

**CITY OF SHOREVIEW
MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 2, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Shoreview City Council was called to order by Mayor Martin on February 2, 2009, at 7:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: by Councilmember Wickstrom, seconded by Councilmember Huffman to approve the January 20, 2009 agenda as submitted.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

There were none.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mr. Robert Higgins, 951 Oakridge Avenue, questioned Council plans, DNR approval and the cost to install a screening system between Sucker Lake and Snail Lake to augment the level of Snail Lake, which would profit 70 people. He was concerned that since Sucker Lake is full of zebra mussels, milfoil and white bass, these invasive species will end up in Snail Lake and other lakes.

Mayor Martin explained that the Council does not engage in a debate on issues during Citizen Comments but explained that the 70 residents who live on Snail Lake are assessed for approximately 45% of the cost of the project. They are also assessed 45% of the cost of pumping water into Snail Lake in the summer. Augmentation is accomplished through a strict plan with the St. Paul Water Utility. The County pays 15% of costs and the City pays 40%. Snail Lake is in a regional park and if the lake level were not addressed, the park and lake would be seriously depreciated. The City also has a vested interest because of its parks and trails.

There is a special taxing jurisdiction called the Snail Lake Improvement District. SLID has not yet approved the project, and the Council has only approved engineering specifications to prepare plans for the project.

Councilmember Withhart stated that there is an existing pipe. This project is not new. Snail Lake augmentation has been occurring for almost 20 years. The purpose of the project is to make sure zebra mussels are not pumped into Snail Lake.

Mr. Todd Sharkey, 1003 N. 5th Street, Stillwater, asked questions of staff regarding a potential development application.

Mayor Martin explained that the Council would not engage in a discussion during Citizens Comments, and it would not be appropriate for the Council to respond to a potential development application since there is an established process for reviewing development applications for both the Planning Commission and City Council.

Mr. Sharkey continued asking his questions and commented on a number of issues for the five-minute time limit allowed during Citizens Comments.

Mr. Schwerm stated that Mr. Sharkey has been notified in writing and told numerous times that any application is to be submitted to the Planning Department, as is the case with all planning applications.

Mr. Sharkey became angry when Mayor Martin told him his time limit was up. The meeting was recessed at 7:17 p.m.

Mayor Martin reconvened the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Citizen Comments Continued:

Mr. Lang, 1384 Rambler Road, Roseville, again raised the issue of developing the property he owns at County Road E and Lexington Avenue. He has received a letter from the DNR stating that there should not be water on his property. He is waiting for the Rice Creek Watershed District to send a letter explaining why the water is there. To date, he has been unable to find out who owns the water that is ruining his land and preventing development. He would like to talk to the City Attorney and staff to see what can be done.

Mr. Schwerm stated that the City has a copy of the DNR letter, which states that Mr. Lang's property is no longer a DNR protected wetland. If Mr. Lang has a development proposal, staff will meet and work with him. He encouraged Mr. Lang to meet with planning staff. About a year ago, the City was working with Mr. Lang and Mendota Homes, but that application was withdrawn.

COUNCIL COMMENTS**Councilmember Withhart:**

Expressed his appreciation that all businesses selling tobacco passed the most recent tobacco compliance check.

Councilmember Wickstrom:

There will be a special meeting of the Ramsey County League of Local Governments on February 26, at 7:00 p.m., in the Shoreview City Council Chambers. Jeff Nash from Ramsey County Conservation District will give a presentation on the Ramsey County Water Plan. She urged staff and Councilmembers to attend.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: by Councilmember Wickstrom, seconded by Councilmember Withhart to adopt the consent agenda of February 2, 2009 approving the necessary motions and resolutions:

1. January 12, 2009 City Council Workshop Meeting Minutes
2. January 20, 2009 City Council Meeting Minutes
3. Receipt of Committee/Commission Minutes:
 - Environmental Quality Committee, September 22, 2008
 - Environmental Quality Committee, October 27, 2008
 - Bike and Trails Committee, December 4, 2008
 - Planning Commission, December 9, 2008
4. Verified Claims in the Amount of \$606,683.05
5. Purchases
6. Licenses
7. Approve 23rd Rider to Agreement with St. Paul Board of Water Commissioners, Willow Creek Pond Dredging, CP 08-10

ROLL CALL:

Ayes - 5

Nays - 0

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were none.

GENERAL BUSINESS**AWARD OF BID--COMMUNITY CENTER INDOOR PLAY AREA****Presentation by Park and Recreation Director Jerry Haffeman**

Staff has been looking at ways to strengthen the revenue stream for the Community Center and has done considerable research on indoor playgrounds and visited existing facilities at New Brighton, Edina and Woodbury where they have been very well received in the community and have had a positive financial impact.

On December 20, 2008, the City requested bids and designs from the leading manufacturers in the country. Four proposals were received. A committee was formed to evaluate the proposals that were ranked on the basis of completeness, quality of equipment, service and warranties, and ability of the company to meet deadlines for installation. Staff is recommending acceptance of the proposal submitted by Orca Coast, a company with a long history of installing playgrounds. The playground would be installed in one-half of the space in the third gym.

The playground is five levels and has many unique play activities that could serve approximately 200 children at one time. It is designed for ages 2 to 10. There is a toddler area for walking and crawling children. The gym area is “socks only” and staff is looking into offering pairs of socks as well as seating in that area for parents. The Park and Recreation Commission also reviewed the four proposals and unanimously recommended the proposal from Orca Coast.

Mr. Schwerm stated that net revenue is estimated at \$75,000 a year. The total cost of approximately \$200,000 would be paid back in about three years.

Councilmember Huffman stated that the space in the gym is underutilized, and this will be a wonderful payback. He asked if using the indoor play area would mean an add-on fee. Mr. Schwerm stated that the fee has not been determined. For those who pay the regular fee to use the pool, the playground would also be available. The daily user fee will be \$4.00 or \$4.50, which is less than at other facilities. The indoor playground will enhance the amenities available at the Community Center and enhance the birthday party packages. Security cameras will be installed so that activity can be monitored whenever the building is open.

As the playground would not be immediately visible upon entering the Community Center, Mayor Martin suggested a theme entrance such as the “Yellow Brick Road,” to make the playground easy to find. She would like to see socks made available for a reasonable fee.

Councilmember Wickstrom noted that the high part of the structure may be close enough to the running track that some children may try to swing from the track to the structure. Mr. Haffeman stated that there will be netting, but there may also be a need to put up some Plexiglas to discourage jumping.

Councilmember Wickstrom asked if the Eagle’s Nest in nearby New Brighton would impact revenue for this playground. Mr. Schwerm stated that revenue projections are conservative.

Councilmember Withhart asked if it would be possible to open the hallway that runs parallel to the gym for direct access rather than having to go through the gym to get to the play area. Mr. Haffeman stated that staff looked into that, but the problem is that the hallway is in the central maintenance area for the building where electrical, gas and mechanical services are located.

If approved, the indoor playground would be installed and open by the end of April.

MOTION: by Councilmember Wickstrom, seconded by Councilmember Quigley to award the bid for the Community Center indoor play area to Orca Coast in the amount of \$185,831, plus applicable sales tax.

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

APPOINTMENT OF PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The Planning Commission has recommended to the Council that Commissioner Curt Proud be appointed as Chair and Gerry Wenner as Vice Chair.

MOTION: by Councilmember Withhart, seconded by Councilmember Wickstrom to appoint Curt Proud as chair of the Planning Commission and Gerry Wenner as vice chair for one year terms expiring on January 31, 2010.

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

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Councilmember Withhart, seconded by Councilmember Quigley to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Ayes - 5 Nays - 0

Mayor Martin declared the meeting adjourned.

THESE MINUTES APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON THE 17th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2009.

Terry C. Schwerm
City Manager