

**Approved  
03/26/24**



**MEETING MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL  
January 23, 2024**

**Present:** Mayor Gustafson, Council Member Dresel, Rivers and Meyers

**Absent:** Council Member Battles

**Staff:** City Administrator Pechman, Finance Director Gemuenden, Fire Chief Reed, Police Chief Schlumbohm, Attorney Doran, Associate Planner Nelson

**Public Attendance:** Leilani Freeman, Don Skelly

**REGULAR MEETING-CALL TO ORDER 6:30**

Mayor Gustafson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**1a. "Pledge of Allegiance"**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Action**

**1b. Roll Call**

All members present except Council Member Battles.

**Action**

**AGENDA**

Administrator Pechman stated he had nothing to add to the agenda.

Mayor Gustafson asked for a motion.

Council Member Dresel made the motion to approve the agenda, Council Member Rivers seconded, all in favor, all ayes, motion carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**3a. Resolution 23-12-04 – Solar Farm IUP with variances 8920 275<sup>th</sup> St.**

**Action**

Council Member Dresel made the motion to approve the consent agenda, Council Member Rivers seconded, all in favor, all ayes, motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/AGENDA PLACEMENT**

Mayor Gustafson asked if anyone had any comments or concerns on anything which was not on the agenda.

**PETITIONS, REQUESTS, COMMUNICATION**

**5a. Fire Chief Annual Report Presentation - *Continued***

Fire Chief Zach Reed thanked the council for allowing him to present tonight for the 2023-year end report. They responded to 101 calls this past year. As always, we as a department have strived to serve our community in Fire Protection, Fire Prevention Education, and continued Community Service. The next 5-10 years will bring an even higher demand of our Services to the community. We have continued training and are well over the minimum required. Training included HAZMAT, SCBA Air Management, Use of Lakeside Parking Lot for Emergency Vehicle Operations course, Ice Rescue, Hose/Nozzle Ops, Pump and Draft, Fireground Ops at SLFD Training Tower, Rural fire ground Ops, EV/Lithium Ion Battery, Right to Know, Haz-Mat, Situational Awareness. They will continue their training in 2024. We are at 22 members and 4 applications in the process. He would like to ask for consideration of a paid on call fire department. Some highlights for community events include, pancake breakfast, service group tours, various parades and national night out parties, etc. One of the most exciting things this year was the addition of engine 12 which was displayed at the national fire show. Fire Chief Reed goes through the various trucks and what will be anticipated to be replaced. The radios will need to be replaced as well as the pagers. In 2024 with the possible retirement of a couple in the next year or after we will have to find replacements. Reed asked for any questions.

Mayor Gustafson said very good report and a job well done.

Fire Chief Reed said they have present tonight for the badging of the 3 new officers. Reed administers the badging to the officers Bryan Haley, Logan Reed and Jesse Bullis.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**None.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**7a. Lake Martha Overlook Development – Final Plat**

**Action**

Associate Planner Nelson stated Don Skelly of High Pointe Land LLC has submitted a Final Plat to develop 25 detached villa townhomes called Lake Martha Overlook. The property is currently being used for agricultural purposes and is located at PID #13.00075.03. It abuts Lake Martha, a Recreational Development Lake. The Planning Commission held a duly noted public hearing on 01/04/2024. Residents expressed concerns regarding the size of the lots being small, and the potential for future variances to be requested due to the constraints the lot size may have on the possible future use. Planning Commissioner Meyer and Chairperson Josh Dressel asked about snow storage and removal. Skelly responded that he is working with the City contracted engineers, Bolton & Menk, to address snow storage/removal potential at the end of the cul-de-sac. Mr. Skelly stated he is also working with Peterson Companies to get a final landscape plan put together. The Planning Commission did make the motion to approve the final plat/SLOD PUD and variances with City staff recommended conditions with added condition that if there is any disagreement with regard to the plat city staff/city consultant interpretation will be the final determination. Storm water easement documents have to be reviewed and approved by the City attorney. Nelson stated she did not have any comments from the DNR but said they would like to comment; but have not as of yet.

Council Member Meyer said his only concern if with the engineer’s number 8 needing an additional catch basin by every other lot.

Mr. Skelly stated the catch basins have been addressed. As far as signage the DNR wants a wetland buffer at each lot but would like them to be possibly every other lot.

Council Member Meyer was questioning the snow storage in the cul-de-sac area?

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Mr. Skelly stated they are looking at having the snow removed and placing language in the HOA document.

City Engineer Guzik stated the cul-de-sac is for right of way, but this one is smaller than what is required by city standard.

Administrator Pechman stated on lot 11 Public Works Superintendent Lind and he had discussed flipping the driveway to allow for more storage of snow.

Associate Planner Nelson said one condition is that tree trunks are on the property and not within the ROW.

Council Member Meyer made the motion to approve the final plat with the 13 conditions and the HOA to have snow cleared within 72 hours, catch basins noted by the engineer and the city’s view will take precedence, Council Member Dresel seconded, all in favor, all ayes, motion carried.

**7b. Appoint Election Judges – RES-24-01-02**

**Action**

Administrator Pechman stated the city is required by law to approve a resolution appointing the election judges for the PNP, Primary and General elections on March 5, August 13 & November 5, 2024. Attached is a resolution with the list of election judges that have expressed interest. All the judges have been contacted and will be scheduled accordingly.

Council Member Dresel made the motion to approve resolution 24-01-02, Council Member Rivers seconded, all in favor, all ayes, motion carried.

**7c. Well Head Protection – Drinking Water Supply Management Area**

**Action**

Associate Planner Nelson stated the city is required to review the Well Head Protection Plan of Action annually. Wellhead protection measure #24: Brief mayor and city council about the potential for unused wells in the DWSMA and status of well sealing efforts. City Administrator Pechman, Public Works Superintendent Lind and Associate Planner Nelson met on 01/17/2024 and discussed all wellhead protection measures to be implemented. Per discussion there is no new known potential for unused wells in DSWSMA. No city wells were sealed in 2023 and no city wells that have been identified as requiring to be sealed.

Council Member Rivers asked if we lose power do we have a generator for operating the wells.

Administrator Pechman stated we do have 2 generators; we also have an interconnect with the City of Lindstrom if needed.

Council Member Dresel made the motion to approve the findings, Council Member Rivers seconded, all in favor, all ayes, motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**ADJOURN**

Council Member Rivers made the motion to adjourn, Council Member Meyer seconded, all in favor, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Paula Oehme,  
Deputy City Clerk