

REGULAR ANDOVER CITY COUNCIL MEETING – JULY 7, 2020
MINUTES

The Regular Bi-Monthly Meeting of the Andover City Council was called to order by Mayor Julie Trude, July 7, 2020, 7:00 p.m., at the Andover City Hall, 1685 Crosstown Boulevard NW, Andover, Minnesota.

Councilmembers present: Sheri Bukkila, Valerie Holthus, Jamie Barthel and Ted Butler

Councilmember absent: None

Also present: City Administrator, Jim Dickinson
Community Development Director, Joe Janish
City Attorney, Scott Baumgartner
Others

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

RESIDENT FORUM

Merle Prochniak, 2941–141st Avenue, came forward and spoke to the Council about the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Prochniak stated he has the same concern Council has over high density in the City. He stated his property would be impacted if the City chose the location near his home for high density. He stated he understands people need a variety of choices for residences and affordable housing. He stated he spoke with the Met Council and has a better understanding of how they work. He stated he would like the whole City to share the density issue.

Mayor Trude thanked Mr. Prochniak and stated there is a public input meeting he can attend. City Administrator Dickinson announced if the Council has a positive review of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map, a public input meeting will be held on July 13th at City Hall.

Mayor Trude explained Andover’s version of high density does not compare with high density in other cities. She stated the maximum density in Andover is 12-20 units per acre and other cities it is set at 50 units per acre.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Barthel, Seconded by Bukkila to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 16, 2020 Regular Meeting

Mayor Trude stated she would like to table the minutes to be reviewed by staff for accuracy.

Motion by Bukkila, Seconded by Butler, to table the June 16, 2020 Regular meeting minutes pending staff review. Motion carried unanimously.

June 23, 2020 Workshop Meeting

Motion by Bukkila, Seconded by Barthel, to approve the June 23, 2020 Workshop meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT ITEMS

- Item 2 Approve Payment of Claims
- Item 3 Award Quote/20-29/Public Works Fuel Island & Tank Removal
- Item 4 Accept Donation from Legacy Restoration/Timber River Park Shelter Improvements (See Resolution R048-20)
- Item 5 Adopt Resolution Appointing Election Judges for the Primary Election (See Resolution R049-20)
- Item 6 Accept Resignation Building Permit Technician
- Item 7 Adopt Amended Resolution Authorizing Land Transfer (See Resolution R050-20)

Motion by Barthel, Seconded by Butler, to approve of the Consent Agenda as read. Motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDER AMENDMENT TO CITY CODE TITLE 6, CHAPTER 4, SECTION 3:
PROHIBITED AND PERMITTED AREAS**

Community Development Director Janish explained the proposed amendment would modify the snowmobiling and ATV boundary to account for recently approved residential developments that no longer meet the minimum requirements for the operation of ATVs and snowmobiles on private property use for, domestic chores are allowed. Mr. Janish displayed a map representing the area where snowmobiling and ATV use is allowed. Mr. Janish explained the map needs to be adjusted due to new developments and to be consistent with the ordinance language.

Councilmember Holthus asked if there were PUDs within the allowed area that prohibits ATV/snowmobile use in the covenants would the City enforce. Mr. Janish stated City ordinance overrides association covenants, but individual neighborhoods can act. Councilmember Holthus asked if the code will need to be amended again once the area near the turkey farm is developed. Mr. Janish explained ATV/snowmobiling is not allowed on property with less than 2.5 acres no matter where it is located in the City.

Motion by Bukkila, seconded by Barthel, to approve Ordinance No. 508, amending City Code Title 6: Motor Vehicles and Traffic, Chapter 4: Snowmobiles, All-terrain Vehicles, and Off-highway Motorcycles, Section 4: Prohibited and Permitted Areas and the Summary Ordinance for publication. Motion carried unanimously.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW/DISCUSSION

City Administrator Dickinson provided a brief recap of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan process staff and Council undertook to reach Met Council land use requirements of addressing affordable housing (8 units per acre) and minimum average land density of 3 units per acre. He explained Council came to a general consensus at the June 30, 2020 workshop meeting and staff reviewed the changes to the Land Use Plan to ensure it would meet the Met Council's requirements. Mr. Dickinson reviewed the results from the last workshop: limiting areas in Andover with concentrated density, raising the low end of density in single-family development from 2.2 to 2.4 units per acre, and adding property to include as higher density (land to the west of the Andover Station North ball fields and some church properties).

Mr. Dickinson stated the proposal meets the Met Council's requirements for average minimum density and acreage for affordable housing. He reviewed the acreage in each land designation stating that the majority of acreage falls into low and medium density with only 8.8 acres dedicated to Urban Residential High-Low (12-20 units per acre) and 5 acres dedicated to Urban Residential High (20-25 units per acre) for the 2030 calculation.

Mayor Trude explained the Future Land Use Plan is land allocation and is something the City sets in place so private property owners can exercise private property rights. Mr. Dickinson confirmed the plan identifies use of property and private owners still need to go through a formal process to develop the land.

Community Development Director Janish presented the changes staff made in the past week from the previous presentation. Mr. Janish explained the minimum density in the R-4 district was changed from 2.2 to 2.4 which helped the City reach the average minimum density of 3 units per acre. Mr. Janish presented a map showing the areas staff and Council reviewed and changed to reach the Met Council's requirements.

Mayor Trude stated she misspoke earlier during resident forum that the area in the west end of the City by CenterPoint Energy was high density. She clarified that the City reduced the area to 12-20 units. Mayor Trude asked what a development at 12-20 would look like. Mr. Dickinson stated 12-20 units per acre will be a small apartment or condo building and potentially some townhomes. He explained 8-12 units will be mostly townhomes. She stated the Council diluted most of the areas in Andover that were designated higher density, not for the metro, but for Andover. Mr. Janish stated the highest density proposed in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan is 20-25 units per acre and the only property designated high density is the CenterPoint Energy 7th Avenue property.

Mr. Janish continued to identify the changes in land use designation from the previous proposal as outlined on the future land use map. Mr. Janish identified the area referred to by Mr. Prochniak during resident forum and stated it was reduced to 8-12 units per acre which is similar to how it is guided to developed currently.

Councilmember Holthus asked when the Met Council reviews it. Mr. Dickinson responded if Council approves the changes to the plan tonight, it will go to public comment. The public comments are then shared with Council and staff will begin to update the other chapters in the Comprehensive Plan that relate to land use. Mr. Dickinson stated the final draft will go to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a public hearing and a recommendation to Council. Council will then approve the plan and forward it to the Met Council for a 4-6-month reviewal process. He stated the goal is to have the plan approved by Council by the end of the year.

Mayor Trude stated the Council and staff had already gone through this process and the plan was returned by the Met Council for required changes. She said the changes require the City to follow the same public process for approval. Mr. Janish stated the City has been in communication with the Met Council and updating them on the City's Comprehensive Plan status.

Mayor Trude thanked staff for their work in addressing Council's concerns and coming up with an acceptable compromise. She stated Council agrees in keeping Andover a single-family community, owner occupied housing, and minimal changes in neighborhoods. She stated the City is focusing on areas of medium and high density along major roads with mostly townhomes, senior complexes, and other attractive units. She stated this is a good plan that meets Met Council requirements and retains the character of Andover.

Councilmember Bukkila asked about the 6.5 acres at Crosstown Boulevard and Bunker Lake Boulevard and what it is zoned at. Mr. Janish stated the entire area of Crosstown Boulevard and Bunker Lake Boulevard is now 8-12 units per acre.

Councilmember Barthel stated there was compromise in the plan and enough conversation that he feels comfortable moving forward with it.

Councilmember Holthus stated there were hours of discussion and work and is happy to reach consensus and move forward.

Councilmember Butler stated he came in mid process and thanked staff for coming up with a plan that meets a variety of views. He said Council has the same goals with different ways to get there.

Mayor Trude stated Council has indicated support for the plan moving ahead. Mr. Dickinson stated it was important to have agreement moving into the public input meeting. Mayor Trude stated her appreciation for Mr. Janish who gave up a day of his vacation to help resolve this.

EMERGENCY DECLARATION RESPONSE (COVID-19) UPDATE

City Administrator Dickinson updated the Council on the primary changes to the COVID-19 response since the last meeting. He stated the City has opened up solicitor permits. Mr. Dickinson stated the City has opened up rentals of the field house and ice center at the Community Center. Mr. Dickinson explained the status of City Hall and the Senior Center has not changed and are only open to City meetings.

Mr. Dickinson stated the plan has worked well and City staff are well educated on the plan. Mr. Dickinson stated City staff is proud to have continued to provide services throughout the past few months. Mayor Trude stated Mr. Dickinson is doing a good job managing the COVID-19 response and she appreciates it.

SCHEDULE JULY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

City Administrator Dickinson proposed dates for a July Council Workshop and discussed agenda items.

Motion by Barthel, Seconded by Bukkila, to schedule a Council Workshop on July 28, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

City Staff updated the Council on the administration and city department activities, legislative updates, updates on development/CIP projects, and meeting reminders/community events.

(ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORT) Mr. Dickinson announced the City is at 55 new home permits for 2020. He stated the Public Works building is working on the punch list items. The Veterans Memorial is beginning, and applications for memorials are coming in steadily. He stated the sports complex will begin the concrete pour of the floor. He updated the Council on the Community Center expansion construction. Mr. Dickinson stated the shelter that was going to be relocated to Purple Park is now going to be relocated to a different location on the City Campus, but close to the Community Center building. Mr. Dickinson stated the City has received \$2.4 million for the CARES Act and will get moving on using the funds. Mr. Dickinson reviewed the City construction projects.

MAYOR/COUNCIL INPUT

(PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC AND SAFETY) Councilmember Butler stated traffic has picked up and there are many children around. He encouraged residents to slow down and keep a look out for kids and families on the trails and streets.

(ROUND LAKE BOULEVARD) Mayor Trude stated she received a message from a resident who expressed concern over the merge lane on Round Lake Boulevard by the farm. Mayor

Trude would like Council to pursue asking the County to continue the merge lane to a signal light to make the road safer.

(THANK YOU LETTERS) Mayor Trude received a thank you letter from Family Promise for the contribution from the charitable gaming fund. She shared a thank you letter from Anoka High School for supporting the 2020 Senior Party with a contribution from the Charitable Gambling Fund.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Holthus, Seconded by Barthel, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shari Kunza, Recording Secretary
TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.

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