Committee (EQC) lecture series will be Wednesday, March 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The subject is *Trees: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly*, to be presented by John Moriarty.

The Shoreview Northern Lights Variety Band will hold its Spring Concert, Saturday, April 20, 2013, at 7:00 p.m., Benson Great Hall, at Bethel University. Tickets are \$7.00 if purchased ahead and \$12 at the door.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: by Councilmember Withhart, seconded by Councilmember Quigley to approve the Consent Agenda, for March 4, 2013, and all relevant resolutions for item Nos. 1 through 8:

1. March 4, 2013 City Council Meeting Minutes
2. Receipt of Committee/Commission Minutes:
 - Planning Commission, January 29, 2013
 - Planning Commission Workshop, February 26, 2013
 - Bikeways and Trailways Committee, March 7, 2013
3. Monthly Reports:
 - Administration
 - Community Development
 - Finance
 - Public Works
 - Park and Recreation
4. Verified Claims
5. Purchases
6. Acceptance of Gift from SESCO
7. Approval of 2013 *Slice of Shoreview* Coordinator Contract
8. Approval of Computer Room Air Conditioning Replacement

VOTE: Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were none.

GENERAL BUSINESS

ESTABLISH PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON WEST SIDE OF CHURCHILL STREET

Presentation by Public Works Director Mark Maloney

This resolution would allow the posting of No Parking on the west side of Churchill Street off Highway 96. The road was built in 1978, and provides access to commercial, industrial and office land uses. Currently, there is an average of 2,200 vehicles daily. There has been a history

of on-street parking issues with one tenant in particular overflowing to street parking. With snow storage, cars can no longer pass each other on the road way. Parking on the west side of the street has caused interference with driveways and sight distance issues.

The parking restrictions proposed would be to prohibit parking on the west side where fire hydrants are located as well as the major driveways of the Shoreview Mall and US Bank. Also, most of the traffic moves north on this street. If parking were allowed on the west side, cars would be forced to find a place to turn around to park.

Staff has discussed parking issues with area businesses and is recommending the parking restriction.

Councilmember Quigley asked if it would be appropriate to have a gap in the parking on the east side near Highway 96 to ease sight lines at that corner. Mr. Maloney stated that will be included in the restrictions.

Councilmember Withhart asked if there is parking expansion capability by the area businesses, if needed. Mr. Maloney responded that the businesses have adequate parking as defined in City Code. The tenant needing more parking has grown and approached other businesses to see if a shared parking agreement would be possible, but those negotiations have been unsuccessful. The tenant is planning to relocate.

MOTION: by Councilmember Wickstrom, seconded by Johnson to adopt Resolution No. 13-29 prohibiting on-street parking along the west side of Churchill Street, North of Highway 96 to Tomlyn Avenue.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Johnson, Quigley, Wickstrom, Withhart, Martin
Nays: None

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Lake Level Legislation

Mayor Martin reported that there are two bills in the house and two in the senate to address lake levels, specifically for White Bear Lake. The reason for the low lake level on Turtle Lake is different from White Bear Lake. She has discussed this with Mr. Tim Krinkie, President of Turtle Lake Homeowners Association, whether it would be advisable to include Turtle Lake in Shoreview in those bills. The state is being asked to fund additional studies on the lake level, specifically on municipal draw down.

Mr. Maloney explained that the topic of lake levels and interaction with ground water and municipal water activity is being discussed statewide given recent dry climate conditions. His understanding of the legislation is that it would address White Bear Lake specifically. USGS has done enough work to link the low level of White Bear Lake and other lakes in this area to a low level of ground water, according to data obtained by the USGS. The reason for low levels of ground water varies in different areas. The low level of White Bear Lake is being attributed to

municipal activity, pumping large amounts of ground water for drinking water. The USGS has indicated that there are different factors causing the low level on Turtle Lake. Both White Bear Lake and Turtle Lake have small watershed districts, which makes them prone to low levels when there is less rainfall or snow melt. If the mechanisms causing low lake levels are different, he is not sure what benefit it would be to include Turtle Lake in the proposed legislation. More information is better, but it is unclear how the legislation would benefit Turtle Lake.

Mr. Tim Krinkie stated that one bill addresses the USGS study that was done. White Bear Lake is Phase 1 of the study. Phase 2 of the study would include the northeast metro area and include surface water and ground water interaction. As written, the bill would not provide anymore specific information on Turtle Lake than is already available. He has requested that the funding be increased from approximately \$500,000 to \$600,000, in order to include additional procedures at Turtle Lake. Two of the four bills have language for a feasibility study for solutions to the low water levels of White Bear Lake. The four solutions being considered are: 1) conservation; 2) St. Paul Water Authority water to augment the lake; 3) one business that uses a lot of water from the lake could cool it and pump it back into the lake; and 4) getting more municipalities in the north metro to use St. Paul Water. The bills do not address water quality, but more information would be a benefit. Another source of water to be considered would be the water pumped from TCAAP.

Mayor Martin stated any matching requirements for state funding would impact the City. Also, any action the City would take toward a solution would be delayed if a state study and funding are involved. If the big issue is water quality, she believes it would be simpler for homeowners to seek funding specific to that rather than be a small player in the study focused on White Bear Lake. **Mr. Krinkie** responded that there are no matching funds in the bill at this time. He agreed that Turtle Lake would be a small part of the study. The board of the homeowners' association voted to support adjustments to the bills to include Turtle Lake.

Councilmember Quigley asked the position of the board of the Turtle Lake homeowners. Mr. Krinkie stated that the Board has voted to support adjustments to the bills to include Turtle Lake. The homeowners as a whole have not voted. City Manager Schwerm stated that while the lake homeowners are split on whether augmentation is a solution, he would anticipate that most homeowners would agree to further study and obtaining more information that is not at their expense.

Mayor Martin concurred indicating that more information would be supported by residents.

Councilmember Withhart expressed concern about recommending added use of the St. Paul Water Utility, which is water from the Mississippi River. Shoreview water is from wells that provide quality water. That is an issue. He is also concerned about any expansion of the role and power of the Metropolitan Council, which already regulates sewage water and transportation, to include source water. That would raise serious policy and financial concerns.

Councilmember Wickstrom stated that there will be a serious water issue within 15 to 20 years with some cities not having a drinking water supply. Drinking water is currently used for watering lawns and flushing, when pure drinking water is not needed for those purposes. It is

likely that in years to come houses will have to have plumbing replaced to access gray water. Her big concern is making sure there are adequate drinking water supplies. There are already cities in southwest Minnesota piping water from Iowa. She would like to see legislation that not only considers recreation but plans for drinking water in 20 years. **Mr. Krinkie** stated that the focus of the bills is on lake levels and the aquifers. Both water quantity and quality need to be considered together, so that any solution or infrastructure to address one issue does not negatively impact the other. It is his understanding that there is a hearing in the house the following day to consider amended language. The bills in the senate have been laid over to be included in later bills.

Councilmember Quigley stated that the macro issue has to be addressed. Local issues are harder to discern. Macro studies are needed before action is taken that may be inappropriate.

Councilmember Withhart agreed and stated that there is so much information that is unknown that studies must be done to have accurate information on what is happening with water whether it be lake levels, ground water, drinking water and other factors.

Mayor Martin suggested that Councilmembers review the bills between now and the next meeting on April 1, 2013. At that meeting, staff will bring a recommendation, and the Council can provide some direction.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Councilmember Wickstrom, seconded by Councilmember Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

VOTE: Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Mayor Martin declared the meeting adjourned.

THESE MINUTES APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON THE 1st DAY OF APRIL 2013.

Terry C. Schwerm
City Manager