



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

City of New Prague

Monday, April 15, 2024 at 6:00 PM

City Hall Council Chambers - 118 Central Ave N

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councilmember Maggie Bass called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Councilmember Shawn Ryan
Councilmember Maggie Bass
Councilmember Rik Seiler
Councilmember Bruce Wolf

ABSENT

Mayor Duane Jirik

Staff present: City Administrator Josh Tetzlaff, Planning/Community Development Director Ken Ondich, Police Chief Tim Applen, and Public Works Director Matt Rynda

a. Pledge of Allegiance

2. APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA

Motion made by Councilmember Ryan, Seconded by Councilmember Wolf to approve the Regular Agenda.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Ryan, Councilmember Bass, Councilmember Seiler, Councilmember Wolf
Motion carried (4-0).

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion made by Councilmember Wolf, Seconded by Councilmember Seiler to approve the Consent Agenda, striking Item 3c.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Ryan, Councilmember Bass, Councilmember Seiler, Councilmember Wolf
Motion carried (4-0).

a. Meeting Minutes

- i. March 18, 2024, City Council Meeting Minutes - Closed
- ii. April 1, 2024, City Council Meeting Minutes
- iii. April 1, 2024, City Council Meeting Minutes - Closed

b. Claims for Payment: **\$181,100.71**

- c. 1-Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License for Midwest Country Music Organization on June 1, 2024
- d. Premises Permit Extension for Giesenbrau on May 11, 2024
- e. Surplus City Property
- f. Select Contractor for DNR Grant Funded Settlers Park Prairie Restoration Project
- g. Appointment of Police Officer
- h. Large Assembly Permits for New Prague Chamber of Commerce:
 - i. Czech Out New Prague in Memorial Park on August 1, 2024
 - ii. Dozinky Days in Main Street and Memorial Park on September 20-21, 2024

- iii. Parade of Lights in Main Street and Memorial Park on December 6, 2024
- i. Monthly Financial Summary

4. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

5. CITY ENGINEER PROJECTS UPDATE

- a. April 15, 2024
Public Works Director Matt Rynda provided a brief update.

6. PUBLIC HEARING(S) – 6:00 PM

- a. Partially Vacate Certain Easements in the Plat of Suerai
Planning/Community Development Director Ken Ondich provided an overview.

7. ORDINANCE(S) FOR INTRODUCTION

8. ORDINANCE(S) FOR ADOPTION

- a. Ordinance #348 - Partially Vacating Certain Easements in the Plat of Suerai
Motion made by Councilmember Wolf, Seconded by Councilmember Ryan to adopt Ordinance #348.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Ryan, Councilmember Bass, Councilmember Seiler, Councilmember Wolf
Motion carried (4-0).

9. RESOLUTIONS

- a. Resolution #24-04-15-01 - Approving Interim Use Permit #11-2024 to Allow a Religious Institution in the I-1 Light Industrial Zoning District at 100 2nd Ave SW, as Proposed by Faith, Recovery & Music
Planning/Community Development Director Ondich gave a brief presentation. Motion made by Councilmember Ryan, Seconded by Councilmember Seiler to approve Resolution #24-04-15-01.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Ryan, Councilmember Bass, Councilmember Seiler, Councilmember Wolf
Motion carried (4-0).
Timothy Price, with Faith, Recovery & Music, and Bill Gibson, one of the owners of The Mill, each addressed the Council.
- b. Resolution #24-04-15-02 - Approving Variance (#V1-2024) from the Fence Regulations in the RL 90 Single Family Residential Zoning District at 509 Pershing Ave N, as Proposed by Taylor and Dustin Filan, New Prague, Minnesota
Planning/Community Development Director Ondich provided context. Motion made by Councilmember Wolf, Seconded by Councilmember Ryan to approve Resolution #24-04-15-02.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Ryan, Councilmember Bass, Councilmember Seiler, Councilmember Wolf
Motion carried (4-0).
- c. Resolution #24-04-15-03 - Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Application for the Workforce Housing Development Program
Planning/Community Development Director Ondich provided an update. Baker Tilly Municipal Advisor Director Mikaela Huot stood for questions. Motion made by Councilmember Seiler, Seconded by Councilmember Wolf to approve Resolution #24-04-15-03.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Ryan, Councilmember Bass, Councilmember Seiler, Councilmember Wolf
Motion carried (4-0).

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

11. MISCELLANEOUS

- a. Meeting Minutes
 - i. Planning
- b. Discussion of Items not on the Agenda
 - Councilmember Ryan requested tours of the new Parks building and the Line Garage.
 - Public Works Director Rynda advised two new staff will be starting tomorrow, April 16, 2024.
 - Police Chief Applen addressed a New Prague Times article from the April 11, 2024, print edition titled "Family accuses NPPD of racial profiling." A letter was drafted by Mrs. Tarr and delivered to him and Mayor Jirik with concerns of racial profiling by the New Prague Police Department. Chief Applen advised that after receiving the letter, the city immediately began an investigation into the allegations, as they take these allegations very seriously. Chief Applen shared he is proud of and confident in the distinguished men and women of the New Prague Police Department. Since the article was published in the paper, Chief Applen has received numerous emails, phone calls, and an outpouring of support from community members and expressed the police department's gratitude. He is confident that the results of the investigation will reflect the professional, courteous, and impartial service the police department provides to the community.
 - City Administrator Tetzlaff relayed that he will have updated future planning numbers to the Council in the next month or so, as requested by Council at the March 18, 2024, City Council meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Councilmember Seiler, Seconded by Councilmember Wolf to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Ryan, Councilmember Bass, Councilmember Seiler, Councilmember Wolf
Motion carried (4-0).

ATTEST:

Duane J. Jirik
Mayor

Joshua M. Tetzlaff
City Administrator