

**CITY OF SHOREVIEW  
MINUTES  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
April 2, 2012**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Martin called the regular meeting of the Shoreview City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on April 2, 2012.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Councilmember Huffman was absent.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION: by Councilmember Quigley, seconded by Councilmember Wickstrom to approve the April 2, 2012 agenda as submitted.

VOTE:                   Ayes - 4                   Nays - 0

**PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Representatives from the Edmond Ollhoff Veterans of the Foreign Wars with the Ladies Auxiliary were present.

Mr. John Twohig, Past Commander introduced his wife Ruthanne, past President of the Ladies Auxiliary. Beginning in 1989, veterans met in the old Council Chambers and formed the Edmond Ollhoff VFW Post 2609. Beginning in 1991, the VFW Post has met at the Community Center. The Post has now been consolidated with the VFW Post in New Brighton and will no longer be meeting in Shoreview.

Mrs. Twohig stated that the new Post will be named Brooker Edmond, for Coach Brooker at Mounds View High School and Paul Edmond who died in Vietnam. She stated that they would like to still be part of the parade and color guard and will continue to operate the safety camp. She thanked Mayor Martin, Council and staff for all the support they have received over the years.

Mr. and Mrs. Twohig presented Mayor Martin a plaque of appreciation.

Mayor Martin expressed her appreciation and assured them that Shoreview will call them to continue to participate in City events.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

There were none.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

#### **Councilmember Withhart:**

The Sister City Organization will hold its Annual Dinner at Gasthaus Bavarian Hunter in Stillwater on Saturday, April 14, 2012. The guest speaker is the honorary consul from Germany who will speak on Germany and the European Economy, the Way Forward.

#### **Councilmember Quigley:**

Shoreview Senior Living recently sent out a mailer to many residents regarding the senior housing project that is currently under construction. They are taking reservations and anticipate opening early in 2013.

#### **Councilmember Wickstrom:**

The final Environmental Quality Committee speaker series will be held on April 18, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. John Doan, Metropolitan Council Member will be speaking on "The Future of Public Transit in Shoreview."

#### **Mayor Martin:**

The Shoreview Northern Lights Variety Band will hold its Spring Concert at Bethel Great Hall at Bethel University on April 21, 2012. It is a remarkable event and all are urged to attend. Tickets are available at City Hall.

The City is sponsoring a seminar on Emerald Ash Borer at 6:30 p.m. on April 10, 2012. A representative from the Department of Agriculture will speak. It is free and open to the public. Residents are encouraged to attend to get the latest information available.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION: by Councilmember Withhart, seconded by Councilmember Wickstrom to approve the Consent Agenda for April 2, 2012, and all relevant resolutions for all item Nos. 1 through 9:

1. March 19, 2012 City Council Meeting Minutes
2. Receipt of Committee/Commission Minutes
  - Planning Commission, February 28, 2012
  - Public Safety Committee, March 15, 2012
3. Verified Claims in the Amount of \$842,143.80
4. Purchases
5. License Applications
6. Conditional Use Permit - 5155 Hodgson Road, David Nelson and Claire Inslund
7. Authorize Replacement Purchase of Dump/Plow Truck
8. Award of Quote - Audio Visual Replacement, Shoreview Room
9. Authorize Replacement Purchase of Field/Ball Cart

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

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

There were none.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **APPROVAL OF REVISIONS TO NEW CITY VOTING PRECINCTS**

#### **Presentation by Asst. Manager/Community Development Director Tom Simonson**

Election districts have been redrawn as a result of the completion of the decennial U. S. Census. Changes to legislative district boundaries require that the City revise local precincts by April 3, 2012.

Changes in Shoreview will be one Senate District instead of three; two House Districts instead of three. All of Shoreview will be in the new Senate District 42. The City will be divided into House Districts 42A and 42B.

The new precinct plan was approved at the last Council meeting, but the Secretary of State has notified the City that using the boundary line of the Mounds View and Roseville School District lines is not consistent with State election district law. Borders must follow visible and clearly recognizable physical features. The Secretary of State has recommended combining Precincts 1 and 2. Two separate voting locations would still be maintained. This means that current Precincts 1 and 2 would become Precincts 1A and 1B determined by the school district boundary.

Councilmember Wickstrom suggested changing the name of Precincts 1A and 1B to Precincts 1N and 1S, which would mean north and south and be clearer. Mr. Simonson stated that the 1A and 1B designations are from Ramsey County and the Secretary of State. The City has requested that Ramsey County provide citywide notification not only of changes in polling locations but also of the changes in precinct numbers.

It was the consensus of the Council to change the name of Precincts 1A and 1B to Precincts 1N and 1S, if allowed by the State.

**MOTION:** by Councilmember Withhart, seconded by Councilmember Wickstrom to adopt Resolution No. 12-25, rescinding Resolution 12-15, approving re-established and revised city election precincts as necessitated by the legislative redistricting plan and if possible, a preference to name the two voting locations in Precinct 1, Precincts 1N and 1S; otherwise, to name them Precincts 1A and 1B.

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

### **APPROVAL OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS - FLORAL/COUNTY ROAD F/DEMAR RECONSTRUCTION, CP 12-01**

#### **Presentation by City Engineer Tom Wesolowski**

Concerns raised at the public hearing on March 19th focused on a proposed cul-de-sac at County Road F and Highway 49 because that would increase traffic on Demar and Virginia. There were also concerns about drainage issues at the intersection of Highway 49 and Virginia, which would make it a poor access to Highway 49 and further increase traffic on Demar. There was also discussion about the addition of street lights on County Road F.

Staff contacted Ramsey County regarding the cul-de-sac. A letter was received from Mr. Jim Tolaas, County Engineer, recommending the west side of County Road F be closed and realignment of the east side. Further, he stated that the east side has a much higher traffic volume, and realignment will provide significant improvements. There is no practical way to realign the west side without creating an offset intersection with the realigned east side. The City has received positive input on this plan from residents since the public hearing.

In further study of traffic in the area, staff estimates that approximately 200 trips per day would be redistributed to Demar or Virginia, if there is a cul-de-sac on County Road F over a 12-hour period. This would be local neighborhood traffic. Such traffic volumes would be well within the standards for typical residential streets in Shoreview. Staff has observed traffic on Virginia Avenue during peak AM and PM times. It was found that the majority of cars were able to make a turn without waiting. For cars that had to wait at the intersection, the wait times were less than 25 seconds, which is not excessive. The drainage issue on Virginia will be addressed with the Highway 49 project.

Staff sent a survey to all residents regarding street lights--eight support more lights and four do not. One street light would be placed near the entrance of a walking path and

the second will be in the cul-de-sac. These locations are supported by a majority of residents.

Staff is recommending approval of the plans and specifications with the cul-de-sac and street lights as proposed.

Mayor Martin asked about the accident history of County Road F and Highway 49. Mr. Wesolowski stated that there have been 11 accidents in the last four years at the intersection of the east leg of County Road F with Highway 49. Five were with cars trying to cross Highway 49 to go from one portion of County Road F to the other. There has been one accident on Virginia in the same time period.

Councilmember Wickstrom noted that the street light proposed at the trail head is very near another street light proposed at the intersection of County Road F and Virginia Avenue. She suggested moving the street light at the intersection across the street so it would be near enough to the trail head to cover that area as well. Then the street light right at the trail head could be eliminated. Mr. Wesolowski agreed that could be considered.

Councilmember Withhart reported receiving a phone call from a resident suggesting that both legs of County Road F be made right-in-right-out only turns with a median on Highway 49. Mr. Wesolowski responded that the County supports the realignment of the east leg to tie into Highway 49 at a right angle. That idea would have to be discussed with the County. Mr. Maloney stated that the County sees the east portion of County Road F as having a regional function. Limited access would be an argument for it to become a local road.

Mayor Martin noted receipt of a petition and additional correspondence from residents in this area. She opened the meeting to further public discussion.

**Mr. Dan Collins**, 244 W. County Road F, stated that he is employed by the Minnesota Department of Transportation with a focus on bike transportation. He is one of the few who has witnessed the traffic in the intersection for 25 years, not only the accidents but the near misses. He supports the cul-de-sac, but it does not address the issue of those trying to cross Highway 49 to access the trail system. He suggested a median or safety island that would be wide enough for pedestrians and bikers to stop after getting half way across, rather than having to watch two directions of traffic in multiple lanes. It is a difficult corner and needs attention. If the City owns the west side, consideration might be given to realigning it to a right angle, as traffic approaches that intersection very inconsistently, as it is an easy turn at 45 mph. On the other hand, with a cul-de-sac, County Road F would become a very desirable street; and the trail would be extended another block.

Mr. Schwerm noted that if there would be a median at that location, it would be short because traffic that currently turns left on County Road F would need to get into the center turn lane at Demar only a short distance away.

**Mr. Dolen** urged consideration of Councilmember's Withhart's suggestion. There are many residents who have very strong feelings about a cul-de-sac. What residents experience is not what was reported from the recent traffic study and observation. A right-turn-in/right-turn-out would be great. He has talked to a firefighter and was informed that a cul-de-sac would delay response time to this neighborhood, from 30 to 60 seconds. Residents agree that crossing Highway 49 is dangerous; coming from the east side of County Road F is dangerous, but many do not support the proposed design to address the problems, which will redirect traffic to Demar. There is confusion going from the south part of Virginia to the north part. The suggestion from Councilmember Withhart would be supported by the neighborhood.

Councilmember Withhart stated that after listening to the County report, the City is charged with making the intersections as safe as possible, even though traffic would be redirected and it would be inconvenient. He lives on Demar and has been using the Virginia intersection at rush hour in the morning during the past couple of weeks with no problems. The cul-de-sac will be a safer option. It will not be known if there will be a median in this location until the County project in two years.

**Mr. Berg**, 259 County Road F, expressed his appreciation for Mr. Collins' comments. There are a fair number of people who cross Highway 49 to access the trails and parks in the Sucker Creek area. The cul-de-sac will not make pedestrian or bike crossing safer. He would like to see a safety island for those people.

Councilmember Withhart suggested a discussion with residents on the west side of County Road F to rename the road, if there is a cul-de-sac, as it is no longer a county road.

Mayor Martin stated that at the informational meetings residents supported the cul-de-sac design. Rarely do residents not want a cul-de-sac. She believes that if County Road F is made a cul-de-sac, most residents will use Demar because it is closer and more direct. The City works hard to be proactive and coordinate future road plans with Ramsey County, which are not always the City's preference. One option would be to leave County Road F as it is and consider a right-in-right-out access. However, she believes the maximum safety will be achieved with a cul-de-sac, even though it will be inconvenient. It may be an unpopular decision, but she believes that is the best decision for the community.

Councilmember Withhart noted some complained about not receiving notice. There was an official notice published in the newspaper. Individual notices were sent to the residents who are directly affected and pay for the improvement. That is standard City practice.

Councilmember Wickstrom stated that she does not want to change the plan and then have Ramsey County say it has to be redone at a later time. The Council needs to listen to the expertise of City engineering staff and the County recommendations.

Additional input from Ramsey County would be needed to realign the west portion of County Road F to understand long-term safety impacts. Although inconvenient to use Demar, it will be a safer intersection. She would support the cul-de-sac and would like consideration of a berm or tree plantings to indicate the cul-de-sac.

**MOTION:** by Councilmember Quigley, seconded by Councilmember Wickstrom to adopt Resolution No.12-22 approving plans and specifications for the Floral, County F, Demar Road Reconstruction, City Project 12-01, and ordering the taking of bids on Wednesday, May 9, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Shoreview City Hall.

**Discussion:**

Councilmember Quigley stated that all sides have been well represented. He used to live on Virginia and has lived on a cul-de-sac. The big issue for him is safety. The Fire Department always reviews street plans well in advance. If there were concerns about safety, the Council would have been advised. There are difficult issues, but he agrees with the basic design presented. Bikers can use Gramsie, just a few moments from this neighborhood. On Gramsie, they will have a light to get across Highway 49 and access trails and parks.

Mayor Martin stated that she wants this project to also include consideration of bike and pedestrian traffic safety.

Councilmember Withhart requested that the Bikeways and Trails Committee review this plan and consider how bike and pedestrian traffic might be redirected away from County Road F. He further noted that a number of homeowners in this neighborhood have roots in their sewer lines. He would like to see the City work with homeowners to reline service pipes to homes. Mr. Wesolowski stated that many of the roots are at the connection with the City line. The City line will be replaced and homeowners will be advised if there are roots in the service line to the home.

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

**RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE DISSOLUTION OF THE GRASS LAKE WATER MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION AND PETITIONING OF WATER AND SOIL RESOURCES FOR A CHANGE OF WATERSHED BOUNDARY**

**Presentation by Public Works Director Mark Maloney**

This is a culmination of a long process of review of the Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Roseville that establishes the Grass Lake Water Management Organization (GLWMO). The Council is requested to approve dissolution of GLWMO and petition the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a watershed district boundary change.

GLWMO was created in 1983. It consists of 9 square miles and is the second smallest watershed district in the State of Minnesota. The original model for the organization was to be a transparent extension of local government. Since 1983, that model has become difficult to sustain with the Wetland Conservation Act and other legislation.

Under state mandate, GLWMO is required to update its water management plan. During that process, it was discovered that the Joint Powers Agreement had to be updated to create fiscal autonomy for GLWMO. This is a problem, as most of the funding for GLWMO came from the two cities. One problem is the inequity created in that City utility charges help fund GLWMO, even if residents do not live within GLWMO boundaries. The two cities recognized that technical expertise would be available from other watershed districts that are funded separately from the City.

Both city councils of Shoreview and Roseville have petitioned for the dissolution of GLWMO. The GLWMO Board voted to dissolve on March 22, 2012. Roseville voted to ratify the dissolution and petition for boundary change at its March 26, 2012 council meeting. Once the petition for dissolution has been ratified by both cities, the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) will hold public hearings, giving a 30-day notice. It is anticipated that the new jurisdiction within Ramsey/Washington Watershed District (RWWD) will be voted on at the BWSR Board meeting in June for the new boundaries to be in effect by June 30, 2012. This would insure that the new boundaries would be included in 2013 tax levy for Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District. After action by the BWSR Board, the new boundaries will be certified to the State Auditor.

Mayor Martin noted receipt of a letter from Mr. Len Ferrington who served on the GLWMO Board for a number of years. In regard to his concerns, she asked how Shoreview's needs will be met within the new structure and treated fairly. Mr. Maloney responded that there will be a process of integrating GLWMO's strategies and goals into the plan of Ramsey/Washington Metro Watershed District, who will have taxing authority over the properties within the boundaries. He believes that Shoreview will be well served with water resources available with the RWWD.

Councilmember Withhart stated that as a new member of the GLWMO Board, he is impressed with the expertise and educational tools available that the City has not had in the past. He further noted that both the City of Roseville and the GLWMO Board recommended a petition for boundaries within the Ramsey/Washington Metro Watershed District and not VLAWMO because of the multiple jurisdictions involved.

Mr. Schwerm stated that the work that has been done by GLWMO over the last year or more to update their work plan will be used by RWWD to incorporate into their own plan. Mr. Maloney noted that the GLWMO plan was not completed and so would not be appended to the Ramsey/Washington plan, but the work done will be used to develop strategies within the Ramsey/Washington plan. The funding cycle ends June 30th. It is important to have this boundary process completed by then to be included in the new funding cycle.

Councilmember Wickstrom stated that her preference would have been for GLWMO to become part of VLAWMO, but she has learned that RWWD has done excellent and innovative work and will be a good fit for the City.

**MOTION:** by Councilmember Wickstrom, seconded by Councilmember Withhart to adopt Resolution 12-26 Ratifying the Dissolution of the Grass Lake Water Management Organization and Petitioning the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a Change of Watershed Boundary.

Discussion:

Mayor Martin expressed her appreciation to all of the members who have worked on the GLWMO Board over the years. They have done a good job and have worked very hard on complex tasks to benefit Shoreview lakes.

Councilmember Quigley suggested some formal recognition for all of the work GLWMO Board members have done.

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

Councilmember Withhart noted receipt of an email from a resident expressing concerns about noise from a concrete street. He requested a discussion of this issue at an upcoming workshop.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** by Councilmember Withhart to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

**VOTE:** Ayes - 4 Nays - 0

Mayor Martin declared the meeting adjourned.

THESE MINUTES APPROVED BY COUNCIL ON THE 16<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2012.

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Terry C. Schwerm  
City Manager