

City of Minnetonka Beach
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Monday, April 12, 2010
MINUTES

Roll Call

Mayor Joann Anderson, Council Members: Jill Bartel, Michelle Kroll, Linn Ferguson, and Mike Taylor. Absent: Treasurer Dennis Fischer.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Joann Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Approve Agenda

2.1 Council Meeting Action Notes

Mayor Anderson noted a couple of future agenda items listed in the action notes; Water Rate Study Discussion and Tentative East Side Water Improvement Schedule. She said Council would need to address these items if they are to be part of budgeting for 2011. A work study session for the East Side Water Improvement Schedule was then scheduled for June. The Water Rate Study Discussion will be a Council agenda item in May. Taylor requested an addition to the action notes for Treasurer Fischer to check on avenues to capture better interest rates for the reserve funds. Bartel asked that stamping of the Lafayette Club tennis court parking also be on the action list and have Planning and Zoning Administrator Dick Krier check on it. Council members had previously discussed briefly that they were okay with not having the stamping being done, but it would require the Lafayette Club coming back and having their Conditional Use Permit amended to have the stamped parking requirement removed. Bartel also asked that Reserve Fund Balance Discussion be listed as an action note item because the auditors have recommended it.

The agenda was approved as written (**Bartel motion, Taylor second; all ayes**).

3. Approve Minutes

3.1. Regular Meeting of February 8, 2010

A correction was made regarding a quote total for energy saving replacements at the city hall and water plant on Page 5; \$87,075 was amended to \$8,775. Also on Page 5, the total amount submitted for energy grants was \$57,025; amended to \$5,725.

(**Taylor motion, Ferguson second to approve the minutes as amended with the dollar amount corrections on page 5; all ayes**).

4. Receive and File Construction Report for Dakota Regional Trail - per Construction and Operating Performance Agreement -Tom Seuntjens, Project Manager

Tom Seuntjens requested the landscaping report he provided for the meeting (a copy is on file at city hall) be added to the as-built specifications for the trail, and he requested staff follow up with Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) on where additional work needs to be finished. He recommended Council make future notes to check on completion for the work he was recommending. He said the trail now will be about maintenance and safety. Administrator Griffin reported TRPD has already received the landscaping report prepared by Mr. Seuntjens.

In addition, Mr. Seuntjens noted the very invasive weed Garlic Mustard is prevalent along the north side of the trail, east of the golf course and west of the first driveway that crosses the trail. Letters will be going to TRPD and Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA) seeking their help in removal of the Garlic Mustard.

Mayor Anderson thanked Tom Seuntjens for stepping up and handling the big job of Project Manager for the city for the trail's construction. She said he did an excellent job.

5. Open Forum

No one chose to speak.

6. Police Report

6.1 Police Report – February and March

Officer Steve Sturm reported the police are in Minnetonka Beach more frequently now because of the new District Patrolling. He said Ray Peters Park is being checked on up to three times each shift. Council Member Kroll said that due to the extra patrolling there haven't been any problems noted since.

Officer Sturm also reported:

- Chief Corry Farniok is back from an 8 week training stint at the FBI Academy which provided great training and many pictures.
- Solicitors are out and police are arresting them and taking cash bail. Many of the solicitors arrested have criminal backgrounds.
- Residents need to keep their doors locked and he wanted residents to know if you come home and find your door open, call the police and they will be glad to check your house for you before you go in.
- There are three openings on the police force and they are hoping to hire.

Bartel reported the stop signs at Lake Road and Brooks Lane are being ignored at times. Police will start watching that intersection again.

7. Consent Agenda

- 7.1. Fire Report – February and March
- 7.2. Wells Fargo Half Marathon, Sunday, May 2, 2010
- 7.3. Consider Special Event Agreement for Luxury Home Tour – 3025 Brooks Lane
- 7.4. Resolution 2010-17 Authorizing Grant Application for Election Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities for Automatic Door Opener

7.5. Resolution 2010-18 Contract for Fire Services
(Taylor motion, Bartel second to approve the consent agenda as listed; all ayes).

8. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Fischer was absent. Administrator Griffin reported because no Council meeting was held in March, Council was receiving both the March and April check registers lists for approval.

8.1 Approve Checks – March and April
(Bartel motion, Taylor second to approve March check numbers 12113 - 12156 in the total amount of \$63,109.49; all ayes).

(Ferguson motion, Kroll second to approve April's checks numbers 12157 – 12203 in the total amount of \$40,468.39; all ayes).

8.2. 2010 Year to Date Budget Report

Bartel noticed the city has already spent the budgeted amount for the year for legal fees, \$34,089 and was budgeted \$32,900 for 2010. Trial expenses for the Goodman and Gillum land dispute have not come in yet.

A correction will be made to bond payment account areas 2805 and 2806; payments were listed in the bond interest paid columns in error. Administrator Griffin will report back next month whether there is another bond interest payment this year and the exact amount.

9. Planning and Zoning

There were no Planning and Zoning items.

10. Old Business

10.1. Pedestrian Crossing Resident Survey Discussion (Future Council Action Item – June)

Mayor Anderson said this meeting would be an opportunity for Council to discuss their perceptions about what the survey said, and if needed in June, come up with a plan of action.

Council received the results of the Highway 15 Crossing Survey which is included in these minutes as an attachment. The total number of questionnaires sent out was 219, with 91 being sent to residents living on the Huntington Pt. side of the city and 128 to residents on the other side of County Rd. 15. From the Huntington Pt. side, 46 (or 51%) of the surveys were returned, and 50 (39%) were returned from the remaining residents in the city. Total response rate was 44%.

Taylor said he thought it was outstanding number of responses and many thoughtful comments were received from residents. Ferguson said you normally hear from people when they are against something, but the reality here was an outstanding response in

written comments, both for and against. He thinks the results show everybody is budget conscious. Taylor said several people commented they appreciated being asked and being able to give their opinions. Bartel recommended publishing the results in the Beachcomber and tell people they can also come in and read the comments if they wish. The results will be published in the next Beachcomber.

Taylor said conclusions he sees are that residents consider crossing County Rd. 15 safely an issue, with the largest number (41%) considering it a major issue. He was surprised at the number of people on the Huntington Point side who didn't seem to think trail users coming across was a big concern; not a concern (29%), a minor concern (38%), and a major concern (33%). Regarding the question "Do we solve the Problem", the largest number answered "None of the Above" (55%); second highest "A Tunnel under County Rd. 15" (36%). But when he read the comments, a number of people commented on the amount of money to be spent for the project, but they probably didn't understand that grant funding would be used for the project and it would not be funded by city funds other than the estimated \$50,000. Taylor said when he went through the materials sent out with the survey he felt it could be confusing to understand where the money was coming from for the project and others may have not realized most of the funding wouldn't be city money. He said what it should have said was should we address this issue or not. Taylor noted said several people made the comment it is tax money (being used to pay for the tunnel), and he admires that they don't want to see tax money spent, but by the same token, he didn't think his tax bill or anyone else's would go down by not receiving grant funding because someone else will be given the money. Mayor Anderson said the crosswalk wasn't looked at as a good option and comments were against it because people didn't feel it was safe.

Bartel said she thinks the last question "When taking into consideration cost, safety, and potential impact on the east side of the city", the highest percentage (57%), on the Huntington Pt. side chose the "None of the Above" answer instead of a tunnel or raised-median crosswalk. She said when looking at that evidence it is that people don't want it.

Mayor Anderson said she is happy with the results of the survey and thinks it was very even as to people who did and didn't want a safe crossing.

Bartel thinks the project is not feasible because of the water table at the tunnel's proposed location. Kroll said she has a problem with the cost estimate and she thinks the figures are not accurate and it will cost more. She is also concerned about the water table and said it could very quickly turn this project into something much bigger. She feels the city hasn't done our homework and feels uncomfortable with the costs. She thinks we are irresponsible regarding the water table, and that not enough homework has been done.

Ferguson said he sat in at a Transportation Advisory Committee meeting and he feels a project such as this would never be able to be completed on our own. He thinks resident comments regarding "don't spend the money" has to do with the economy; he thinks comments on money would change significantly if the economy were better. He agrees

we shouldn't spend any more money at this time, but filling out grant applications would not take additional city money because it would be done administratively.

Mayor Anderson said no money would be coming from the Legislature this year, but our representatives are anxious to take it back to the Legislature next year. If we would like to move forward to see where it takes us, then we need to be authorized to go for the grants. She said she is committed to not spending more money unless we were to get funding.

Kroll wondered if it could go on the November election ballot so residents could vote on the project. She said she wants to go on record that the perceived costs are an unknown, the figures she feels aren't accurate, and she is uncomfortable with the process. The soil concerns her and she thinks residents need more information. Taylor said we are in a Catch 22 situation; we want more information, but we don't want to spend more money to get it, but we don't want to ask for the money from somebody else. Taylor at the end of the day, if this is going to cost the residents \$100,000 after all the testing is done, because the project isn't the estimated \$687,000, instead it's \$900,000, then he will be the first one to say we are not going to do this project. Kroll said she wants to know what we have spent to-date on this and asked for the amount. She said she is going to call a couple companies about how much 8 – 12 soil borings would cost.

Mayor Anderson said we need to address whether we should continue to go after grant money because if we want to move forward then we need to be authorized to continue. Taylor said there is one absolute, if we don't apply for the money, we won't get the funding, and then the project absolutely won't happen. Ferguson said the bottom line is the project will never happen if don't get the money for it; this is a one time opportunity. **(Ferguson motion, Taylor second to approve Resolution 2010-22 to authorize the Mayor to seek grant funding in the 2011 budget cycle for a safe pedestrian crossing of County Rd. 15; Ayes: Ferguson, Taylor and Mayor. Opposed: Bartel and Kroll). Motion passed.**

Bartel read from a prepared statement she wanted included in this official record.

"I am voting against the Resolution Authorizing staff to submit Amended State Capital Budget Request for a Pedestrian Tunnel for the following reasons:

- 55% of the total respondents to the recent HWY 15 Crossing Survey do not want a tunnel.
- 57% of the respondents on the Huntington Point side of the beach do not want a tunnel.
- 53% of the remaining respondents do not want a tunnel.
- The request for support of the tunnel as part of the State Bonding Bill states that the project will leverage the significant investments in the new and heavily used Dakota Rail Trail by improving accessibility for local and regional residents. There were 250,000 users of the trail in the first year. It is my concern now, and has been throughout the tunnel discussions, that the residents of the Huntington Point area of the Beach will incur many burdens and safety issues as a result of the additional regional users. There is no trail on the Huntington Point side, neither the narrow and winding roads nor the beach and parks are equipped to handle the inundation of regional users that is more than likely to occur. 57% of the survey respondents from HP do not want a tunnel built. The council needs to respect their survey indication as well as that of the entire community.

- Therefore, unless and until there is a referendum indicating that the majority of the community is in favor of a tunnel, I believe Minnetonka Beach should not request funding.

Other reasons for opposing the request at this time and previously:

- The location of the proposed tunnel is most likely at or in the water table. The three homes on Woodbridge Road closest to the proposed tunnel location do not have basements because of the water table. They maintain several sump pumps to keep their homes dry. I have had many questions from residents concerning the water table.
- To date, research by the planning and zoning administrator has been unable to find a single tunnel in MN in the water table for council members to visit and/or talk to whom ever operates it, etc. I would like to know more about the engineering plans and company that is going to undertake such a project. We do not know whether or not this project is feasible. This information as well as water table information has not been forthcoming. The council and residents have not been well served in this regard.”

Kroll said she plans to prepare a statement for the record for the June meeting. Mayor Anderson said they probably wouldn't be discussing it again in June unless Kroll wanted it on the agenda. Kroll said she does want it on the June agenda as she wants her statement recorded because she feels we aren't representing the project as clearly as it could be.

Mayor Anderson said she was very comfortable voting in favor of continuing to try and get grant funding because she knows we will never do the project if we don't ask for funding. We have made the commitment that we won't spend any further money other to go forward other than clerical time.

10.2. Resolution 2010-19 Consider Adopting Resolution Authorizing Staff to Submit Amended State Capital Budget Request for Pedestrian Tunnel

Administrator Griffin reported the change to the bonding request for the State Capital Budget funding is a formality because the current motion the state has is the original request for a pedestrian bridge. The state needs to have a resolution from the City Council that the request is actually for funding a pedestrian tunnel. **(Ferguson motion, Taylor second to approve Resolution 2010-19 Certifying Previously Approved Council Action and Authorizing the Mayor to Amend the State Bonding Bill Application; Ayes: Taylor, Fergus and Mayor Anderson. Opposed: Kroll and Bartel).** Motion passed.

10.3. Trail Safety Task Force

10.3.1. Recommendations on Trail Signage at Driveways

Administrator Griffin reported the Trail Safety Task Force met a couple of times last fall and they discussed yield signs vs. stop signs at driveways where the trail crosses. There are five stop signs at driveways on Arcola Lane and two on Northview Rd. Bicyclists do not stop at the driveway stop signs. At the request of Mayor Anderson, Task Force member Mary McCarten-Doyle polled the affected Arcola Lane neighbors and received their recommendations; they all want to keep the stop signs in place, plus they would like enforcement of the stop signs and speed reducing surfaces. The homeowners feel there is more liability (for the bicyclists) with stop signs instead of yield signs. Tom Seuntjens said the trail would have to be repainted if the stop signs were removed because it is currently painted with “Stop Sign Ahead”. Hennepin County has said there are too many

signs along the trail. Mike Bloom said stop signs would allow for enforcement saturation by police. It was noted that the police have said they can issue tickets for not stopping for stop signs at streets, but can't issue tickets for not stopping at driveways. The Trail Safety Task Force is going to meet again and solidify what they would like and bring those recommendations back to Council.

Taylor noted that the Civic Committee is putting on a Drug Education event for high school and middle school students on Sunday, April 18th. It will be held at the Gabos and Boschwitz homes. Council thanked the Civic Committee for putting on an excellent event for drug awareness for teenagers.

10.3.2. Three Rivers Park District E-Bike Proposal

Mayor Anderson reported the city received a letter from TRPD, dated March 1, 2010, stating they are considering allowing e-bikes on the Dakota Regional Trail and they wanted comments from cities regarding allowing e-bikes. The letter explained e-bikes look like classic bicycles and are ridden like a classic bike, but they are in a special subset of motorized vehicles. They cannot exceed a maximum speed of 20 miles per hour, can only be operated by persons 16 years of age or older and with a valid license. TRPD said they would have e-bikes discussed by a Committee of their Board and bring their recommendation to the full TRPD Board for action at their meeting in April 8th. The latter meeting was moved to May 6th. Because no City Council meeting was held in March, comments from City Council members were solicited and forwarded to TRPD in March. Three council member comments were received and they were against allowing e-bikes because of their speed, setting a "motorized" precedence, and because our city ordinance restricts motorized vehicles of any type in our parks or on trails in the city. The Trail Safety Task Force members have also given comments opposing e-bikes on the trail. Mayor Anderson had heard there may not have been agreement on the TRPD Board and it is believed they have put e-bikes on their "back burner" for now. Mayor Anderson said our Council wants to go on record as being opposed to allowing e-bikes on the trail. She directed the Council Action Notes to include staff will set up another Trail Safety Task Force meeting, draft a letter to TRPD opposing e-bikes, and have on the May 10th City Council agenda the Task Force's solidified recommendations for safety features on the trail.

10.4. Consider Motion to Adopt Policy and Procedures Regarding Special Events

For Council's consideration, City Clerk Marilyn Regnier prepared a policies and procedures plan for special events being held in the city. The policies and procedures will help minimize the impact organized events can have on the city and its citizens, provide safety for the community and those attending, and be able to respond to requests fairly and consistently. Private events at homes such as weddings, graduations, parties, etc. do not require Council approval, but it is recommended city hall be notified ahead of time and parking be discussed.

The policies include; when commercially-sponsored events would like to be held, City Council will be notified and the event approved either by Council or staff. If on-street parking is allowed during a special event, parking is allowed only on one side of the

street. Organized home tours, including but not limited to the Luxury Home Tour, Parade of Homes, Remodelers Showcase and Garden Tours (when there are a large number of expected attendees), all require the use of shuttle busses to move attendees to and from the event. The procedures set up a uniform agreement with pertinent information given by the event organizer and it is signed by the organizer and the homeowner. **(Taylor motion, Bartel second to approve the policies and procedures for special events; all ayes).**

10.5. Consider Motion to Approve Special Event Permit for Progressive Dinner
City Clerk Regnier reported she has made a simple permit for special events for the Civic Committee because city ordinance requires it when alcohol is going to be served.

10.6. Liquor Liability Insurance Coverage and Temporary Liquor License
City Clerk Regnier reported it has been recommended the city purchase liquor liability coverage for the Civic Committee Progressive Dinner because alcohol is served. The city can purchase a liability policy for the special event in the amount of \$125.00 for minimum coverage, but in order to obtain the insurance, a temporary liquor license from the state also needs to be in place. There is no cost for the temporary liquor license. **(Taylor motion, Bartel second to approve obtaining liquor liability coverage and a temporary liquor license for the Civic Committee Progressive Dinner on May 15, 2010 at a cost of \$125.00; all ayes).**

10.7. Recommendation from Dock Committee/Park Commission on Fire Lane Usage

Ferguson reported the Park Commission and Dock Committee have met and have a joint recommendation regarding the fire lane at the swimming beach. The Dock Committee has concerns because of the amount of use by people launching boats, causing damage to the grassy area, and use by non-residents. The Park Commission wants the access to remain open. The area is not designated as an official lake access. Resident and former LMCD representative for the city Tom Seuntjens said the city should control access to the lake. There is currently a chain across the fire lane with reflectors and a lock. Residents wanting to use the fire lane must get a key from the Meyer residence across the street. Their joint recommendation to Council is to install a combination lockbox with the chain and give the combination to residents, and to look at the issue again in the fall. Mayor Anderson suggested the city may want to address permitting residents who want to use the access with an annual permit. **(Taylor motion, Kroll second to install a combination lockbox for the chain and to have residents contact city hall for the combination; all ayes).**

11. New Business

11.1. Resolution 2010-20 Consider Application for 2010 Dock Permits

Ferguson reported the Dock Committee's objective was to facilitate more people being able to use dock space. The LMCD approved the city's 2010 multiple dock license and seven full-sized dock spaces were able to be added at the swimming beach park by taking unused small dock space from other areas of the city. The Dock Committee and the Park Commission were not in agreement regarding canopies or the filling of all the dock

APPROVED

spaces at the swimming beach because of the Park Commission's concerns about losing lake views due to dock encroachment. Another change this year is that the swimming beach docks have been moved out to 100 feet and there are concerns if any of the docks are moved in towards shore there may be issues with low water. Ferguson also noted the open area of the swimming beach is 16 feet larger than last year, or 8 feet more if the dock slip 14-5, which is closest to the swimming area, were filled.

Taylor said the Park Commission's position is when you add the additional docks you enclose the area and views are impacted. If you bring some of the docks closest to the swimming area in 20 feet toward shore, you will have a larger lake view farther out. The dock next to the swimming area is dock 14 with 5 slips. Slip 14-5 hasn't been assigned in the past years in order to not encroach on the swimming area. The Park Commission is opposed to having dock 14-5 filled, but a compromise position could be to move 14-5 and 14-4 in 20 feet towards the shore, and to prohibit canopies on those two docks.

Administrator Griffin reported if Council approves the dock permits at this meeting, then every dock would be filled this year at the swimming beach, a total of 23 docks. Dock Committee Co-Chair Ward Myers said we now have more desirable slips available for people to move to and to have canopies. People who have dock space at the swimming beach but have chosen not to have canopies were asked if they would be willing to move to slip 14-5 or 14-4. They were not interested in moving. Dock Committee Co-Chair Lee Goehring asked Council to look at what is fair and equitable for all residents and said it would be penalizing people to not let them have a canopy. Tracy O'Connor said a canopy located on dock 14-5 would curtail boaters coming in and tying up to the dock, which has been happening.

Park Commission Chair Patty Rezabek said the Park Commission's charge is that the swimming beach commons is a park, and they are trying to look out for people who want to enjoy the area as a park and be able to have views of the lake. In order to make the swimming area safer for swimmers, the Park Commission plans on buying extra roping for marking off the swimming area.

Tom Seuntjens said a main priority for boat owners is having a canopy; if we don't allow canopies then we don't fully utilize the access. Kroll said she checked with the neighbors (on Lafayette Rd.) and they do not object to having more dock canopies at the swimming beach. Bartel said she thinks buoys and a good rope will help protect the swimming area. Mayor Anderson said the fairness doctrine is that we don't restrict canopies at the swimming beach. **(Ferguson motion, Kroll second to leave docks sites as planned on the LMCD plat; that all docks at the swimming beach be allowed to have canopies and the docks be moved out to 100 feet; Ayes: Bartel, Kroll, and Ferguson. Opposed: Taylor). Motion passed.**

Council thanked Chair Patty Rezabek and the Park Commission for all their efforts on the issue. The Dock Committee was also thanked for all their work on the dock reconfiguring.

APPROVED

Administrator Griffin reported no dock application has come in from Matt & Sheree Cooney (Dock 8-1). Bill George and Doug Farley are not interested in having docks this year, and four residents have not submitted current boat registrations. **(Ferguson motion, Kroll second to approve Resolution 2010-20 the 2010 Dock Permits with changes directed by Council at this meeting; all ayes).**

11.2. Resolution 2010-21 Consider Dock Variances

Council received Resolution 2010-21 the 2010 Dock Variances. Administrator Griffin advised Council one more variance request should be added to the list, the Middendorf's boat length of 28 ft.-2 in., which was requested after the Council packets were delivered.

2010 DOCK VARIANCE REQUESTS

NAME	DOCK #	SLIP #	VARIANCE REQUEST	REQUESTED PREVIOUSLY (Y/N)	COUNCIL PREVIOUSLY APPROVED	Year Variance First Granted
SOUKUP	12	3	WIDTH - 10 FOOT BEAM	Y	Y	1997
RENARD	14	1	WIDTH - 10 FOOT BEAM	Y	Y	Beam '01
HAAG	6	2	LENGTH - 28' Boat	Y	Y	2004
ROGERS	13	4	WIDTH - 10 FOOT BEAM	Y	Y	2007
MIDDENDORF	15	2	LENGTH - 28'2"	N	NA	2010

(Taylor motion, Bartel second to approve Resolution 2010-21 the 2010 Dock Variances as amended with Middendorf variance; all ayes).

11.3. Consider Maintenance Contract on Water Meter Reader System Software Maintenance

Council received a memo from Administrator Griffin seeking their discussion and action regarding maintenance contracts with Northern Water Works Supply for the water meter reader system and software. She was not recommending the \$993.00 annual maintenance contract on the handheld device because the device is only used quarterly and repairs can be made through the company on a time and materials basis. However, she was recommending purchasing the software maintenance because upgrades are included in the \$637.50 annual cost. **(Taylor motion, Kroll second for approving purchase the 2010 software maintenance contract in the amount of \$637.50 from Northern Water Works Supply; all ayes).**

2. Staff Reports

12.1. Director of Public Works

Director of Public Works Ben Young reported:

12.1.1. Brooks Lane Boring

A land survey is needed before starting the Brooks Lane boring project, but he is hoping to get started in May with the boring. Hennepin County is being contacted for a right-of-way permit before working in the County Rd. 15 right-of-way. A catch basin needs to be installed at the back of the Thompson Cottage property at 3012 Shoreline Drive and an easement would be needed. Ben will talk with one of the property owners, Wendy Williamson, about what is needed. The Lafayette Rd. alley way storm sewer pipe installation will cost \$18,900 and will be worked on later this year.

Other items reported:

Ben will be re-installing speed bumps around town in May after the streets are swept in early May.

Road restrictions will go off on Thursday, April 15th.

He is picking up spring leaves until April 28th.

12.2. Clerk's Report

City Clerk Marilyn Regnier reported:

No report given.

12.3. Administrator's Report

City Administrator Susanne Griffin reported:

12.3.1. EECBG Grant Amendment Update

Administrator Griffin gave Council an amended breakdown of the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant. The city is planning for grant money to replace the furnace at city hall, \$4,485; retrofitting lighting in city hall with energy saving T8 fixtures, \$2065; replacing exit signs with LED exit signs, \$160.00; and has already installed a programmable thermostat, \$50.00. The city is no longer applying for grant money to install a KVAR Energy Controller for water plant pumps at the water plant because that portion of the grant was not funded because the proposal lacked detail on energy efficiency

Norling's Landscaping has contacted the city and would like to plant a tree in Lafayette Park in memory of Chris Dunlap who died on March 28, 2010. Park Commission Chair Patty Rezabek was given a copy of the Norling's letter for follow up.

12. Council Reports

12.1. Mayor's Report

No report given.

12.2. Liaison Reports

Ferguson report on the Norman water damage lawsuit case; summary judgment has been submitted to the judge and the hearing date is April 29th, if the case is not dismissed. Regarding the Planning Commission, he said at their last meeting, which was held in February, there wasn't much specifically for decisions and discussion. The Planning Commission did authorize sending out the letters for the Capital Improvement Program requests.

Park Commission Chair Patty Rezabek showed Council a tree wrench which was used to pulled out a large buckthorn shrub. The city owns the tool. Patty has met with Emily Barbeau Ball, Forester from City of Minnetonka, regarding tree inventories, and she also attended a Sustainable Cities workshop. She said more public education needs to happen regarding the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) which could have a devastating effect on the city's ash trees. She also said we need to start preparing for the EAB.

Park Chair Rezabek said right now the invasive weed Garlic Mustard is starting to bloom and there is a lot of it around the city. The Park Commission wants to approach TRPD and the HCRRA about them funding the cost of garlic mustard removal along the trail through the city. She would like to have seasonal employee Kelley Jackson work on removal of the invasive weed along the trail, some handled by spraying and some by pulling. Right now Garlic Mustard is at the optimum time for removal and treatment. Council said Parks should use their best judgment on proceeding on this.

13. Adjournment

(Bartel motion, Ferguson second to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 p.m.; all ayes).

Public Present:

Brad Middendorf, Patty Rezabek, Police Officer Steve Sturm, Dustin Boyd, Tom Seuntjens, Tracy O'Connor, Kelly Boyle, Betsy Taylor, Lee & Lisa Goehring, Ward & Betsy Meyers,

Note: The above list is not a complete list as not everyone signs in.

Staff Present:

City Administrator Susanne Griffin, Public Works Director Ben Young, and City Clerk Marilyn Regnier. Minutes recorded by City Clerk Regnier.