

**MOUND CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**January 14, 2020**

The City Council of the City of Mound, Hennepin County, Minnesota, held its annual meeting and met in regular session on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers of the Centennial Building.

Members present: Mayor Ray Salazar, Council Members Jeff Bergquist, Sherrie Pugh, Paula Larson and Phil Velsor.

Members absent: None

Others present: City Manager Eric Hoversten, Mary Davis, Suzanne Berg, Alyssa Cruse, Molly Egan, Cassidy Jenkins, Isabelle Ayaz, Emily Moore, Claire Russick, Bekah McCann, Ava Chonia, Betsy Brady, Annabelle Wiskus, Megan Stacey, Sara Larson, Kate Wirth, Sophia Cheib, Elena Schmidt, Callyn Tile, Christopher Twirror, Madison Steahl, Kalsa Steahl, Jim Kirk, Jordan Deering, Claire Beard, Truman Rowbsky, Scott Qualle

*Consent agenda: All items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine in nature by the Council. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Councilmember or citizen so requests, in which event it will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in normal sequence.*

**1. Open meeting**

Mayor Salazar called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Approve agenda**

MOTION made by Velsor, seconded by Larson, to approve the agenda. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

**4. Consent agenda**

Pugh requested items 4D and 4H to be pulled for discussion.

MOTION made by Velsor, seconded by Bergquist, to approve the consent agenda as amended. Upon roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion carried.

A. Approve payment of claims \$765,249.34

B. Approve minutes: 12-10-19 Regular Meeting

C. **RESOLUTION NO. 20-01: RESOLUTION APPOINTING JEFF BERGQUIST AS ACTING MAYOR FOR 2020**

D. Removed.

E. **RESOLUTION NO. 20-03: RESOLUTION APPOINTING CATHERINE PAUSCHE AS THE ACTING CITY MANAGER FOR 2020**

F. **RESOLUTION NO. 20-04: RESOLUTION APPOINTING FIELD OFFICER**

**ANDREW DRILLING AS ASSISTANT WEED INSPECTOR FOR 2020**

- G. **RESOLUTION 20-05: RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF BONDING AS PROVIDED UNDER MINNESOTA STATE STATUTE 412.111**
  - H. Removed.
  - I. **RESOLUTION NO. 20-07: RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE LAKER AS THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR 2020**
  - J. Approve request for commercial kennel license for Mound Emergency Management Division, waiving the fee
  - K. **RESOLUTION NO. 20-08: RESOLUTION MAKING SELECTION NOT TO WAIVE THE STATUTORY TORT LIMITS FOR LIABILITY INSURANCE PURPOSES**
  - L. **RESOLUTION NO. 20-09: RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING CONTINUATION OF CDBG FUNDING OF WESTONKA COMMUNITY ACTION NETWORK (WeCAN)**
  - M. Approve Hennepin County Assessor Open Book Meeting for Monday, April 27, 2020 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm
  - N. **RESOLUTION NO. 20-10: RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 19-91 RESOLUTION ADOPTING FEE SCHEDULE FOR 2020**
  - O. **RESOLUTION NO. 20-11: RESOLUTION ORDERING THE ABATEMENT OF A HAZARDOUS BUILDING LOCATED AT 1720 RESTHAVEN LANE IN THE CITY OF MOUND**
  - P. **RESOLUTION NO. 20-12: RESOLUTION APPOINTING ABSENTEE BALLOT BOARD FOR 2020**
  - Q. Approve special meetings in 2020:
    - 1) Feb. 18th 7:00 pm - Concurrent Planning Commission Meeting
    - 2) Apr. 21st 6:30 pm – Supervisors Annual Reports to City Council
    - 3) Aug. 12th 7:00 pm – Rescheduled Aug. 11th Regular Meeting due to Primary Election
    - 4) Oct. 20th 6:30 pm - 2021 Budget and Long Term Financial Plan
- 4C. (Removed) Approve a resolution appointing City Council Members as Representatives of the City Council to Committees and Commissions for 2020**

Pugh requested this item pulled in order to request more diversity between those serving on the committees and ask what procedurally would be needed for other members to join in on the committee or commission meetings.

Mayor Salazar noted the outcomes of the meetings are discussed with total transparency to the Council, and gave several examples, including the workshop in October 2019, and said that the decision for appointments was based on the previous year and what best met the needs. Mayor Salazar said if 3 or more members attend the meetings, there is a quorum, which requires the need for posting the meetings in advance.

Hoversten stated they would be able to participate in a discussion, but if there was any formal decision making done by those commission bodies that have representatives on, only those representatives appointed to that body would be able to vote and each could have different scenarios that need to be handled ahead of time, but that often the meetings are quickly set, not leaving enough time for the meetings to be posted in advance of the 3 business day minimum.

Bergquist pointed out that often the meetings are during the work day which can be difficult for him to attend, and suggested Pugh be the Representative for Suburban Rate Authority (SRA). All agreed.

MOTION made by Larson, seconded by Pugh, to approve the following resolution amended to reflect Sherrie Pugh as the rep to the Suburban Rate Authority. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 20-02 : RESOLUTION APPOINTING CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS FOR 2020**

**4H. (Removed) Approve a resolution designating the Official Depositories for 2020**

Pugh requested this item to be pulled because she would like to be supportive of businesses in the Mound community when possible, including creating smaller depository accounts.

Mayor Salazar explained that was the practice in the past, but the process has been streamlined for the various funds in effort to work as efficiently and cost effectively as possible, and while it's nice to spread that around, it's just added cost and added work.

Pugh requested to go on record as disagreeing with that being the case.

Mayor Salazar reiterated the importance to work as efficiently as possible, keeping in mind countless budget cuts, reduced staffing by over 40%, the merge of the police force with Orono, and the need to be cognizant of saving money for constituents, taxpayers, and being prudent with tax dollars and time management.

Hoversten agreed and explained daily banking operations are done through Wells Fargo and the other depositories are for specific investment products, making moving those around much more difficult. Hoversten said the only flexibility is for the daily operations funds to be broken up across several banks vs. keeping all accounts with the one bank that can offer the full services that the city requires, making it a choice of level of effort or level of service.

MOTION made by Bergquist, seconded by Velsor, to approve the following resolution. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 20-06: RESOLUTION DESGNATING THE OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES FOR 2020**

**5. Comments and suggestions from citizens present on any item not on the agenda.**

None

Mayor Salazar invited a student representative of the class to come forward and introduce the group.

Becca McCann, Senior at Mound Westonka High School, said the 12<sup>th</sup> grade Government class requirement is to attend government meetings every quarter, receive sign-offs, and report back to teacher, Mr. Kiel, noting it is a really a good class.

**6. Orono Police Sgt. Kenny Beck presenting the Mound Activity Report for December**

Sgt. Kenny Beck gave a report on December's 139 calls for service: 9 suspicious activities, 11 accidents, 3 civil, 29 medicals, 6 alarms, 18 domestics/disturbance, 11 theft/fraud, 8 welfare checks, 15 traffic complaints/parking issues. Beck noted lockouts have really soared because of people leaving their cars running and locking keys in cars, 4 DWI, 3 animal calls, 20 miscellaneous assist calls, 2 juvenile cases, 1 sex crime. Beck noted a total of 2,102 calls for 2019.

Beck extended an invitation from Police Chief Farniok to join team Frozen Cop-Sickles at the Polar Plunge on January 25<sup>th</sup> and support the police department by jumping in freezing Lake Minnetonka or by sponsoring the team.

**7. Molly Egan, of Special Olympics Minnesota providing a presentation on the Mound, Lake Minnetonka Polar Plunge activities forthcoming, January 25, 2020**

Molly Egan and Betsy Brady (also a citizen of Mound) gave a presentation on the Mound Lake Minnetonka Polar Plunge activities planned for January 25<sup>th</sup> at Surfside Park and noted this is the kickoff event for the season, and they actually have 30 different events throughout the year.

Egan explained that a Polar Plunge is jumping into a hole, cut into a frozen lake to raise money for Special Olympics of Minnesota, that it's a fun day, a nice Minnesotan thing to do, which breaks up the winter while raising money for Special Olympics, and for those that don't want to plunge, there is the "Too Chicken to Plunge" where you register, walk out with your team and throw a rubber chicken in the water and return warm and dry.

Egan encourages people to register online, noting the different incentives, including sweatshirts, hats, and jackets, and that any age can jump, making it a really fun community event. Egan explained the water is 3½ -4 feet deep at the max, jumpers should bring an extra pair of clothes, towel and shoes to wear (no flip flops- they fall off/lost in the lake), and that the anticipation is the worst part of it, once you're done, you get in the warm, heated tunnel, and you warm up really quickly again and kind of forget and just get ready for next year.

Egan encourages people to come out, it is a wonderful time to see everybody, a lot of people come in costumes, there's music, beverages, many businesses in the area donate hot chocolate and coffee, it's fun to showcase the area in the wintertime and see the national organizations doing interviews and commercials on TV.

Egan gave the details of the event, including Surfside Park & Beach at 1:00 on Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, registration starts at 11:00 am, (can still register on Friday 5:00-7:00 p.m. or the day of), and on Friday night is a kick-off at Surfside Bar and Grill with music to start the event and the celebration. Brady explained that parking on Saturday will be at the parking ramp, with shuttles down to the beach, and noted the parking lot by the beach area will be

closed off.

Egan stated they work with Orono Police, Mound Fire, Westonka Community and Commerce, the Rotary and Surfside Bar & Grill to put on this event. Eagan noted all the events are sponsored by the non-profit Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR).

Egan explained there are over 8,100 athletes served by Special Olympics Minnesota, the Polar Plunge funds go not just to sporting events, but to leadership programs, unified programs, noting Orono High School is one of the biggest unified schools, and other groups working together to organize other sporting events or getting different clubs together.

Egan stated there are volunteer opportunities on the website as well. Brady added that there are some great opportunities even for students who want to jump as a team, and a percentage of the money the students raise will go back to their school.

**8. Evaluation of the performance of City Manager Eric Hoversten**

Mayor Salazar announced this meeting is being closed under Minnesota Statutes, Section 13D.05, to evaluate the performance of Eric Hoversten, an individual subject to the Council's authority.

Mayor Salazar closed the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

**9. Motion to reopen/discussion and possible action on City Manager Employment Agreement**

Mayor Salazar reopened the meeting at 9:18 p.m. and stated the evaluation is complete and directions were given on how to proceed with the City Manager's contract.

**10. Information/Miscellaneous**

Comments/reports from Council members/City Manager:

Pugh read a statement regarding the US Census, noting citizens of the United States have two main responsibilities; to vote and to be counted. Pugh stated the constitution mandates that all people in the United States be counted every 10 years, as the data determines federal funding for housing, schools, public safety, transportation, vital resources, and determines political representation in the state legislature and Congress. Pugh encouraged all to participate, noting it's all electronic this year, and starting in April, Hennepin County has jobs paying \$27 an hour to be an enumerator for the census.

**A. City Manager Hoversten announced the following dates:**

Hoversten noted the special meeting activities approved on the Consent Agenda, and noted there are still party caucuses on February 25<sup>th</sup> in spite of a Presidential Nomination Primary, so the February 25<sup>th</sup> meeting may need to be moved to February 26<sup>th</sup> per the law.

Hoversten highlighted other dates to be aware of, including March 3<sup>rd</sup> Presidential Nomination Primary and the Westonka School District Spring Break from Friday March 20<sup>th</sup> through March 29<sup>th</sup>, reminding Council to make Staff aware of any absences ahead of time.

Hoversten encouraged all to attend/participate in the Polar Plunge on January 25<sup>th</sup>, adding it should be an enjoyable day, including good and cold, which makes the water feel warmer.

Pugh noted an Omelet Breakfast Fundraiser on February 9<sup>th</sup> for WeCan at the American Legion.

- B. Reports: Liquor Store – December 2019
- C. Minutes: Planning Commission – December 3, 2019
- D. Correspondence:

11. **Adjourn**

MOTION made by Bergquist, seconded by Velsor, to adjourn at 9:23 p.m. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

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Mayor Raymond J. Salazar

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Attest: Catherine Pausche, Clerk